A BILL FOR AN ACT

To further amend title 9 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia, as enacted by Public Law No. 14-76 and amended by Public Law No. 14-98, by amending section 605 to reduce the number of days that the special polling places located outside of the Federated States of Micronesia remain open from seven days to election day only, to increase the number of hours those special polling places remain open; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA:

- 1 Section 1. Title 9 of the Code of the Federated States of
- 2 Micronesia, as enacted by Public Law No. 14-76, and amended by
- 3 Public Law 14-98 is hereby amended by amending section 605 of
- 4 chapter 6 to read as follows:
- 5 "Section 605. <u>Voting absentee ballot at a special</u>
- 6 <u>Polling Place</u>.
- 7 (1) Registered Voters who are absent from their State 8 of registration on Election Day may cast their votes at 9 a special Polling Place.
- 10 (2) Not less than 60 days prior to a general election, 11 or 45 days prior to a special election, the National
- 12 Election Director shall designate the locations of the
- special Polling Places, provided that, there shall be
- one special Polling Place in Guam and one special
- Polling Place in Honolulu and that these shall be the
- only special Polling Places located outside the
- 17 Federated States of Micronesia.
- 18 (3) Requests to vote absentee ballot at a special

Polling Place must be in writing, using the forms required by the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to this title, and received by the national election commissioner of the State of registration not less than 30 days prior to a general election or 20 days before a special election; provided however, no written request shall be required if in a previous National Election the absentee voter submitted a request in which he or she indicated his or her desire to vote at the same special Polling Place in future National Elections until such time as the voter provides written notification to the national election commissioner that he or she wishes to resume voting at his or her regular Polling Place. Provided, further, that a voter with a valid Voter Identification Card may vote at any special Polling Place designated for his her Congressional Election District without submitting a written request.

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(4) The national election commissioner, or his or her designee, shall review all special Polling Place requests for a particular Congressional Election

District, and shall request that the National Election

Director place on a special Polling Place Signature List for that Congressional Election District all the information contained on the National Voter Register for those absentee voters who submitted valid and timely

requests. No later than six days before a National
Election, the national election commissioners shall post
at the National Election Office in their State the
special Polling Place Signature List for each special
Polling Place in their State.

- designee, shall review all requests to vote at a special Polling Place outside the Federated States of Micronesia, and shall place on a special Polling Place signature list for that special Polling Place all the information contained on the National Voter Register for those absentee voters who submitted valid and timely requests. No later than 14 days before a National Election, the National Election Director, or his or her designee, shall post the special Polling Place Signature Lists for Guam and Honolulu in a publicly accessible place in each respective location to be set out in the regulations promulgated pursuant to this title.
- (6) The National Election Director, or his or her designee, shall strike out or delete the entry of an absentee voter included on a special Polling Place Signature list from the Signature List for that voter's regular Polling Place. The absentee voter shall not be allowed to cast a ballot at his or her regular Polling Place on Election Day.

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1	(7) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title,
2	the special Polling Places located outside the Federated
3	States of Micronesia shall remain open between 7.00 am
4	and $[5.00]$ 9:30 p.m [for seven days commencing on the
5	sixth day before Election Day and ending on Election
6	Day, except that, such special Polling Places shall be
7	closed on any Sunday falling within the seven day
8	period] on election day."
9	Section 2. This act shall become law upon approval by the
10	President of the Federated States of Micronesia or upon its
11	becoming law without such approval.
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13	Date: 5/15/07 Introduced by: /s/ Peter Sitan
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