A BILL FOR AN ACT

To amend section 605 of title 9 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated), to create a new special Polling Place located outside of the Federated States of Micronesia, and for other purposes.

BE 11T ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA:

- 2 Section 1. Section 605 of title 9 of the Code of the
- 3 Federated States of Micronesia, (Annotated), is hereby amended to
- 4 read as follows:
- 5 "Section 605. Voting absentee ballot at a special
- 6 Polling Place.
- 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
- 11 election, or 45 days prior to a special election, the
- 12 National Election Director shall designate the locations
- of the special Polling Places; PROVIDED THAT, there
- 14 shall be one special Polling Place in Guam, [and] one
- 15 special Polling Place in Honolulu, and one special
- 16 <u>Polling Place in Maui,</u> and that these shall be the only
- 17 special Polling Places located outside the Federated
- 18 States of Micronesia.
- 19 (3) Requests to vote absentee ballot at a special
- 20 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.

- (5) The National Election Director, or his or her 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, and Maui 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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(7) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
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              title, the special Polling Places located outside the
 3
              Federated States of Micronesia shall remain open between
              7:00 am and 9:30 p.m. on election day."
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         Section 2. This act shall become law upon approval by the
   President of the Federated States of Micronesia or upon its
   becoming law without such approval.
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   Date: 9/26/17
                                Introduced by: /s/ Dion G. Neth
                                                    Dion G. Neth
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