A RESOLUTION

Expressing the sincere condolences and sadness of the Twenty-Second Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, to the family of the former Chief Justice of the Palau Supreme Court, the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelsong, at his passing on November 16, 2022.

WHEREAS, the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelsong passed away two and half years after he resigned from his post as the Chief Justice of the Palau Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, the Republic of Palau justices are appointed for life and would only leave their post through death, resignation, or removal for specific causes; hence, late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelsong resigned from his position as Chief Justice on June 1, 2020, after he suffered a stroke; and

WHEREAS, the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelsong became the second person appointed Chief Justice of Palau’s Supreme Court after Chief Justice Mamoru Nakamura passed away in 1992, in which he served as Chief Justice for twenty-eight years; and

WHEREAS, the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelsong completed a Doctor of Jurisprudence at Rutgers University in the United States of America and graduated in 1974;

WHEREAS, the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelsong served as the Staff Attorney of the Micronesian Constitutional Convention from April 1975 to April 1976; and

WHEREAS, the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelsong served
as a staff attorney for the Congress of Micronesia in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands from 1976 to 1979; and

   WHEREAS, the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelsong served as the Assistant Legislative Counsel for the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia from August 1979 to September 1979; and

   WHEREAS, the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelsong served as the Legislative Counsel for the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia from December 1979 to September 1980; and

   WHEREAS, the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelsong served as the Assistant Attorney General for the Government of Guam for six years starting from June 1981 to July 1986; and

   WHEREAS, the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelsong served as the Associate Justice of the Palau Supreme Court appointed by President Lazarus E. Salii from July 14, 1986 to November 13, 1992; and

   WHEREAS, the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelsong served as the Chief Justice of the Palau Supreme Court appointed by President Ngiratkel Etpison from November 13, 1992 to June 01, 2020; and

   WHEREAS, the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelsong served as a member of the Executive Board for the Pacific Judicial Council for over twenty years, and has contributed immensely toward the establishment of a strong Education
Committee dedicated to teaching the rule of law in Guam, CNMI, American Samoa, the Republic of Palau, Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei and Yap; and

WHEREAS, late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelson was a visionary leader and trailblazer who stands as the longest presiding Chief Justice in the history of the Republic of Palau, in which he retained competent jurists to oversee the delivery of justice to the people of Palau; and

WHEREAS, the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelson leaves behind a legacy of judicial standards that all present and future judges will emulate; and

WHEREAS, the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelson has a remarkable public service history, from his positions in Guam and the Federated States of Micronesia to his long service to the judiciary of Palau; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Twenty-Second Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, Sixth Special Session, 2022, that Congress hereby expresses its sincere condolences and sadness to the family of the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelson, at his passing on November 16, 2022; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the Federated States of Micronesia, the President of the Republic of Palau and the family of the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelsong.

Date: 11/29/22

Introduced by: /s/ Isaac V. Figir
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