A BILL FOR AN ACT

To amend section 210 of title 2 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated), as amended by Public Law No. 22-196, to remove the earnings test for the allowance of former Presidents under the age of 60; and for other purposes.

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

Section 1. Section 210 of title 2 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated), is hereby amended to read as follows.

"Section 210. Establishment of Former President Benefit Trust Fund and Allowance for Former Presidents.

(1) There shall be established in the Treasury of the Federated States of Micronesia a trust fund that shall be known as the "Former President Benefit Trust Fund."

The fund shall be administered by the Secretary of Finance and Administration and shall consist of such amounts as may be advanced by the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia by budget appropriation, and such gifts, bequests, donations, contributions or grants as may be received by the Federated States of Micronesia which are specifically designated for the benefit of former Presidents.

(2) Each former President shall be entitled for the remainder of his or her life to receive from the Trust
Fund a monetary allowance in an amount of not more than 2,000 per month, payable by the Secretary of Finance; provided, however, that the amount of such allowance shall not exceed an amount which, when applied equally to all eligible former presidents, would exceed the maximum distribution from such Trust Fund as determined pursuant to subsection (d). [Provided further that such allowance shall not be paid to a former President for any period year in which he or she earned over $25,000 gross per annum, unless the former President is over the age of 60.]

(3) For clarity, the monetary allowance is paid to a beneficiary of a trust, and is not subject to social security contributions.

(4) As used in this section, the term "former President" means a person who shall have held the office of President of the Federated States of Micronesia, who does not then currently hold such office and whose service in such office shall have terminated other than by removal pursuant to the Constitution and Statutes of the Federated States of Micronesia.

(5) At the beginning of each fiscal year, the Secretary of Finance and Administration shall determine the maximum allowable distribution from the Trust Fund. The Secretary of Finance and Administration shall take
into consideration:

(a) appropriations by Congress;
(b) earnings of the Trust Fund;
(c) the need to preserve the corpus of the Trust Fund;
(d) other relevant factors that will insure the permanency of the Trust Fund.
(e) After the end of each fiscal year, and before October 31 of the next fiscal year, the Secretary of Finance and Administration will report to Congress on all activity relating to the Trust Fund.”

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.

Date: 9/26/23
Introduced by: /s/ Robson U. Romolow

Robson U. Romolow