

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.

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

4 WHEREAS, the Republic of Palau justices are appointed for
5 life and would only leave their post through death, resignation,
6 or removal for specific causes; hence, late Chief Justice Arthur
7 Ngirakelsong resigned from his position as Chief Justice on June
8 1, 2020, after he suffered a stroke; and

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

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

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

19 WHEREAS, the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelsong served

1 as a staff attorney for the Congress of Micronesia in the Trust
2 Territory of the Pacific Islands from 1976 to 1979; and

3 WHEREAS, the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelsong served
4 as the Assistant Legislative Counsel for the Congress of the
5 Federated States of Micronesia from August 1979 to September
6 1979; and

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

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

14 WHEREAS, the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelsong served
15 as the Associate Justice of the Palau Supreme Court appointed by
16 President Lazarus E. Saliu from July 14, 1986 to November 13,
17 1992; and

18 WHEREAS, the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelsong served
19 as the Chief Justice of the Palau Supreme Court appointed by
20 President Ngiratkel Etpison from November 13, 1992 to June 01,
21 2020; and

22 WHEREAS, the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelsong
23 served as a member of the Executive Board for the Pacific
24 Judicial Council for over twenty years, and has contributed
25 immensely toward the establishment of a strong Education

1 Committee dedicated to teaching the rule of law in Guam, CNMI,
2 American Samoa, the Republic of Palau, Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei
3 and Yap; and

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

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

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

16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Twenty-Second Congress of the
17 Federated States of Micronesia, Sixth Special Session, 2022,
18 that Congress hereby expresses its sincere condolences and
19 sadness to the family of the late Chief Justice Arthur
20 Ngirakelsong, at his passing on November 16, 2022; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 resolution be transmitted to the President of the Federated
3 States of Micronesia, the President of the Republic of Palau and
4 the family of the late Chief Justice Arthur Ngirakelsong.

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6 Date: 11/29/22

Introduced by: /s/ Isaac V. Figir
Isaac V. Figir

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