

AN ACT

To amend section 613 of title 19 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated), as enacted by Public Law No. 21-227, to clarify that the At-Sea Perdiem for seamen of national government owned and operated vessels cannot be cut or reduced based on receipt of drydocking stipends, to require the at-sea benefit payment processing request to be made within 5 calendar days of voyage completion, and require payment of the at-sea benefit within 30 calendar days of receipt of the payment processing request, and for other purposes.

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

1 Section 1. Section 613 of title 19 of the Code of the
2 Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated), as enacted by
3 Public Law No. 21-227, is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 "Section 613. Seamen's wages.

5 (1) Each seaman's wages shall commence on the day
6 specified and agreed to in the Shipping Articles or at the
7 time the seaman reports on board the vessel for the purpose
8 of commencing work, whichever first occurs, and shall
9 terminate on the day of the seaman's discharge or upon
10 expiration of the Shipping Articles.

11 (2) In the absence of any agreement to the contrary, the
12 owner or master of the vessel shall pay to every seaman the
13 seaman's wages, overtime and any unpaid leave entitlement
14 within two days after the expiration of the Shipping Articles
15 or at the time the seaman is discharged, whichever first

1 occurs.

2 (3) At-Sea Perdiem. Seamen of vessels owned and
3 operated by the national government shall be entitled to a
4 nontaxable ten dollars per 24-hour day at-sea benefit which
5 shall be calculated from vessel cast-off time from the port
6 of departure, to when vessel is secured at dock or
7 designated anchorage which that particular vessel departed
8 from. Upon completion of a voyage, a designated senior
9 office of the vessel shall provide a list of crewmen on the
10 voyage for the Master's signature, which list shall be
11 submitted to the Secretary of the Department of
12 Transportation, Communications and Infrastructure for
13 payment processing. The Secretary of the Department of
14 Transportation, Communications and Infrastructure shall
15 submit the at-sea benefit payment processing request to the
16 Department of Finance and Administration within 5 calendar
17 days of voyage completion. The Secretary of the Department
18 of Finance and Administration shall pay the at-sea per diem
19 to crewmen eligible for the at-sea benefit within 30
20 calendar days after receipt of the payment processing
21 request from the Secretary of the Department of
22 Transportation, Communications and Infrastructure. The
23 nontaxable ten dollar at-sea benefit shall not be cut nor
24 reduced based upon a seaman's receipt of drydocking
25 stipends.

1 (4) Before the seaman is discharged or the Shipping
2 Articles expire, every master shall deliver to the seaman a
3 full and true account in the prescribed form of the
4 seaman's wages, including any and all deductions made
5 therefrom."

6 Section 2. This act shall become law upon approval by the
7 President of the Federated States of Micronesia or upon it
8 becoming law without such approval.

9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

February 16, 2024

/s/ Wesley W. Simina
Wesley W. Simina
President
Federated States of Micronesia