

# The President

Palikir, Pohnpei Federated States of Micronesia

November 26, 2014

The Honorable Dohsis Halbert Speaker 18<sup>th</sup> FSM Congress Palikir, Pohnpei FM 96941

Dear Speaker Halbert:



PRESIDENTIAL COMM. NO 18-411
FSM CONGRESS

I transmit the following Congressional Act, which became Public Law No. 18-97 due to Congressional override of my veto:

Congressional Act No. 18-98, entitled: "AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 213 OF TITLE 1 OF THE CODE OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA, AS AMENDED, TO REQUIRE THE PRESIDENT, WHERE CONGRESS HAS OVERRIDDEN A PRESIDENTIAL VETO, TO SIGN AND DATE ALL CONGRESSIONAL ACTS AND ASSIGN A PUBLIC LAW NUMBER THERETO WITHIN TWO WORKING DAYS FROM RECEIPT OF THE TRANSMITTAL OF THE CONGRESSIONAL ACT FROM CONGRESS; TO REQUIRE THE PRESIDENT, IN THE INSTANCE OF A LINE-ITEM VETO, TO ASSIGN A DIFFERENT NUMBER FROM THE PREVIOUS PUBLIC LAW, AND OTHER PURPOSES."

Congress misconstrues the rationale for my veto. While the committee report acknowledged that the present public law affects purely administrative procedure, at the same time, it overlooked the unavoidable effect, which is to micromanage the Executive to a point of requiring the President to take action upon overridden acts from Congress in a short period of time. This act negates the separation of power. It does not demonstrate healthy coordination and cooperation between co-equal branches of government. On the contrary, it legitimizes constitutionally questionable intrusion by Congress in the execution of public law.

In view of the foregoing, I reiterate the concerns I raised before regarding this matter.

Sincerely.

Manny Mori President

Enclosure

xc:

Acting Chief Justice, FSM Supreme Court

Secretary, Department of Justice Director, Office of SBOC Legislative Counsel, CFSM

Public Library, CFSM

PIO, FSM

# TEDA STATES OF THE STATES OF T

#### CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

P.O. Box PS 3 Palikir, Sokehs Pohnpei State, FM 96941 Tel: (691) 320-2324 / 2338

Fax: (691) 320-5122 FSIDENTIAL COMM. NO. 18 - 411

sca of the President ASM

Office of the Chief Clerk

November 24, 2014

His Excellency Manny Mori President Federated States of Micronesia Palikir, Pohnpei FM 96941

Dear President Mori:

I have the honor to transmit herewith Congressional Act No. 18-98, "AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 213 OF TITLE 1 OF THE CODE OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA, AS AMENDED, TO REQUIRE THE PRESIDENT, WHERE CONGRESS HAS OVERRIDDEN A PRESIDENTIAL VETO, TO SIGN AND DATE ALL CONGRESSIONAL ACTS AND ASSIGN A PUBLIC LAW NUMBER THERETO WITHIN TWO WORKING DAYS FROM RECEIPT OF THE TRANSMITTAL OF THE CONGRESSIONAL ACT FROM CONGRESS; TO REQUIRE THE PRESIDENT, IN THE INSTANCE OF A LINE-ITEM VETO, TO ASSIGN A DIFFERENT NUMBER FROM THE PREVIOUS PUBLIC LAW, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.", which was repassed on November 18, by the Eighteenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, Fifth Special Session, 2014, by a three-fourths vote of all the State delegations as required and as duly certified.

Sincerely yours,

Liwiana Ramon Ioanis

Chief Clerk, Congress of the

Federated States of Micronesia

Enclosures



# PRESIDENTIAL COMM. NO. 18 - 41 | FSM CONGRESS

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA FIFTH SPECIAL SESSION NOVEMBER 17 - 26, 2014

PUBLIC LAW No. 18-97

# An Act

TO AMEND SECTION 213 OF TITLE 1 OF THE CODE OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA, AS AMENDED, TO REQUIRE THE PRESIDENT, WHERE CONGRESS HAS OVERRIDDEN A PRESIDENTIAL VETO, TO SIGN AND DATE ALL CONGRESSIONAL ACTS AND ASSIGN A PUBLIC LAW NUMBER THERETO WITHIN TWO WORKING DAYS FROM RECEIPT OF THE TRANSMITTAL OF THE CONGRESSIONAL ACT FROM CONGRESS; TO REQUIRE THE PRESIDENT, IN THE INSTANCE OF A LINE-ITEM VETO, TO ASSIGN A DIFFERENT NUMBER FROM THE PREVIOUS PUBLIC LAW, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

INTRODUCED BY: SENATOR DOHSIS HALBERT

DATE: JULY 11, 2014

REPASSED: NOVEMBER 18, 2014

Liwiana Ramon Ioanis V Chief Clerk, FSM Congress



#### CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

P.O. Box PS 3 Palikir, Sokehs Pohnpei State, FM 96941 Tel: (691) 320-2324 / 2338

Fax: (691) 320-5122

PRESIDENTIAL COMM. NO. 18-41 SM CONGRESS

ACT NO. 18-98

(CONGRESSIONAL BILL NO. 18-202)

I hereby certify that on November 18 the foregoing act was repassed by the Eighteenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, Fifth Special Session, 2014, by a three-fourths vote of all the State delegations as required under article IX, section 2(q), of the Constitution of the Federated States of Micronesia.

Donsis Halbert

congress of the

Federated #tates of Micronesia

#### EIGTHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION, 2014

CONGRESSIONAL BILL NO. 18-202

### PUBLIC LAW No. 18-97

#### AN ACT

To amend section 213 of title 1 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia, as amended, to require the President, where Congress has overridden a presidential veto, to sign and date all Congressional Acts and assign a public law number thereto within two working days from receipt of the transmittal of the Congressional Act from Congress; to require the President, in the instance of a line-item veto, to assign a different number from the previous public law, and for other purposes.

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

- 1 Section 1. Policy and Purpose. The purpose of this bill is to
- ensure the effective implementation of Congressional Acts by veto
- 3 override, by requiring the President of the Federated States of
- 4 Micronesia to sign and date all Congressional Acts and assign a
- 5 public law number thereto within two working days from the receipt
- 6 of the transmittal of the Congressional Act from the Congress of the
- 7 Federated States of Micronesia. Additionally to prevent confusion
- 8 and misunderstanding, the bill will require all Congressional Acts,
- 9 which have overridden a presidential line-item veto, to be assigned
- 10 a different number from the public law containing the line-item
- 11 veto. It is common understanding that once Congress has exercised
- 12 its veto override powers pursuant to article IX, Section 2(q) of the
- 13 Constitution of the Federated States of Micronesia that the Bill
- 14 becomes law. The President has purely a ministerial task of issuing
- 15 the public law number for the Congressional Act. There is no
- 16 dispute as to the substance of the veto override. By amending title
- 17 1, section 213, Congress will ensure efficient and effective

# PUBLIC LAW No. 18-97

- 1 implementation of Congressional Acts, which are enacted by a
- 2 Congressional veto override, as well as prevent misunderstanding.
- 3 Section 2. Section 213 of title 1 of the Federated States of
- 4 Micronesia, as amended, is hereby amended by to read as follows:
- 5 "Section 213. Numbering of laws.
- 6 (1) Public laws shall be assigned a number by the High Commissioner as they become law, with or without his 7 signature, in the order which they become law. Numbers of 8 9 public laws enacted by the First Regular Session, 1965, 10 Congress of Micronesia, shall be preceded by the 11 figure "1-"; numbers of public laws enacted by the Second 12 Regular Session, 1966, Congress of Micronesia, shall be preceded by the figure "2-"; numbers of public laws 13 enacted by the Third Regular Session, 1967, Congress of 14 15 Micronesia, shall be preceded by the figure "3-"; numbers of laws enacted by the Fourth Regular Session, 1968. 16 Congress of Micronesia, shall be preceded by the 17 figure "4-"; numbers of public laws enacted by the Third 18 19 Congress of Micronesia shall be preceded by the figure "3C-"; numbers of public laws enacted by the Fourth 20 Congress of Micronesia shall be preceded by the 21 figure "4C-"F; numbers of public laws enacted by the Fifth 22 23 and succeeding Congresses shall be preceded by an Arabic 24 numeral representing the number of the Congress, followed by a hyphen, such as "5-". 25

#### PUBLIC LAW No. 18-97

(2) Private laws enacted by the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia shall be numbered in the same manner as public laws, as set forth in subsection (3) of this section, except that such laws shall be known as private laws and not as public laws.

- (3) Bills enacted by the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia shall be assigned a number by the President of the Federated States of Micronesia as they become law, with or without his approval, in the order in which they become law. Public laws enacted by the First Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia shall be preceded by the figure "1" followed by a hyphen. Public laws enacted by subsequent Congresses shall be preceded by an Arabic numeral representing the number of the appropriate Congress, followed by a hyphen, such as "2-".
- (4) For a Congressional Act whereby the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia has overridden a presidential veto, the President of the Federated States of Micronesia, shall sign and date the Congressional Act and assign a public law number thereto within two working days from receipt of the transmittal of the Congressional Act. In the instance of a veto override of a Presidential line-item veto, the public law number assigned shall not be the same number as assigned to the

# PUBLIC LAW No. 18-97

| 1  | pre          | evious | public | law   | that contained the line-item vet  | .o.' |
|----|--------------|--------|--------|-------|-----------------------------------|------|
| 2  | Section      | 3. Th  | is act | shal  | l become law upon approval by the | ne   |
| 3  | President of | the Fe | derate | d Sta | tes of Micronesia or upon its     |      |
| 4  | becoming law | withou | t such | appr  | oval.                             |      |
| 5  |              |        |        |       |                                   |      |
| 6  |              |        |        |       |                                   |      |
| 7  |              |        |        |       |                                   |      |
| 8  |              |        |        |       | , 20                              | 14   |
| 9  |              |        |        |       |                                   |      |
| 10 |              |        |        |       |                                   |      |
| 11 | 5 . 10       |        |        |       |                                   |      |
| 12 | Overribe     |        |        |       | Manny Mori                        |      |
| 13 |              |        |        |       | President                         |      |
| 14 |              |        |        |       | Federated States of Micrones      | ıa   |
| 15 |              |        |        |       |                                   |      |
| 16 |              |        |        |       |                                   |      |
| 17 |              |        |        |       |                                   |      |
| 18 |              |        |        |       |                                   |      |
| 19 |              |        |        |       |                                   |      |
| 20 |              |        |        |       | •                                 |      |
| 21 |              |        |        |       |                                   |      |
| 22 |              |        |        |       |                                   |      |
| 23 |              |        |        |       |                                   |      |
| 24 |              |        |        |       |                                   |      |
| 25 |              |        |        |       |                                   |      |