AN ACT

To amend title 19 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated), by amending section 613 thereof, for the purpose of providing seamen on vessels owned and operated by the national government a nontaxable ten dollars a day at sea benefit, and for other purposes.

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

Section 1. Purpose. The amendment to section 613 of title 19 of the 2014 Code of the Federated States of Micronesia is to provide a nontaxable ten dollar a day at sea benefit for seamen on vessels owned and operated by the national government to be paid on a quarterly basis.

Section 2. Section 613 of title 19 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated), is hereby amended by to read as follows:

"Section 613. Seamen’s wages.

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

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

(3) At-Sea Perdiem. Seamen of vessels owned and operated by the national government shall be entitled to a nontaxable ten dollars per 24-hour day at-sea benefit which shall be calculated from vessel cast-off time from the port of departure, to when vessel is secured at dock or designated anchorage which that particular vessel departed from. Upon completion of a voyage, a designated senior office of the vessel shall provide a list of crewmen on the voyage for the Master’s signature, which list shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Department of Transportation, Communications and infrastructure for payment processing. The payment for at-sea perdiem shall be made on a quarterly basis, or upon recommendation of the Secretary.

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

January 29, 2021

/s/ David W. Panuelo
David W. Panuelo
President
Federated States of Micronesia