January 29, 2021

The Honorable Wesley W. Simina
Speaker
Twenty-First Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Palikir, Pohnpei FM 96941

Dear Speaker Simina:

I am pleased to transmit the following act, which I have signed into Public Law No. 21-227:

Congressional Act No. 21-237, entitled: “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.”

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the 21st FSM Congress for the passage of this act. Thank you.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
David W. Panuelo
President

xc: Chief Justice, FSM Supreme Court
January 22, 2021

His Excellency David W. Panuelo  
President  
Federated States of Micronesia  
Palikir, Pohnpei FM 96941

Dear President Panuelo:

I have the honor to transmit herewith Congressional Act No. 21-237, "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", which was passed by the Twenty-First Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, Sixth Regular Session, 2021, by a two-thirds vote of all the State delegations as required and as duly certified.

Sincerely yours,

Jessica Lynn Reyes  
Acting Chief Clerk, Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia

Enclosures
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.

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR: PETER M. CHRISTIAN

DATE: AUGUST 14, 2020

REFERRED TO: COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION

WITHDRAWN – JANUARY 13, 2021
FIRST READING: – JANUARY 18, 2021
SECOND READING: – JANUARY 20, 2021

Jessicalynn Reyes
Acting Chief Clerk, FSM Congress
ACT NO. 21-237

(CONGRESSIONAL BILL NO. 21-267, C.D.1)

We hereby certify that on January 20 the foregoing act passed Second and Final Reading of the Twenty-First Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, Sixth Regular Session, 2021, by a two-thirds vote of all the State delegations as required under article IX, section 20, of the Constitution of the Federated States of Micronesia.

Wesley W. Simina
Speaker
Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia

Jessicalynn Reyes
Acting Chief Clerk
Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia
TWENTY-FIRST CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA
SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION, 2020  CONGRESSIONAL BILL NO. 21-267, C.D.1

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:

1. 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.

2. 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 Per diem. 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 per diem 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.

Jan 29th, 2021

David W. Panuelo
President
Federated States of Micronesia