A BILL FOR AN ACT

To further amend Public Law No. 21-19, as amended by Public Laws Nos. 21-39, 21-74, 21-109, 21-154 and 22-66, by amending section 6 thereof, to allow the Constitutional Convention to convene either in person or virtually, or by a combination of both in person and virtual meeting, during the COVID-19 pandemic period, and for other purposes.

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

Section 1. Section 6 of Public Law No. 21-19, as amended by Public Law Nos. 21-74, 21-109, 21-154 and 22-66, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“Section 6. Procedures.

(1) The Constitutional Convention shall be convened on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January, 2020, and the Constitutional Convention shall continue in session for no longer than thirty calendar days; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the Convention may:

(a) call recesses, including one extended recess of between 3 and 30 consecutive calendar days, which shall not be included in the calculation of the calendar days the Constitutional Convention is in session and for which no daily allowance under section 9 shall be paid;

(b) extend the session, if necessary, for up to a total of forty-five calendar days; and

(c) The Constitutional Convention may call an additional recess until the coronavirus emergency
declaration is revoked, which shall not be included in the calculation of the calendar days that the Constitutional Convention is in session and for which no daily allowance under section 9 shall be paid. The extended recess due to the coronavirus emergency [will be resumed] shall end at the call of the President of the Constitutional Convention, calling for either, in person, or virtual meeting, or a combination of both in person and virtual meeting, but no later than 3 months after and not until the coronavirus emergency declaration is revoked. [or virtually, at any time during the coronavirus emergency but no later than 3 months after the coronavirus emergency declaration is revoked.] After such recess, the Convention shall continue the remaining session days of the Convention in consecutive calendar days, excluding Sundays. The Convention may call for a recess or recesses that total no more than three calendar days when it reconvenes after the coronavirus emergency and before it recesses sine die. Delegates shall not be entitled to any allowance, as prescribed under section 9, during the coronavirus emergency recess.

(2) The President of the Federated States of
Micronesia, or their designee, shall act as President of the Convention until the Convention selects a President from among its membership.

(3) The Convention shall select, from among its membership, a President and such additional officers as it may deem necessary and appropriate.

(4) The Convention shall adopt its own rules and procedures not inconsistent with this act. All sessions of the Convention shall be open to the public.

(5) A quorum of the Convention shall consist of all of the four state delegations. For the purpose of determining a quorum, a state delegation is not present unless more than one-half of the delegates from that state are present."
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.

Date: 3/23/22  
Introduced by: /s/ Florencio S. Harper  
Florencio S. Harper  
(by request)