## A BILL FOR AN ACT

To further amend section 212 of title 52 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated), as amended by Public Law No. 20-143, to define housing allowance and employee, to set the amount of housing allowance that cabinet members and heads of branches may receive, and for other purposes.

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

- 1 Section 1. Section 212 of title 52 of the Code of the Federated
- 2 States of Micronesia (Annotated), as amended by Public Law No.
- 3 20-143, is hereby further amended to read as follows:
- 4 "Section 212. Eligibility for Housing Allowance for Off-
- 5 island Recruits.
- 6 (1) For the purposes of this section:
- 7 a. "Permanent residence" means that place where a
- 8 person has his true, fixed, and permanent home and principal
- 9 establishment to which, whenever absent, he has the
- intention of returning. A person may have only one
- 11 permanent residence at a time. "Permanent residence" shall
- 12 not be a location the employee travels to on a temporary
- basis to seek employment.
- b. "Housing Allowance" means national government
- funding provided for the sole purpose of the payment of rent
- on a dwelling, which is not government housing, in
- 17 accordance with applicable law.
- 18 (2) Employees who are recruited from a place beyond

the normal commuting distance from their work location or 1 2 transferred to a new work location beyond normal commuting distance from their last place of permanent residence, are 3 4 considered to be off-island recruits and are eligible for housing allowance unless they are transferred back to their 5 home island, in accordance with regulation. 6 7 (3) The Heads of Branches may receive a housing 8 allowance up to \$2,000 if not using the national government 9 housing, except for the President. The President may 10 receive a housing allowance up to \$4,500 if not using the national government housing in accordance with applicable 11 12 law. 13 (1) For the purposes of this section, 14 "Permanent residence" means that place where a person has 15 his true, fixed, and permanent home and principal establishment to which, whenever absent, he has the 16 17 intention of returning. A person may have only one 18 permanent residence at a time; 19 (2) "Permanent residence" shall not be a location the 20 employee travels to on a temporary basis to seek 21 employment. 22 (4) Cabinet members may receive a housing allowance 23 up to \$1,000 in accordance with applicable law.

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Section 2. This act shall become law upon approval by the
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 2 President of the Federated States of Micronesia or upon its
 3 becoming law without such approval.
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 5 Date: <u>9/27/23</u>
                           Introduced by: /s/ Isaac V. Figir
                                                   Isaac V. Figir
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