

ORIGINAL

ELEVENTH CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

THIRD REGULAR SESSION, 2000

C.R. NO. 11-70

A RESOLUTION

Recognizing the contributions of Master Navigator Pius "Mau" Piaailug in preserving the ancient art of Micronesian traditional navigation, acknowledging the international good will and recognition generated for Micronesia by his efforts at teaching traditional navigation techniques, and congratulating him on his recognition by the Smithsonian Institute.

1 WHEREAS, part of Micronesia's rich cultural heritage are the
2 traditional methods of ocean navigation, including the use of stars,
3 waves and birds; and

4 WHEREAS, in the recent past, modern means of navigation had
5 largely displaced traditional navigation methods and interest in
6 learning the old ways was waning among our youth and throughout the
7 Pacific; and

8 WHEREAS, at that time, Pius "Mau" Piaailug, of Satawal, Yap,
9 traveled to Hawaii and taught our Polynesian cousins the traditional
10 Micronesian means of navigation; and

11 WHEREAS, the ensuing voyage of the Hokule'a canoe to Tahiti
12 ignited new interest in traditional navigation methods throughout
13 the Pacific region; and

14 WHEREAS, Pius "Mau" Piaailug continued to teach the traditional
15 ways in Hawaii as well as instructing Micronesian youth in
16 traditional navigation techniques; and

17 WHEREAS, Pius "Mau" Piaailug has opened up the teaching of
18 traditional navigation and made it available to all Micronesians who
19 desire to learn the old ways; and

20 WHEREAS, Pius "Mau" Piaailug was recently honored for his work
21 by the Smithsonian Institute, which hailed him as "one of the most
22 important influences in the resurgence of cultural pride within the
23 Pacific"; and

24 WHEREAS, Pius "Mau" Piaailug's efforts have strengthened our
25 ties with our neighbor islands and generated international

1 recognition of the great skill of all traditional Micronesian
2 navigators; now, therefore,

3 BE IT RESOLVED by the Eleventh Congress of the Federated States
4 of Micronesia, Third Regular Session, 2000, that the Congress hereby
5 acknowledges the contributions that Pius "Mau" Piailug has made in
6 preserving and teaching the traditional navigation techniques of the
7 Micronesian people; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Congress congratulates Pius
9 "Mau" Piailug on his well-justified recognition by the Smithsonian
10 Institute; and


11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Congress hereby extends its
12 sincere gratitude to Pius "Mau" Piailug for his tireless efforts at
13 preserving this part of our cultural heritage, for his contributions
14 to good will among the people of the Pacific region, and for the
15 recognition and respect that his work has generated for all the
16 people of Micronesia; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution
18 be transmitted to the President of the Federated States of
19 Micronesia and Master Navigator Pius "Mau" Piailug.

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21 Date: 5/30/00

Introduced by:


Isaac V. Figir

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