



# TWENTY-FOURTH CONGRESS

## Federated States of Micronesia

## Senator Peter M. Christian

---

### SUMMARY

State of Pohnpei | 4-year, At-large

DOB: October 16, 1947

Elected to the 1<sup>st</sup> CFSM thru 14<sup>th</sup>; 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>; 21<sup>st</sup> -

\* Youngest elected member of CFSM, at 32 years old

\* Speaker of the 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> CFSM, 2003 - 2007

\* 8<sup>th</sup> President of the FSM (2015 - 2019)

### COMMITTEES

**CHAIRMAN:** Committee on External Affairs; Pohnpei Congressional Delegation

Member on: Ways and Means; Resources and Development; Transportation and Communications.



**The Honorable Peter M. Christian** is the four year, at-large representative of the State of Pohnpei to the Twenty-Fourth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia. He is the Chairman of the Standing Committee on External Affairs with membership on the Committee on Ways & Means and the Special Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Issues. Christian concurrently holds the Chairmanship for the Pohnpei Congressional Delegation.

Christian is a career politician with over 46 years in service to the people of Pohnpei State and to the Nation as a whole. His political career started as an elected representative in the Pohnpei District Legislature during the Trust Territory Administration. On the historical constitutional establishment of the FSM Nation on May 10, 1979, Christian was among the newly elected 14 Members of the First Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia. At 32 years of age, Christian was the youngest elected member of the new Congress and still holds the record in the new 24<sup>th</sup> Congress. Today, he is also the most senior member of the Congress of the FSM.

His extensive role in public service not only seated him to head the Nation's top legislative body as the Speaker of the Congress, but it also placed Christian in the role of Head of State and Head of Government - as the 8<sup>th</sup> President of the FSM as elected on May 11, 2015.

Following his term as the President, Christian returned to the FSM Congress in 2019, as Pohnpei State's at-large four-year representative and maintained the same role in the following Congress bodies. He is currently the most senior Member of the Congress having been a public servant for

over 46 years and concurrently holds the record as the youngest elected member of the national body.

Christian started his public service as the Employment Service Officer for the then Ponape District in 1970. A year later he was promoted to Ponape Field Service Officer for which he travelled extensively throughout Micronesia and the Pacific region on behalf of Pohnpei District. His political career officially started during the formative stages of the Nation. In 1975, he was elected as representative of Kolonia Town to the Ponape District Legislature and maintained his seat throughout the transition from Trust Territory to the new Federated States of Micronesia.

In 1979, Christian was among the fourteen members elected to the First Congress of the new constitutionally established FSM Nation. He represented Pohnpei State's Congressional Election District Three to the First FSM Congress and maintained his seat for the next 28 years.

During the reorganization of the 13<sup>th</sup> FSM Congress in 2003, Christian became the third person seated to the Speakership as head of the Legislative Branch of the FSM Government and maintained the same role in the following 14<sup>th</sup> Congress.

In the 2007 Congressional race, he lost the bid for Pohnpei's at-large or four-year seat but could not retire to private life as he was quickly nominated by the FSM President and confirmed to head the National Department of Resources and Development in 2008. Christian held his position as Secretary of the Department until the special election in 2009 when he was won the at-large or four-year seat for State of Pohnpei to the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress.

Throughout his public career, Christian has maintained an active role in the local communities and the international arena as it pertains to the development of the FSM. Among his notable roles is that of the Chief Negotiator for the 2003 Amended Compact of Free Association with the United States of America. Christian also chaired the FSM Task Force which eventuated the replacement of Exxon Mobil Corporation with the Nation's very own FSM Petroleum Corporation.

Senator Christian is a Pohnpei native, born on October 16, 1947. He is a graduate of Xavier High School and a recipient of the 1968 East-West Center Scholarship to the University of Hawaii following Xavier. He is married to Maurina Weilbacher Christian and they have two children and are blessed with several grandchildren.