



Republic of Palau
Office of the President

Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.
President

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March 29, 2017
Serial No. 17-67

The Honorable Hokkons Baules
President of the Senate
10th Olbiil Era Kelulau
Ngerulmud, Palau National Capitol
Republic of Palau 96939

Re: Signing Statement: SB 10-15, HD2 – Justices’ Salaries and Amending the Social Security Eligibility Age

Dear Senate President Baules:

It is with pleasure that I sign into law today Senate Bill No. 10-15, HD2, which prescribes and increases the salary ranges for the Presiding and Associate Justices of the Trial and Appellate Divisions of the Supreme Court and also amends the Social Security Act’s eligibility age for retirement.

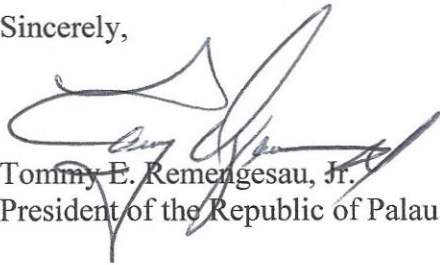
This law will definitely afford greater flexibility to the Chief Justice to effectively provide for a fair and reasonable salary structure for the Justices of our Judiciary. Like every important position in the Government, the role of the Justices are equally important and therefore their level of compensation should be commensurate with the degree of integrity, responsibility and professionalism required of their esteemed positions.

Similarly, on the amendment to the Social Security eligibility age, I believe fixing the age of retirement at 60 years reflects the desire of the majority of persons retiring, while also clarifying and removing several inconsistencies in the existing statutory language, which will greatly ease its application. The Government has the responsibility to respond to the people’s needs and this amendment will do just that. However, we need to continue to work with our Social Security Administration to ensure that the program is not only responsive to the needs of the people but at the same time able to address any and all needs related to ensuring the sustainability of the program.



Once again, allow me to thank you and your colleagues for recognizing the importance of this act and for your swift action in passing it. I look forward to continuing to work together to address such important laws to support the provisions of our Constitution as well as addressing the needs of our people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.", is written over the typed name and title.

Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.
President of the Republic of Palau



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Office of the President

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March 29, 2017
Serial No. 17-67

The Honorable Sabino Anastacio
Speaker of the House of Delegates
10th Olbiil Era Kelulau
Ngerulmud, Palau National Capitol
Republic of Palau 96939

Re: Signing Statement: SB 10-15, HD2 – Justices’ Salaries and Amending the Social Security Eligibility Age

Dear Speaker Anastacio:

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This law will definitely afford greater flexibility to the Chief Justice to effectively provide for a fair and reasonable salary structure for the Justices of our Judiciary. Like every important position in the Government, the role of the Justices are equally important and therefore their level of compensation should be commensurate with the degree of integrity, responsibility and professionalism required of their esteemed positions.

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Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.
President of the Republic of Palau