



**Republic of Palau**  
*Office of the President*

Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.  
*President*

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April 13, 2017  
Serial No. 17-83

The Honorable Hokkons Baules  
President of the Senate  
10<sup>th</sup> Oblilil Era Kelulau  
Ngerulmud, Palau National Capitol  
Republic of Palau 96939

**Re: Signing Statement: HB 10-6-1, HD2, SD1, National Day of Prayer**

Dear Senate President Baules:

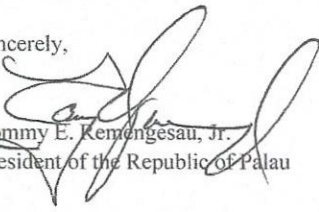
I am happy to sign into law today House Bill No. 10-6-1, HD2, SD1, which reaffirms and formalizes the President's authority to proclaim a day in January as a National Day of Prayer.

Throughout the history of our Nation, we have, and continue, to open many important events with prayer. Until this time, acting pursuant to 1 PNC § 701, the President has regularly declared one day each year as time for all members of our society to reflect on the graces bestowed upon us, and to show our thanks for the love we have received from the Almighty God.

I understand that this legislation is not without conflict. Some would say that we are forcing one set of beliefs upon all members of our society. Others would say that we have not done enough to ensure participation. The free expression of religion is a freedom that I and many Palauans hold dear to our hearts. This legislation allows us the power to name a day, but not define the manner of prayer. I believe this strikes the correct balance. Palau welcomes all expressions of religion. I believe that this is in line with this message of inclusion. That Palau welcomes all people to come together, if they so choose, to offer thanks and praise.

I look forward to the years to come, when all Palauans can come together, on a day of the President's choosing, and pray to their God for guidance and inspiration.

Sincerely,

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



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April 13, 2017  
Serial No. 17-83

The Honorable Sabino Anastacio  
Speaker of the House of Delegates  
10<sup>th</sup> Obliil Era Kelulau  
Ngerulmud, Palau National Capitol  
Republic of Palau 96939

**Re: Signing Statement: HB 10-6-1, HD2, SD1, National Day of Prayer**

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Sincerely,

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

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