First Legislature State of Koror P.O. Box 116 Koror, Palau 96940

> Public Law No. <u>K1-9-85</u> Bill No. 16

SECOND REGULAR SESSION January 1985

A BILL FOR AN ACT

To provide for a special election to fill a vacant seat.

THE PEOPLE OF KOROR AS REPRESENTED IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF KOROR DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. DATE AND TIME OF ELECTION

There shall be an election for one member to fill a member-at-large seat (vacated December 31, 1984, by Itelbang Luii) of the Legislature of the State of Koror. This election shall be held on Thursday, February 14, 1985, between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M.

SECTION 2. QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE

A person shall be eligible to be elected as a member of the Legislature if he satisfies the requirements of K-11-83 §3.

SECTION 3. NOMINATING PETITIONS

1. Nomination of candidates to the Legislature shall be made by petition initiated by the candidate and signed by any five (5) qualified registered voters of Koror. Petitioners shall both sign and print their name on the petition.

2. The petition, duly signed, shall be presented to the Koror State Registrar, who shall verify the signatures of the petitions and shall, within 24 hours of receiving the petition, notify the candidate either that the petition has been duly certified to the Koror State Election Commission or that certification has been denied. 3. Nothing contained in this Section shall prohibit a person from seeking office as a write-in candidate, except a name written upon a ballot in a run-off election shall not be counted as a vote.

4. Petitions must be presented to the Koror State Registrar no later than 4:30 P.M., January 28, 1985.

SECTION 4. ELECTION COMMISSION

1. The Koror State Executive Administrator by January 11, 1985, shall appoint a five person Special Election Commission for this election, and shall name one of those five as its chairman.

2. This commission shall have the following duties and powers:

a. To print, distribute, account for, maintain security and secrecy of, and tabulate ballots.

b. Establish and supervise at least one polling place in each of the 13 hamlets of Koror and may establish one polling place outside of Palau.

c. To mail, promptly upon request postmarked or received by it no later than February 4, 1985, by a registered voter, an absentee ballot to such voter.

d. Cause promptly announcement of this election to be made throughout Palau and to be published in the Pacific Daily News.

e. Hire the staff which are appropriate or make contracts necessary to carry out the intent and provisions of this act.

f. Adopt and promulgate regulations which are appropriate or necessary to carry out the intent and provisions of this act.

g. Within seven calendar days of the election, certify and announce its tabulation of the ballots and the results and the winner of such election.

SECTION 5. ELECTION RESULTS; RUN-OFF

1. The winner of this election shall be the candidate who receives the most votes of the total votes cast and counted as valid.

Public Law No. K1-9-85

2. In case of a tie, the Election Commission shall so announce and shall conduct a run-off election between the tied candidates. Such run-off election shall be held no later than fourteen days after the Election announces its certification of the ballots.

SECTION 6. APPROPRIATIONS

The amount of \$3,000.00 is hereby appropriated to implement this act.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Act shall take effect immediately upon its approval by the House of Traditional Leaders or upon its becoming law without such approval.

Passed unanimously on the 8th day of January 1985 by the Koror State Legislature.

Certified by:/s/ Katsutoshy Becheserrak Speaker

APPROVED this 9^{th} day of January 1985.

/s/ Ibedul Y. M. Gibbons Chairman House of Traditional Leaders