

AN ACT

To designate and establish a State park on the Koror side of the Japan-Palau Friendship Bridge, to designate Long Island as an official Koror State Park, to authorize the Governor to promulgate regulations relating to the use of State Parks, and for related purposes.

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

SECTION 1. FINDINGS. The Seventh Koror State Legislature hereby finds that there is a limited number of parks and recreation areas in Koror for use by tourists and the people of Palau, and that it is in the interests of the people of the State of Koror for the State Government to provide aesthetically pleasing open spaces with ocean access for various forms of recreation.

The Seventh Koror State Legislature further finds that the Japan-Palau Friendship Bridge, formerly known as the "K-B Bridge", has been successfully completed, and the area below the bridge on the Koror side has a basketball court and is ideal for swimming and other forms of water recreation.

Furthermore, the Legislature is aware that Long Island has been successfully developed and used as a park area by the people of Koror, and that it will also be in the best interests of the people to include Long Island as a part of a State Park system. It will also serve the interests of the people to limit or prevent commercial uses and development in the Koror State Park areas until plans have been finalized for all potential and actual development of the Park areas.

The Seventh Koror State Legislature finds that it is in the best interests of the

people of the State of Koror to designate, establish, and maintain an official State park that will allow public access to the ocean areas under the Japan-Palau Friendship Bridge, and to formally designate Long Island as an official State Park. The establishment and maintenance of these areas as official State parks will benefit Palauans and visitors alike.

SECTION 2. STATE PARKS DESIGNATED AND ESTABLISHED.

A. There is hereby designated and established an official Koror State park under the Japan-Palau Friendship Bridge on the Koror side of the bridge. The State of Koror shall develop and maintain recreational facilities and make other improvements for the use and enjoyment of the park

by the people of Palau and visitors to Palau. Koror State Government shall take active steps to promulgate plans for the development of the park area, including facilities such as a community center, playgrounds, beach and docking areas, picnicking and cooking areas, and other recreational facilities.

B. The area commonly known as "Long Island" is hereby designated as an official State Park of the State of Koror to be known as Long Island State Park. This Park area shall consist of the access road from the main road to the end of Long Island the marine areas between Ernguul Road and the access road and from the beginning of the access road to the eastern end of Long Island, and shall also include all fill areas to the south of the access road and all existing recreational facilities.

C. Until such time as a comprehensive plan is developed for the improvement of the property under the bridge and the completion of the development of Long Island Park, and until this section is repealed, there shall be no commercial development or commercial uses or other commercial activity on or in either of the park areas designated and established by this Act. The prohibition against commercial development or uses shall not include the installation or construction of any infrastructure such as water and electrical services.

D. Within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this Act, the Governor shall promulgate regulations relating to the use of the Parks designated or established under this Act, including regulations relating to the hours that the Parks may remain open, reservation of Park facilities for use by groups or individuals, issuance of permits for uses of Park facilities, and collection of fees for uses of buildings or other facilities. Koror State Government shall be responsible for

maintaining the
Parks, including trimming or removal of grass and vegetation, painting and renovation of
existing
facilities as necessary, providing trash receptacles, and removal of trash and debris.

SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY. In the event that a court of competent jurisdiction
determines that any part or portion of this Act are invalid or otherwise unenforceable,
then the
offending part or portions may be stricken, and the remaining portions shall continue in
full force and
effect.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act shall become effective upon its becoming law by operation of the Koror State constitution.

PASSED: July 15, 2002.

CERTIFIED BY:

ATTESTED TO BY:

/s/ _____
Yositaka Adachi, Speaker
Seventh Koror State Legislature

/s/ _____
Charlyne Uong, Clerk
Seventh Koror State
Legislature

APPROVED ON THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2002.

John C. Gibbons
Governor, Koror State

APPROVED ON THIS 2ND DAY OF August, 2002.

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