

AN ACT

To amend section "2.D." of Koror State Public Law No. K6-119-2001 by extending the conservation moratorium for Ngederrak Reef from two (2) to four (4) years, 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 Koror State Public Law No. K6-119-2001 became positive law of the State of Koror on January 10, 2001 by way of approval by the House of Traditional Leaders of Koror State Government. Koror State Public Law No. K6-119-2001 establishes a conservation zone for Ngederrak reef, regulates activities in the conservation zone, prohibits the removal of flora and fauna from the conservation zone, and applies penalties for violations of the Act. The restrictions placed upon the Ngederrak reef conservation zone were imposed for a period of two years, beginning on January 10, 2001, and are scheduled to expire on January 9, 2003.

The Seventh Koror State Legislature further finds that after Koror State Public Law No. K6-119-2001 became effective, the Coral Reef Research Foundation with the assistance of the US Peace Corps volunteer Dawn Bailey conducted "baseline" measurements of different types of plants and animals that are found on the Ngederrak reef, and on surrounding reefs. The purpose of obtaining "baseline" measurements is to determine what effect that the establishment of the conservation zone has on protecting the plant and animal life in the conservation zone. Unfortunately, the original two (2) year moratorium is insufficient to allow conclusive surveying and analysis because many species do not reproduce and mature, or do not adequately repopulate an area, within a two year period. The Coral Reef Research Center has written to Koror State seeking to have the two year moratorium extended for an additional two years, or for a total of four years, so that the studies and analysis may be extended to match the life cycles and growth rates of various protected species. The Coral Reef Research Center was able to verify in the short time of their studies that the number of sampled invertebrates has not decreased, indicating that the conservation zone is probably protecting these species from further exploitation and loss.

The Seventh Koror State Legislature finds that it is in the best interests of the people of the State of Koror to extend the moratorium period for an additional two years to allow objective scientific studies to be conducted on the area, and to allow the Koror State Legislature to determine the effectiveness of its conservation measures.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT OF SECTION "2.D." OF KOROR STATE PUBLIC LAW NO. K6-119-2001 TO EXTEND THE CONSERVATION MORATORIUM FOR A PERIOD OF TWO ADDITIONAL YEARS. Section "2.D." of Koror State Public Law No. K6-119-2001 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"D. The prohibitions of this section shall remain in force and effect until January 9, 2005."

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 23, 2002

CERTIFIED BY:

ATTESTED TO:

/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



SEVENTH KOROR STATE LEGISLATURE  
Second Special Session, June, 2002

KSPL NO. K7-133-2002  
(Intro as Bill No. 7-14)

APPROVED ON THIS 2<sup>nd</sup> DAY OF August, 2002.

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