

AN ACT

To provide for succession to office in the event of the absence or disability of the Governor of the State of Koror, and for related purposes.

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

Section 1. Findings. The Sixth Koror Legislature hereby finds that Article VII, section 5 of the Koror State Constitution, as amended on July 15, 1997, provides that the Legislature may establish procedures for the filling of a vacancy in the office of the Governor in the event of a temporary absence or the unavailability to perform the duties of office. As of this time, there is no law to provide for succession to the office of Governor under these circumstances.

Section 2. Succession to Office of the Governor in the event of disability, or temporary absence. In the event that the Governor of the State of Koror is unavailable to perform the duties of office, or is absent from the Republic of Palau, then the duties of the office of Governor shall be filled in accordance with this Act.

If the Governor leaves the Republic of Palau for any period of time, then the Governor shall designate in writing the name of the person who shall fill the office of Governor during his absence, and shall also state the date of the return to office of the Governor. Such written designation shall be transmitted to the Legislature and to the House of Traditional Leaders.

If the Governor is unavailable to perform the duties of the office of Governor for a period of thirty (30) days or more, or if the Governor does not designate in writing the name of a person to fill the office while the Governor is off-island, then the House of Traditional Leaders shall designate in writing the name of the person who shall fill the office of Governor during such time of unavailability or during such time when the Governor is absent from the Republic of Palau.

The person designated by the Governor or by the House of Traditional Leaders to fill the office of Governor shall be a member of the Administration of Koror State Government pursuant to Article VII of the Koror State constitution.

Section 3. Severability. In the event that a court of competent jurisdiction determines that any part or portion of this law is invalid, then the offending portion 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 approval by the House of Traditional Leaders of the State of Koror, or upon its becoming law by operation of the Koror State Constitution.

PASSED: December 22, 1999

CERTIFIED BY:

ATTESTED TO BY:

/s/ _____
Salvador Tellames, Speaker
Sixth Koror State Legislature

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

APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 1999.

John C. Gibbons
Governor, Koror State

APPROVED THIS 30th DAY OF December, 1999.

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