



THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Twelfth Olbiil Era Kelulau

(Palau National Congress)
P.O. Box 8, National Capitol
Ngerulmud, Republic of Palau
96940

Phone: (680) 767-2507/2546/2526/1291
Fax : (680) 767-2787
e-mail: speaker@palauoek.pw
oek-speaker@palaunet.com

PRESIDING OFFICERS

Gibson Kanai
Speaker
State of Ngaraard

Mario S. Gulibert
Vice Speaker
State of Angaur

Warren S. Umetaro
Floor Leader
State of Aimeliik

May 08, 2026

The Honorable Hokkons Baules
President of the Senate
Twelfth Olbiil Era Kelulau
Ngerulmud, Republic of Palau 96940

The Senate
Olbiil Era Kelulau
Koror, Republic of Palau 96940
HOD COM. 12-53

MEMBERS

Delegate Ellender Ngirameketil
State of Ngirwal

Delegate Francesca R. Otong
State of Ngatpang

Delegate J. Blesoch Aderkerol
State of Ngardmau

Delegate Mengkur W. Rechelulk
State of Koror

Delegate Nace N. Soalablai
State of Peleliu

Delegate Noah Kemesong
State of Kayangel

Delegate Portia Franz Kesolei
State of Ngeremlengui

Delegate Rebecca Sebalt Ngirmechaet
State of Ngchesar

Delegate Sebastian R. Marino
State of Hatohobei

Delegate Silverius Ouch Tellei
State of Melekeok

Delegate Stephanie Ngirchoimei
State of Airai

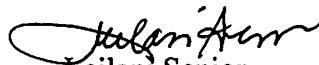
Delegate Timothy R. Sinsak
State of Ngarchelong

Delegate Yutaka Gibbons Jr.
State of Sonsorol

Dear Mr. President:

I have the honor of transmitting herewith for your consideration and action, **House Bill No. 12-11-1S, HD1 "To amend Title 3 of the Palau National Code to increase the salary for members of the Olbiil Era Kelulau.,** which was passed on its third and final reading by the members of the House of Delegates, Twelfth Olbiil Era Kelulau, with quorum being present and voting during its Sixth Regular Session, May 08, 2026.

Respectfully,


Leilani Senior
Clerk
House of Delegates

Attachment(s)

Defeated
6/4/24
PS

A BILL FOR AN ACT

To amend Title 3 of the Palau National Code to increase the salary for members of the Olbiil Era Kelulau.

THE PEOPLE OF PALAU REPRESENTED IN THE OLBIIL ERA KELULAU DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1. Legislative findings.** The Olbiil Era Kelulau recognizes that competitive
2 and equitable compensation for public officials is essential to ensuring effective governance
3 and attracting highly qualified individuals to serve in elected office. The salaries of our
4 members have remained unchanged for an extended period, despite recent adjustments to the
5 salaries of other government officials and employees. Over time, inflation and the evolving
6 demands of legislative service have further underscored the need for a salary adjustment.

7 The Olbiil Era Kelulau further finds that members of the legislative branch bear
8 significant responsibilities, including the development of national policy, oversight of
9 government operations, and the appropriation of public funds. Ensuring fair and reasonable
10 compensation for lawmakers aligns with broader efforts to modernize government salary
11 structures and maintain institutional stability. This increase will become effective only with
12 the commencement of the Thirteenth Olbiil Era Kelulau, thereby ensuring that no sitting
13 member directly benefits from the increase unless re-elected.

14 This adjustment reflects a long-overdue alignment with prevailing government salary
15 standards and reinforces the commitment to a legislative body that is both capable and
16 representative of the nation's best interests.

17 **Section 2. Amendment.** Section 201 of Title 3 of the Palau National Code is hereby
18 amended as follows:

19 “ . . .
20 § 201. Annual salary established.

21 . . .
22 (b) Salary authorized.

23 (1) Each member of the Olbiil Era Kelulau shall receive a salary of fifty
24 ~~thousand dollars (\$50,000) per year sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) per year~~ sixty-
25 five thousand dollars (\$65,000) per year. This compensation shall be paid according

1 to rules and procedures to be promulgated by the Olbiil Era Kelulau. Payments shall
2 be made bi-weekly on regular government paydays.

3 ...”

4 **Section 3. Effective date.** This Act shall take effect on January 18, 2028.

Date: 2/24/2025

Introduced by: _____/s/_____
His Excellency Surangel S. Whipps, Jr.



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State of Ngchesar

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Delegate Silverius Onch Tellei
State of Melekeok

Delegate Stephanie Ngrichalmel
State of Airai

Delegate Timothy R. Sinsak
State of Ngarchelong

Delegate Yutaka Gibbons Jr.
State of Sonsorol

MEMORANDUM:

To : Mr. Colin F. Fenwick
Chief Legal Counsel, House of Delegates

From : Leilani Senior *LS*
Clerk, House of Delegates

Date : 05/08/2026

- Please review attached measures(s) HB No. 12-11-1S, HD1
- For proper legal form and style for third and final reading.
- Please insert the adopted amendment(s) _____ to _____
- The subject measure(s) will be read at the next session _____
- Review for proper legal form and style to be: engrossed

transmitted

Attachment(s)



The House of Delegates Twelfth Olbiil Era Kelulau

(PALAU NATIONAL CONGRESS)
P.O. BOX 8
NGERULMUD
REPUBLIC OF PALAU
96940

Phone: (680) 767-1291/ 2527
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Email: hlco.admin@palauock.pw

LEGAL COUNSEL OFFICE

Asterio Takashi
Senior Legal Advisor/PIO

Colin Fenwick
Chief Legal Counsel

William L. Ridpath
Legal Counsel PRO TEM

Nangisa Mai
Asst. Legal Researcher
Office Manager

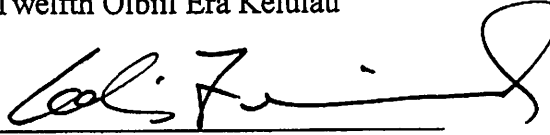
Ulai Demei
Asst. Legal Researcher

Secheyangel S. Sokau
Secretary

Report from the House Legal Counsel Office for Third Reading

April 29, 2026
Date

TO: Leilani Senior
Clerk, House of Delegates
Twelfth Olbiil Era Kelulau

FROM: 
Colin Fenwick
Chief Legal Counsel, House of Delegates

X

I find H.B No. 12-11-1S, HD1 to be in proper legal form and style.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

To amend Title 3 of the Palau National Code to increase the salary for members of the Olbiil Era Kelulau.

THE PEOPLE OF PALAU REPRESENTED IN THE OLBIIL ERA KELULAU DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1. Legislative findings.** The Olbiil Era Kelulau recognizes that competitive
2 and equitable compensation for public officials is essential to ensuring effective governance
3 and attracting highly qualified individuals to serve in elected office. The salaries of our
4 members have remained unchanged for an extended period, despite recent adjustments to the
5 salaries of other government officials and employees. Over time, inflation and the evolving
6 demands of legislative service have further underscored the need for a salary adjustment.

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13 member directly benefits from the increase unless re-elected.

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15 standards and reinforces the commitment to a legislative body that is both capable and
16 representative of the nation’s best interests.

17 **Section 2. Amendment.** Section 201 of Title 3 of the Palau National Code is hereby
18 amended as follows:

19 “...

20 § 201. Annual salary established.

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22 (b) Salary authorized.

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25 five thousand dollars (\$65,000) per year. This compensation shall be paid according



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96940

VOTING

Session: 6th Regular

Day: 25th

Voting on: HB NO. 12-11-15, #01

	NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
1	Delegate J. Blesoch ADERKEROI	-	absent	-
2	Delegate Yutaka GIBBONS, JR.	-	absent	-
3	Vice Speaker Mario S. GULIBERT			✓
4	Delegate Noah KEMESONG	-	absent	-
5	Delegate Portia Franz KESOLEI			✓✓
6	Delegate Sebastian R. MARINO			✓✓
7	Delegate Ellender NGIRAMEKETII	-	absent	-
8	Delegate Stephanie NGIRCHOIMEI	✓		
9	Delegate Rebecca Sebalt NGIRMECHAET	✓		
10	Delegate Francesca Ruluked OTONG	-	absent	-
11	Delegate Mengkur W. RECHELULK	✓		
12	Delegate Timothy R. SINSAK			✓✓
13	Delegate Nace N. SOALABLAI	✓		
14	Delegate Silverius Ouch TELLEI	✓		
15	Floor Leader Warren S. UMETARO	✓		
16	Speaker Gibson KANAI	✓		

Total: YES 7 NO 4 ABSTAIN 0 Final Result: YES 11 NO 0

Certified by: 
Clerk, House of Delegates

Date: 5/8/20



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State of Melakkek

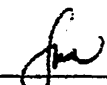
Delegate Stephanie Ngirchoimele
State of Airai

Delegate Timothy R. Sinsak
State of Ngarchelong

Delegate Yutaka Gibbons Jr.
State of Sonsorol

MEMORANDUM:

To : Mr. Asterio Takashi
Senior Legal Advisor

From : Ms. Leilani Senior 
Clerk, House of Delegates

Date : 04/21/26

1. Please review the attached measure(s) HB No. 12-11-1S

2. For Proper legal form and style for third and final reading.

3. Please insert the adopted amendment(s) HD1 to
HB No. 12-11-1S

4. The subject measure(s) will be read at the next session _____

5. Review for proper legal form and style to be: engrossed
 transmitted

Attachment(s)



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E-mail: hodkororstate@gmail.com

WAYS & MEANS and FINANCIAL MATTERS COMMITTEE

Adopted
4/21/26 RS

Stand. Comm. Rep. No. 12-25
Re: House Bill No. 12-11-1S
Date: April 20, 2026

Mengkur W. Rechelulk
Chairman
State of Koror

Stephanie Ngircholmei
Vice Chairperson
State of Alrai

Members:

Nace N. Soalablai
State of Peleliu

Sebastian R. Marino
State of Hatothobet

Yutaka Gibbons, Jr.
State of Sonsorol

Warren S. Umetaro
State of Almeliik

Silverius Ouch Tellei
State of Melekeok

Francesca R. Otong
State of Ngatpang

J. Blesoch Aderkerol
State of Ngardmau

The Honorable Gibson Kanai
Speaker, House of Delegates
Twelfth Olbiil Era Kelulau
P.O. Box 8
Ngerulmud, Melekeok Republic of Palau 96940

Dear Mr. Speaker,

Your Committee on Ways and Means & Financial Matters (WM&FM) to which was referred House Bill No. 12-11-1S entitled:

“A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend Title 3 of the Palau National Code to increase the salary for members of the Olbiil Era Kelulau.”

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee on WM&FM has reviewed this bill as submitted to the House of Delegates of the Twelfth Olbiil Era Kelulau by His Excellency Surangel S. Whipps, Jr., President of the Republic of Palau on March 12, 2025. Having thoroughly reviewed this bill’s intent, and Palau’s government salary history, your Committee believes this bill is fair and balanced.

The purpose of this bill is to amend Title 3 of the Palau National Code to increase the salary for members of the Olbiil Era Kelulau. Your Committee reviewed and agrees with what is in the transmittal letter of the President and in the legislative findings of the bill that this bill provides for a long overdue adjustment that acknowledges both the critical role of legislative branch and economic realities that have changed since the last salary review for the members of the Olbiil Era Kelulau.

In review of the decade long interval since the last salary adjustment, your Committee finds that House Bill No. 12-11-1S is appropriate and justified. However, WM&FM Committee respectfully recommends the following changes to the bill:

1. **Amend** Section 2 of HB 12-11-1S as follows:

Section 2. Amendment. Section 201 of Title 3 of the Palau National Code is hereby amended as follows:

“... ”

§201. Annual salary established.

...

(b) Salary authorized.

(1) Each member of the Olbiil Era Kelulau shall receive a salary of ~~fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per year~~ ~~sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) per year~~ sixty-five thousand dollars (\$65,000) per year. This compensation shall be paid according to rules and procedures to be promulgated by the Olbiil Era Kelulau. Payments shall be made bi-weekly on regular government paydays.

...”

With that, WM&FM Committee respectfully recommends passage of HB 12-11-1S, now re-designated as HB 12-11-1S, HD1, with the proposed amendment.

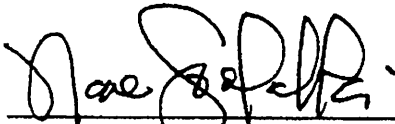
Respectfully submitted,

**HOUSE OF DELEGATES COMMITTEE ON WAYS &
MEANS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS**



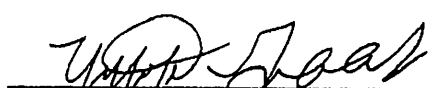
Delegate Mengkur W. Rechelulk
Chairman

Delegate Stephanie Ngirchoimei
Vice Chairperson



Delegate Nace N. Soalablai
Member

Delegate Sebastian R. Marino
Member



Delegate Yutaka Gibbons, Jr.
Member

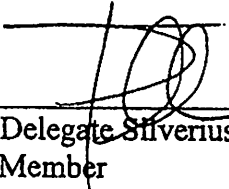


Floor Leader Warren S. Umetaro
Member


Stand. Comm. Rep. No. 12-25

Re: House Bill No. 12-11-1S

Date: April 20, 2026



Delegate Silverius Ouch Tellei
Member



Delegate Francesca R. Otong
Member

Delegate J. Blesoch Aderkeroi

Passed 1st Reading for 3/12/25 W+M Passed 2nd Reading w/HOI 4/21/26 20
House Bill No. 12-11-15

A BILL FOR AN ACT

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24 ~~thousand dollars (\$50,000) per year~~ sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) per year. This
25 compensation shall be paid according to rules and procedures to be promulgated by

1 the Olbiil Era Kelulau, Payments shall be made bi-weekly on regular government
2 paydays.

3 ...”

4 **Section 3. Effective date.** This Act shall take effect on January 18, 2029.

Date: 2/24/2025

Introduced by: /s/
His Excellency Surangel S. Whipps, Jr.
President of the Republic of Palau