

## Republic of Palau Office of the President

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## PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE NO. 17-29

DIRECTING IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS TO BEGIN UTILIZING THE PALAU PLEDGE ENTRY VISA STAMP

WHEREAS, our natural environment is the source of all life in Palau and its protection and preservation is critical to the well-being of generations to come; and

WHEREAS, climate change, unplanned tourism, and other modern threats to our environment have strained our natural resources and left our islands, like the rest of the Pacific, increasingly vulnerable to man-made degradation; and

WHEREAS, in order to preserve these islands and their natural resources for our children, this government is fighting for renewable energy, marine protection, and environmental responsibility; and

WHEREAS, education and awareness of environmental responsibility are critical to Palau's efforts toward protecting and preserving its natural environment, culture, and heritage for future generations; and

WHEREAS, environmental protection cannot succeed without an equal commitment from the many thousands of tourist who visit our home each year;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** the Bureau of Immigration and Labor is directed that as of December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017, the Palau Pledge is the official entry visa stamp for the Republic of Palau. The Bureau is directed to implement the Palau Pledge entry visa stamp through the appropriate processes, to include regulation and internal memoranda. The Bureau is also directed to implement the appropriate training, instruction, and/or action as necessary, to ensure that all Immigration agents responsible for processing visitors to the Republic of Palau understand the meaning, and requirements, associated with this new entry visa stamp.

**SO DIRECTED** this 6<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2017 at Ngerulmud, Republic of Palau.

Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr

President of the Republic of Palau