



*The President*  
*Palikir, Pohnpei*  
*Federated States of Micronesia*

July 14, 2021

The Honorable Wesley W. Simina  
Speaker  
Twenty-Second Congress  
Federated States of Micronesia  
Palikir, Pohnpei FM 96941

Dear Speaker Simina:

I am pleased to transmit a proposed bill to amend the validity period of FSM passports. Current law provides for a 5-year validity of passports. The proposed amendment extends the validity period of passports to 10 years, reduces the need to frequently apply for new passports and addresses the difficulty of our citizens in applying for passport renewals.

Moreover, one major challenge faced by our citizens in the United States as a result of frequent renewal of passports is the numerous cases of mismatch of immigration information between the new passport and their I-94 records. When a new passport is issued to our citizens, it requires a whole set of process and protocol from the U.S. side to register the new passport and synchronize it with the unexpired I-94. This tedious process caused some of our citizens to lose their jobs because their records were not fixed in a timely manner. This bill will address this difficulty.

In view of the foregoing, I urge the 22<sup>nd</sup> FSM Congress to consider the passage of the amendment during the special session. Thank you.

Sincerely,

David W. Panuelo  
President



*emailed 7/15/21 ✓*

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

To further amend Title 50 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated), as amended, by amending section 205 thereof to modify the period of validity of FSM passports, and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA:

1           Section 1. Section 205 of title 50 of the Code of the  
2 Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated), as amended by Public  
3 Laws Nos. 10-140, 14-28, and 14-85, is hereby further amended to  
4 read as follows:

5           "Section 205. Duration of Passports.

6           (1) A passport issued after the effective date of this act  
7 shall be valid for a period of ~~five~~ ten years from the date  
8 of issuance or renewal, except a shorter period of validity  
9 may be established by regulation for minors, senior  
10 citizens, and holders of official and diplomatic passports.

11           (2) For the avoidance of doubt, all passports issued before  
12 the effective date of this act shall be valid for a period  
13 of ten years.

14           (3) The President may by regulation provide for different  
15 periods of passport validity."

16           Section 2. This act shall become law upon approval by the  
17 President of the Federated States of Micronesia or upon its  
18 becoming law without such approval.

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Florencio S. Harper  
Floor Leader  
(by request)



Department of Justice  
Federated States of Micronesia

Joses R. Gallen, Sr., Secretary

(691) 320-2608

July 14, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: President

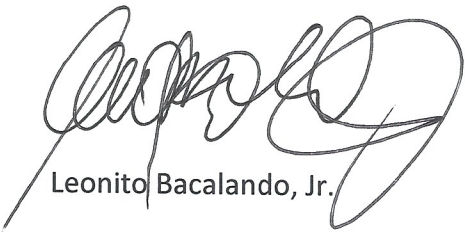
FROM: Acting DOJ Secretary

SUBJECT: Proposed amendment of passport validity

RECEIVED  
JUL 15 2021  
Office of the  
President PStA

We drafted the enclosed bill changing the passport validity from 5 years to 10 years.

We respectfully recommend that you consider sending this to congress for its consideration and approval. Thank you.

  
Leonito Bacalando, Jr.



FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA  
 NATIONAL GOVERNMENT  
 CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL FORM

July 14, 2021

The Honorable Wesley W. Simina  
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 Twenty-Second Congress  
 Federated States of Micronesia  
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Dear Speaker Simina:

I am pleased to transmit a proposed bill to amend the validity period of FSM passports. Current law provides for a 5-year validity of passports. The proposed amendment extends the period to 10 years, will reduce the need to frequently apply for new passports and will address their difficulty in applying for passport renewals.

Moreover, one major challenge faced by our citizens in the United States arises from renewal of passports resulting in numerous mismatch of immigration information between the new passport and their I-94 record. When a new passport is issued to our citizens, it requires a whole set of process and protocol from the U.S. side to register the new passport to synchronize it with the unexpired I-94. This tedious process caused some of our citizens to lose their jobs because their records were not fixed in a timely manner. This bill will address this difficulty.

In view of the foregoing, I take this opportunity to urge the 22<sup>nd</sup> FSM Congress to consider the passage of the amendment during the special session. Thank you.

Sincerely,

David W. Panuelo  
 President

ORIGINATOR	
CLEARANCE	
PRES	
VEEP	
SFA	
SDOFA	
SHESA	
STC&I	
SDEA	
NORMA	
JCN	
AG	
NP	
PD	
COS	
CONCURRENCE (if applicable)	
PRES	
VEEP	
SFA	
AG	