
AN ACT

Repealing the Truk District Staff Merit System Chapter 21, Title 21 of the Truk District Code; adding Chapter 20, Title 21 Legislature Staff; and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Truk that:

Section 1. Repeal. Chapter 21, Title 21 of the Truk District Code is repealed in its entirety.

Section 2. Amendment. Title 21 of the Truk District Code is amended by the addition of Chapter 20 to read as follows:

"Chapter 20. Legislature Staff

Sections:

- 300. Administration of Legislature Building and Property
- 301. Office of the Speaker
- 302. Office of the Legislative Counsel
- 303. Coordination
- 304. Personnel
- 305. Administrative Officer
- 306. Chief Clerk

Section 300. Administration of Legislature Building and Property. The Administration of Legislature Buildings and Property shall be conducted under direction of the Speaker. The Speaker shall administer the Legislature Buildings and grounds under the same laws as pertain to all buildings owned or retained by the Government of the State of Truk. Title to lands held by the Truk Legislature shall remain vested in the Legislature until altered by act of the Legislature.

Section 301. Office of the Speaker. The internal administration of the Legislature shall be under the direction of the Speaker.

Section 302. Office of the Legislative Counsel. There shall be in the Truk Legislature an office of the Legislative Counsel which shall be under the direct supervision and control of the Legislative Counsel. The Legislature upon recommendation

by the Speaker or by resolution, shall nominate a Legislative Counsel to serve the Legislature during and between sessions. Nomination of Legislative Counsel shall be made without reference to political affiliations and solely on the ground of fitness to perform the duties of the office as follows:

(1) to act as counsel for and legal advisor to the Legislature; to draft bills, resolutions, amendments thereto, and render legal services to the committees or any member of the Legislature when requested;

(2) to undertake such legal research as shall be requested by the Legislature, its committees or members;

(3) to advise the Legislature from time to time as to needed revision of the laws of Truk State and of the rules of procedure;

(4) to report to the Legislature as necessary, those laws which have become obsolete, inoperative, or which are in conflict with other laws, resolutions, or decisions of the courts and make recommendations in regard thereto;

(5) to prepare a summary or digest pertaining to the intent, purpose, benefits to accrue, or evils to be prevented or remedied and a general explanation of a proposed bill, as directed by the Speaker;

(6) to serve as parliamentarian;

(7) to provide research; reference services on legislative and administrative problems;

(8) to secure reports of various offices, departments, and administrative departments which affect Truk; and of the states and other territories of the United States of America; and such other materials, periodicals, or books as will furnish the fullest information practicable upon matters pertaining to current or proposed legislation and to legislative and administrative problems;

(9) to provide the general cost supervision of the custodian and house keeping needs of the Legislature; and

(10) to perform other duties as the Legislature or Speaker may assign.

Section 303. Coordination. The executive branch and the office of Speaker may coordinate necessary staff requirements for the Legislature. The Speaker shall directly supervise the Office of the Legislative Counsel.

Section 304. Personnel. All personnel in the offices of Speaker and Legislative Counsel shall be entitled to the benefits of Truk Public Employment System. Provided, however, that all agreements regarding wages shall be renegotiated every four years. All appointments to the staff of the Speaker or Legislative Counsel shall be for four years.

Section 305. Administrative Officer. There shall be an administrative officer who shall act as administrator under supervision of the Speaker for the Legislature and its staff.

Section 306. Chief Clerk. There shall be a Chief Clerk who shall be responsible for:

- (1) recording and keeping daily journals of sessions of the Legislature;
- (2) processing and distributing, after introduction, bills and resolutions;
- (3) maintaining files regarding all matters concerning the activities of the Legislature; and
- (4) other duties as the Speaker may designate.

The Chief Clerk shall be under the supervision of the Speaker.

Section 2. Transition. The Speaker is fully empowered to implement the Legislative reorganization under this act. He may at his discretion, reduce in force and transfer personnel as warranted in order to make a transition from the present system.

Section 3. Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon approval by the Governor, or upon its becoming law without approval.

Signed by: *Tadashi C. Mainit*
Tadashi C. Mainit, Speaker
Legislature of the State of Truk

Attested to: *Datasi Albert*
Datasi Albert
Legislative Clerk/Secretary
Legislature of the State of Truk

Date: *7/5/79*

Approved by: *Erhart Aten*
Erhart Aten, Governor
Truk State Government