SIXTH REGULAR SESSION, 2015 CONGRESSIONAL BILL NO. 18-252, C.D.1,

.D.2

P.C. NO. 18-464

PUBLIC LAW NO. 18-114

## AN ACT

To amend section 112 of title 52 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated), as authorized by Public Law No. 18-96, to insert a new section 208 to chapter 2 of title 52 F.S.M.C., to provide for a cost-of-living allowance (COLA) for employees of the National Government of the Federated States of Micronesia, and for other purposes.

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

- 1 Section 1. Section 112 of title 52 of the Code of the
- 2 Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated), as authorized by
- 3 Public Law No. 18-96, is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 4 "Section 112. Definitions. In this chapter, unless
- 5 the context requires otherwise, the following
- 6 definitions shall apply:
- 7 (1) "Adjusted base salary" means the total of base
- 8 salary plus marketplace premium, foreign service
- 9 premium, professional premium, or cost-of-living
- 10 allowance (COLA). If an employee is not entitled to
- any of these premiums, his adjusted base salary means
- 12 his base salary.
- 13 (2) "Base Salary" means the specific rate of pay for
- a given pay level and step as contained within the
- 15 base salary schedule established by law. "Base
- 16 Salary" does not include premiums under section 163 of
- this chapter, professional premiums, cost-of-living

| 1 | allowance (COLA), differentials under section 164 of |
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| 2 | this chapter, or transfer, travel per diem, or other |
| 3 | similar allowances.                                  |

- (3) "Class" or "class of positions" means a group of positions sufficiently similar so that all can reasonably be identified by the same title, be filled by applying the same qualification standards, and be equitably compensated by the same salary level. A class may consist of only one position or of any greater number of positions.
- (4) "cost-of-living allowance (COLA)" means the increase in base salary to compensate for loss of purchasing power due to inflation. Employees exempt from the cost-of-living adjustment includes all officials elected in national elections including members of the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, President and Vice President of the Federated States of Micronesia, all employees whom are appointed to a position that requires advise and consent under Chapter 2, Section 207(1) of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia, employees who receive a professional premium, and employees who receive the foreign service premium.
- (5) "Eligible list" means a list of persons who have been found qualified for appointment to a position in

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| 1  | a particular class. Such a list may be either         |
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| 2  | reemployment, promotional, or open-competitive.       |
| 3  | (6) "Eligible person" or "eligible" means a person    |
| 4  | whose name is on an active eligible list.             |
| 5  | (7) "Employee" means a person holding a position in   |
| 6  | the public service, whether permanently or otherwise. |
| 7  | (8) "Foreign service premium" means a premium set     |
| 8  | forth under subsection 163(2) of this title           |
| 9  | (9) "Government of Federated States of Micronesia"    |
| 10 | includes the Legislative, the Executive, and the      |
| 11 | Judicial Branches and the agencies of the Government  |
| 12 | of Micronesia.  |
| 13 | (10) "Management official" or "management" means a    |
| 14 | person authorized to make appointments or changes in  |
| 15 | status of employees in the public services.           |
| 16 | (11) "Market place premium" means a premium as set    |
| 17 | forth under subsection 163(1) of this title.          |
| 18 | (12) "Open-competitive examination" means an          |
| 19 | examination for positions in a particular class,      |
| 20 | admission to which is not limited to persons employed |

(13) "Open-competitive list" means list of persons who have been found qualified by open-competitive examination for appointment to a position in a particular class.

in public service.

| 1  | (14) "Personnel officer" means the head of the Office  |
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| 2  | of Personnel of the Government of the Federated States |
| 3  | of Micronesia.   |
| 4  | (15) "Position" means a group of duties and            |
| 5  | responsibilities assigned by competent authority to be |
| 6  | performed by one person, working full-time or part-    |
| 7  | time. A position may be either occupied or vacant.     |
| 8  | (16) "Position classification plan" means the          |
| 9  | arrangement in a systematic order of the titles of all |
| 10 | classes existing in the public service, with a         |
| 11 | description of each class.                             |
| 12 | (17) "Probation period" means a period of              |
| 13 | probationary employment status of not less than six    |
| 14 | months nor more than one year from the beginning of an |
| 15 | employee's service in a particular position or class   |
| 16 | in the public service.                                 |
| 17 | (18) "Professional premium" means a premium as set     |
| 18 | forth under subsection 163(3) of this title.           |
| 19 | (19) "Promotional examination" means an examination    |
| 20 | for positions in a particular class, admission to      |
| 21 | which is limited to regular employees in the public    |
| 22 | service.   |
| 23 | (20) "Promotional list" means a list of persons who    |
| 24 | have been found qualified by a promotional examination |
| 25 | for appointment to a position in a particular class.   |

| 1  | (21) "Public service" means all offices and other                |
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| 2  | positions in the Government of the Federated States of           |
| 3  | Micronesia not exempted by section 117 of this                   |
| 4  | chapter.   |
| 5  | (22) "Reemployment list" means a list of persons who             |
| 6  | have been regular employees in the public service and            |
| 7  | who are entitled to have their names certified for               |
| 8  | appointment to a position in the class in which they             |
| 9  | last held permanent status, or in a related class in             |
| 10 | the same or a lower salary range for which they meet             |
| 11 | the qualification requirements.                                  |
| 12 | (23) "Regular employee" or "permanent employee" means            |
| 13 | an employee who has been appointed to a position in              |
| 14 | the public service who has successfully completed a              |
| 15 | probation period."   |
| 16 | Section 2. Title 52 of the Code of the Federated States of       |
| 17 | Micronesia (Annotated), as authorized by Public Law No. 18-96,   |
| 18 | is hereby amended by inserting a new section 208 to chapter 2 to |
| 19 | read as follows:   |
| 20 | "Section 208. Cost-of-living allowance (COLA).                   |
| 21 | Employees of the National Government of the Federated            |
| 22 | States of Micronesia (including contract and exempt              |
| 23 | employees) shall receive a cost-of-living allowance              |
| 24 | (COLA) in the amount of \$40.00 per 80 hour pay period.          |
| 25 | This COLA shall be in effect beginning July 1, 2015."            |

## P.C. NO. 18-464

Section 3. This act shall become law upon approval by the President of the Federated States of Micronesia or upon its becoming law without such approval. \_\_\_\_\_, 2015 LAW W/OUT SIGNATURE 3/9/15 Manny Mori President Federated States of Micronesia