



Republic of the Marshall Islands
Jepilpilin Ke Ejukaan

MEMBERSHIP OF THE NITIJELA (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2018.

Sponsored by:

HON. MINISTER DAVID PAUL

Received by:

HON. SPEAKER KENNETH A. KEDI

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NITIJELA OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
39TH CONSTITUTION REGULAR SESSION, 2018



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Jepilpilin Ke Ejukaan

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2018.

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NITIJELA OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
39TH CONSTITUTION REGULAR SESSION, 2018



Republic of the Marshall Islands
Jepilpilin Ke Ejukaan

MEMBERSHIP OF THE NITIJELA (AMENDMENT) ACT,
2018.

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend Section 2(1) of the Constitution in order to increase the total membership of the Nitijela by two (2) to represent populations of the Marshall Islands residing in the United States and its territories.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE NITIJELA OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

§101. Short title.

This Act may be cited as the Membership of the Nitijela (Amendment) Act, 2018..

§102. Amendments.

(1) The Nitijela shall consist of ~~35~~ members to be elected from the following electoral districts in the number indicated beside the name of each electoral district:

Majuro.....	5
Kwajalein.....	3
Ailinglaplap.....	2
Arno.....	2
Jaluit.....	2
Jabat	1
Mili.....	1
Ebon.....	1
Lib.....	1
Namdrik.....	1

1	Maloelap.....	1
2	Wotje.....	1
3	Likiep.....	1
4	Ailuk.....	1
5	Aur.....	1
6	Namu.....	1
7	Wotho	1
8	Enewetak&Ujelang.....	1
9	Bikini & Kili.....	1
10	Rongelap.....	1
11	Mejit	1
12	Utrik.....	1
13	Lae	1
14	Ujae	1
15	<u>At-Large.....</u>	<u>2</u>

§3. Report on the Composition of the Nitijela.

(1) Pursuant to Section 2(5) of Article IV of the Constitution, the Government shall develop a report on the composition of the Nitijela on the mobility of the population of the Marshall Islands, particularly that residing in the United States and its territories.

§103. Effective Date.

This Act shall come into force in accordance with Article V, Section 21, of the Constitution and the Rules of Procedures of the Nitijela.

NITIJELA OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
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MEMBERSHIP OF THE NITIJELA (AMENDMENT) ACT,
2018.

BILL SUMMARY

Act seeks to increase the membership of the Nitijela by two (2) to represent, at-large, Marshallese populations residing in the United States and its territories. This is allowed pursuant to Section 2(3) of Article IV of the Constitution and validated in Section 2(3) of Article XII of the same. Moreover, should one review the composition of each of the three (3) branches of the Government, including the Council of Iroij, Article IV is the only article that contains provisions that can amend the membership outside of the Constitutional Convention and referendum processes.

According to the RMI Census conducted in 2011, the estimated number of Marshallese is approximately 60,000+ with an estimated number of 10,000+ residing in the United States and its territories. Visa-free entry of Marshallese is permitted under the Compact of Free Association between the U.S. and RMI Governments, making it more than likely that more and more Marshallese will be traveling to and residing in the United States and its territories as the years pass. With the increasing number of Marshallese leaving the Republic, their interests are not represented in the *Nitijela*. This Act seeks to allow the necessary means to accommodate said interests. A report has been conducted by the Government and is attached to this Act.

NITIJELA OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
39TH CONSTITUTION REGULAR SESSION, 2018

MEMBERSHIP OF THE NITIJELA (AMENDMENT) ACT,
2018.

SIGNATURES

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Sept. 20, 2018

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9/20/2018

Sherwood Ibon

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39TH CONSTITUTION REGULAR SESSION, 2018

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2018.

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