NITIJELA OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

24th CONSTITUTIONAL REGULAR SESSION, 2003 BILL NO: 139 ND1

P.L. 2003-86

AN ACT

to amend the Education Act, 1991 (14 MIRC Chapter1) section 317 to require all pre-school, level schools, elementary level schools, secondary level schools and tertiary level institutions to teach the Marshallese language, custom and culture, and history.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE NITIJELA OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

Section 1. **Short Title**

This Act may be cited as the Education (Marshallese Language and Custom Amendment) Act, 2003.

Section 2. **Amendment**

The Education Act, 1991 (14 MIRC Chapter 3) section 317 is hereby amended to read in the following manner;

§317. Curriculum

(1) The Ministry shall establish minimum standards for instruction, curriculum development, and content of courses at appropriate levels to promote uniform levels of achievement.

(2) Instruction in the Marshallese language, custom culture and history shall be compulsory, and shall be provided at all pre-school level schools, elementary level schools, secondary levels schools and tertiary and college level institutions. Instructions shall include assessment of student needs, selection of

appropriate learning activities, methodologies and materials and evaluation of the student's attainment of objectives. The curriculum shall permit continuous progress along sequential lines of development in academic as well as vocational areas. The curriculum shall be of sufficient depth and breadth to meet the needs, interests and abilities of the students in that particular community.

(3) All secondary level students in the Republic shall be required to pass an examination on the Marshallese language, custom, culture and history, in order to obtain a secondary education diploma or certificate.

(4) The Ministry of Education shall develop a course on the Marshallese language, custom, culture and history, to be known as Marshallese Studies for the purposes of this section .

Section 3 **Effective Date**

This Act shall take effect upon certification, in accordance with Article IV Section 21 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Rules and Procedures of the Nitijela.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify:

(1) that Nitijela Bill No 139 ND-1 was passed by the Nitijela of the Marshall Islands on the

29th day of September, 2003; and

(2) that I am satisfied that Nitijela Bill No. 139 ND1 was passed in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Rules of Procedures of the Nitijela .

I hereby place my signature before the Clerk of the Nitijela this 3rd day of December, 2003.

Attest:

Litokwa Tomeing,
Speaker,
Nitijela of the Marshall Islands

Joe E. Riklon
Clerk,
Nitijela of the Marshall Islands