NITIJELA OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
46TH CONSTITUTIONAL REGULAR SESSION, 2025

Republic of the Marshall Islands
Jepilpilin Ke Ejukaan

RESOLUTION 39

A RESOLUTION requesting the Cabinet to ensure that any future official international and domestic travel related to meetings with subsequent impact on land in the Republic of the Marshall Islands shall include the presence of at least one member from the Council of Iroij to represent the interests of the landowners and to be involved in any discussions concerning land matters, as they are the principal landowners in the Republic. Furthermore, the Cabinet must coordinate with the Council of Iroij and any relevant Ministries to ensure that any and all future Government official international and domestic trips accommodate the presence of at least one member from the Council of Iroij.

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the Republic of the Marshall Islands recognizes the importance of customary land tenure and the role of traditional leaders in land matters; and

WHEREAS, the Council of Iroij serves as the guardian of traditional rights and customs, particularly in matters relating to land ownership, use, and governance; and

WHEREAS, any international or domestic agreements, negotiations, or discussions—including policy deliberations, consultations, and development projects—that impact land in the Republic of the Marshall Islands must consider the rights and interests of traditional landowners; and

WHEREAS, there have been international and domestic engagements in the past whereby no members of the Council of Iroij were present, thereby failing to adequately represent the interests of traditional landowners; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative to recognize these rights and ensure that traditional landowners, through the representation of the Council of Iroij, be consulted and actively participate in any discussions, negotiations, or decisions that may affect land tenure and rights in the Republic; and

WHEREAS, ensuring the participation of at least one member from the Council of Iroij in official international and domestic travel related to land matters will promote transparency, fairness, and the protection of traditional land rights;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Nitijela of the Marshall Islands that the Cabinet shall coordinate and ensure that any future official international and domestic travel concerning meetings with subsequent impact on land in the Republic of the Marshall Islands includes the presence of at least one member from the Council of Iroij to represent the interests of the landowners; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cabinet must coordinate with the Council of Iroij and any relevant Ministries to ensure that any and all future Government official international and domestic trips accommodate the presence of at least one member from the Council of Iroij; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the designated representative from the Council of Iroij shall be actively involved in any discussions, negotiations, or agreements related to land matters to ensure that the interests of the traditional landowners are duly considered and protected; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Speaker of the Nitijela, the Cabinet Ministers, and the Council of Iroij for their information and necessary action.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify:

1. That Nitijela Resolution No: 39 was passed by the Nitijela of the Republic of the Marshall Islands on the 4th day of March 2025; and

2. That I am satisfied that Nitijela Resolution No: 39 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 this 10th day of March 2025.

Brenson S. Wase
Speaker
Nitijela of the Marshall Islands

Attest:

Morean S. Watak
Clerk
Nitijela of the Marshall Islands