ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE YAP STATE RESOLUTION NO. 11-123

STATE OF YAP

FOURTH REGULAR SESSION, 2026

A RESOLUTION

Expressing gratitude to the people and government of the Republic of Palau on their unreserved understanding, support and efforts in hosting and putting to rest the late Grandmaster Navigator "Rhaepinwoag" Sesario Sewralur.

WHEREAS, the late Grandmaster Navigator "Rhaepinwoag" Sesario Sewralur had worked, lived and established his household in the Republic of Palau for more than a decade before his death on July 10, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the late Grandmaster Navigator "Rhaepinwoag" Sesario Sewralur, working under the auspicious stewardship of the Palau Community College, the Micronesian Voyaging Society and their ongoing traditional navigation program, was able to profoundly extend and share his respect and commitment to safeguarding the ocean, preserving the health of the ocean and inspiring many people around the globe to care for our indigenous Pacific cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, as Yap State and the Republic of Palau had always enjoyed close unique, traditional relationship ties and having the late Grandmaster Navigator "Rhaepinwoag" Sesario Sewralur reside peacefully and finally having his final and eternal resting place in the

Republic of Palau through the unreserved efforts of the family, friends and community that he was a part of therein; and

WHEREAS, the late Grandmaster Navigator "Rhaepinwoag" Sesario Sewralur is survived by his loving spouse Florentina Laurseram, four daughters – Skylene Ifelbuch, Natalie Lafilug Sewralur, Melodylynn Sewralur, Trudy Marie Sewralur, two sons – Landon Keonie Moss Sewralur, and Dylan Sewralur, his six grandchildren: Edangel Armirah Schmidt, Alani Mae Shantell Sesario, Aiden Lewis Ifelbuch, Austin Liam Taiwerbush, Harlee Ann Laiyomai Olopai, and Podulia Aria Teklou Helacio and the warm welcome and sense of community by people of Palau is extended to the whole family; and

WHEREAS, the late Grandmaster Navigator "Rhaepinwoag" Sesario Sewralur, a well-respected, esteemed and humble son of Yap has passed on while living in his adopted homeland of Palau; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Eleventh Legislature of the State of Yap, Fourth Regular Session, that this Legislature hereby expresses gratitude to the people and government of the Republic of Palau on their unreserved

understanding, support and efforts in hosting and putting to rest the late Grandmaster Navigator "Rhaepinwoag" Sesario Sewralur; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature recognizes and acknowledges the support of the Pacific wayfinding communities - from the eastern islands of Hawaii to the Republic of Palau, and all organizations elsewhere who share in the extraordinary legacy of the late Grandmaster Navigator "Rhaepinwoag" Sesario Sewralur and his father and mentor the late Great Grandmaster Navigator "Mwiurh Alaw" Mau Piailug and those who will continue to inspire future generations and whose contributions to the preservation of Pacific cultural heritage and wayfinding will forever be remembered "SAIL ON, SAIL FOREVER, SAIL ALWAYS"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature, on behalf of the people and government of the State of Yap, hereby extend heartfelt and symbolic bow of gratitude to the traditional chiefs of the Republic of Palau; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of the late Grand Master Navigator "Rhaepinwoag" Sesario Sewralur; the

President of the Republic of Palau, His Excellency Surangel S. Whipps, Jr.; the President of the Senate, Olbiil Era Kelulau, the Honorable Hokkons Baules; the Speaker of the House of Delegates, Olbiil Era Kelulau, Gibson Kanai; the Bilung, the Honorable Gloria G. Salii; the Paramount High Chief Ibedul, the Honorable Alexander Merep; the Paramount High Chief Reklai, the Honorable Raphael Bao Ngirmang; the President of the Micronesian Voyaging Society, the Honorable Shallum Etpison, and the Board members; the President of Palau Community College, the Honorable Dr. Patrick U. Tellei; the Governor of the State of Yap, the Honorable Francis Itimai; the Speaker of the Eleventh Yap State Legislature, the Honorable Nicholas Figirlaarwon; and the Chief of Satawal Island, the Honorable Ignathio Emaipiy; the Chairman of the Council of Pilung, the Honorable Thomas Falngin; and the Chairman of the Council of Tamol, the Honorable Paul Marlul.

Adopted on: August 03, 2026

Nicholas Figirlaarwon
Speaker

8/4/26
Date

Attested to:

Dee N. N. Libian
Chief Clerk