

**TITLE 3 – CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
CHAPTER 17 - ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT**



Republic of the Marshall Islands
Jepilpilin Ke Ejukaan

ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT ACT OF 1993

Arrangement of Sections

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Republic of the Marshall Islands
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ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT ACT OF 1993

AN ACT to provide for a comprehensive code of ethics for government officials and employees, and to establish the Government Ethics Board to oversee compliance therewith.

Commencement:

September 21, 1993

Source:

P.L. 1993-63

PART I - PRELIMINARY

§1701. Short title.

This Chapter may be cited as the Ethics in Government Act of 1993.
[P.L. 1993-63, §1.]

§1702. Policy.

- (1) The Nitijela of the Republic of the Marshall Islands declares and recognizes the right of the people to a responsible and an ethical government and the obligation of the government to take every step reasonable and necessary to conduct government in accord with a comprehensive code of ethics, consistent with Article II, Section 16 of the Constitution.
- (2) The Nitijela of the Republic of the Marshall Islands further declares and recognizes that it is the policy of the Government, in recognition of its constitutional obligation to the people, to govern in such manner as to foster public confidence in the integrity of the

Government, and that public service is a public trust, requiring public officials and Government employees to place loyalty to the Constitution, the laws and ethical principles above private gain.

- (3) Such policy of ethical governance is most effectively implemented by prescribing essential standards and guidelines of ethical conduct for officers and employees of the Government. [P.L. 1993-63, §2.]

§1703. Interpretations.

In this Chapter, unless the context requires otherwise:

- (1) “**employee**” means any employee of the Government, and includes any person who holds a commission of appointment, as a consultant or otherwise.
- (2) “**Government**” means any national or local governmental branch, agency, commission, board, authority, or government wholly-owned or controlled corporation thereunder.
- (3) “**public official**” means any person elected pursuant to the *Elections and Referenda Act 1980*, as amended, and who is then in office. [P.L. 1993-63, §3.]

PART II- PRINCIPLES OF ETHICAL CONDUCT

§1704. Fundamental Principles.

To ensure that every citizen can have complete confidence in the integrity of the Government, each public official and Government employee shall respect and adhere to the fundamental principles of ethical conduct set forth below and to those which may be specified in regulations promulgated under this Chapter by the Government Ethics Board. Failure to so adhere shall result in a breach of ethical standards and, in addition, may constitute an offense under the Criminal Code, as amended, or otherwise.

- (1) A public official or Government employee shall not solicit or accept any gift or other item of monetary value from any person or entity seeking official action from, doing official business with, or conducting activities regulated by such official’s or Government employee’s agency or department, or whose interests may be substantially affected by the performance or non-performance of duties;