



EIGHTH OLBIIL ERA KELULAU

EIGHTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2011

HOUSE BILL NO. 8-96-7, SD2, PD1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

To create a penalty for failing to report an incident of child abuse, and for other related purposes.

OFFERED BY DELEGATE(S) Jonathan Isechal

ET AL,

DATE INTRODUCED July 23, 2010

HOUSE ACTION

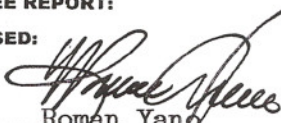
FIRST READING:	July 23, 2010
REFERRED TO:	Judiciary and Governmental Affairs
STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO:	8-83
DATE ADOPTED:	October 20, 2010
SECOND READING:	October 20, 2010
LEGAL FORMAT:	Proper
REVIEW:	October 20, 2010
THIRD READING:	October 21, 2010
FINAL ACTION:	May 06, 2011


SENATE ACTION

FIRST READING:	October 26, 2010
REFERRED TO:	Judiciary and Governmental Affairs
STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO:	8-256
DATE ADOPTED:	February 23, 2011
SECOND READING:	February 23, 2011
LEGAL FORMAT:	Proper
REVIEW:	February 24, 2011
THIRD READING:	February 24, 2011
FINAL ACTION:	September 25, 2011

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ACTION

DATE:	None
COMMITTEE REPORT:	None
DATE PASSED:	None


Roman Yang
 HOUSE CLERK


Wilbur Williams
 SENATE CLERK

AN ACT

To create a penalty for failing to report an incident of child abuse, and for other related purposes.

THE PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU REPRESENTED IN THE OLBIIL ERA KELULAU DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Legislative Findings.

The Olbiil Era Kelulau finds that currently the laws regarding child abuse and sexual abuse are far too lenient and do not serve as an adequate deterrent to prevent these crimes. This has been highlighted by the recent and unfortunate spate of rapes and incidences of child abuse that have surfaced in our Republic and been reported in the newspapers. Moreover, the Olbiil Era Kelulau finds that despite the law requiring the reporting of abuse by “responsible officials”, too often the ultimate culprit who maintains their silence is, sadly, relatives who reside in the home with the child where the abuse is taking place.

The Olbiil Era Kelulau is outraged and dismayed at the repeated abuse of children and women that takes place in the Republic. Accordingly, the criminal code and domestic relations sections of the Palau National Code must be amended to create a new crime of the failure of “mandatory reporters” to report child abuse. The term “mandatory reporters” is to replace “responsible officials” to provide for the inclusion of family members that reside in the home with the child where the abuse is taking place.

Section 2. Amendment. Title 21 of the Palau National Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

“§ 602. Definitions.

....

(d) “Mandatory Reporter ” means any physician, dentist, intern, health assistant, medex, nurse or practical nurse, any school teacher or other school official, any day care worker, any peace officer or law enforcement official, and any other person who may be authorized to provide for the care or well being of a child,