

Proposal No.: CC-PR-4-19

Assigned to: Committee on Government Structure and Function

## PROPOSAL TO AMEND CONSTITUTION

To amend Article X, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Federated States of Micronesia to provide for the direct election of the President and Vice President by the people, rather than by the fourteen members of the FSM Congress.

The Article X, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Federated States of Micronesia is amended and reads as follows:

**Section 1.** The executive power of the national government is vested in the President of the Federated States of Micronesia who shall be elected by the people of the Federated States of Micronesia and shall serve for a term of four years. He is elected by Congress for a term of four years by a majority vote of all the members. He may not serve for more than 2 consecutive terms. The President and the Vice President shall be elected directly by the voters in a general election. They shall be from different states and shall run on one ticket. The winning ticket shall require a 51% of the total votes cast. A run-off election is required if no ticket garners the required 51% of the total votes cast. The president and Vice-President shall hold the offices for a term of four years, and may be re-elected for a maximum of two terms. The minimum age requirement for presidential and vice-presidential candidates shall be 35 years and they shall be FSM citizens.

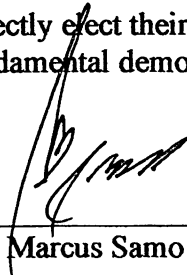
The Article X, Section 4 of the Constitution of the Federated States of Micronesia is amended and reads as follows:

**Section 4.** A person is ineligible to become President unless he or she is a ~~member of Congress for a 4-year term,~~ a citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia by birth, and a resident of the Federated States of Micronesia for at least 5 ~~15~~ years, and with no prior record of felony or conviction as required by statute.

### PURPOSE AND INTENT OF AMENDMENT:

The framers of the first Constitution may have had the courage and wisdom to adopt a proxy of "by the people" through the 14 members of Congress. Over time, this simply has not upheld the gentlemen agreement that was the premise of the original framers of our Constitution. Having the people directly elect their President and Vice President is the ultimate measure of instituting one of the fundamental democratic doctrines of "by the people".

Introducer: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Marcus Samo

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Jan 11, 2020