

RELEASE: 152-66

TWO MORE ACTS OF THE CONGRESS SIGNED INTO LAW

Saipan, Mariana Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Sept. 19 . . . High Commissioner William R. Norwood today signed into law two more Acts of the recently concluded Second Regular Session of the Congress of Micronesia, bringing to a total 27 Acts approved out of the 29 measures passed by the territorial legislature. Two more Acts are still under consideration by the High Commissioner's Office.

Public Law 2-26, which was introduced in the Congress as Senate Bill No. 44, amends existing charters of the district legislatures, including that of the Yap Islands Congress, by giving the respective district administrators the power to approve or disapprove the acts of the district legislative bodies. Heretofore, the power to disapprove acts was vested in the District Administrators, while the power to approve was vested in both the District Administrators and the High Commissioner, with the latter having the final decision.

Introduced as Senate Bill No. 31, Public Law 2-27 amends Section 28 of the Trust Territory Code to provide for the promulgation, within 30 days after the close of each session of the Congress, of laws and amendments to the Code passed by that body and approved by the High

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Commissioner. The law also requires that, after the publishing of session law, the Attorney General shall post such law at Trust Territory Government offices and distribute them to Micronesian officials. It also authorizes the district administrators to recruit one or more full-time translator-interpreters to translate each such law into the various local vernaculars.

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PIO/ 2148