

# **Reduce harvesting period of groupers (*temekai ma tiau*), RPPL 8-58 2013**

## **AN ACT**

To increase the prohibited period for the taking of groupers (*temekai ma tiau*), and for other related purposes.

### **THE PEOPLE OF PALAU REPRESENTED IN THE OLBIL ERA KELULAU DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Legislative findings. The Olbil Era Kelulau finds that the population and size of groupers (*temekai ma tiau*) in Palau is constantly declining. The Olbil Era Kelulau finds that this is due to over-fishing and unsustainable fishing practices of such species. Therefore, this Act will reduce the harvesting period to ensure that such species reproduce and are available for future generations.

Section 2. Amendment. Section 1204 of Title 27 of the Palau National Code is hereby amended to state as follows:

A. . .

(a) fish for, sell, receive, export, cause to be exported, possess, or buy from April 1 to October 31, inclusive, any of the following species of groupers (*temekai, tiau*), only if such species originated in the Republic of Palau; provided, however that cultured species of the marine resources listed in this subsection, shall be exempt from the prohibition of this subsection:

- (1) *Plectropomus areolatus* (*tiau*);
- (2) *P. Laevis* (*tiau, katuu >tiau, mokas*);
- (3) *P. leopardus* (*tiau*);
- (4) *Epinephelus polyphekadion* (*Ksau Temekai*);
- (5) *E. fuscoguttatus* (*meteungerel >temekai*).

(b) fish for, sell, receive, export, cause to be exported, possess, or buy any of the fish set forth subsections (a)(1)-(5) during the open fishing season unless the fish is at least twelve inches (12") in length from the tip of the head to the tip of the tail.

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Section 3. Effective Date. This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the President of the Republic or upon its becoming law without such approval, except as otherwise provided by law.

PASSED: January 15, 2013

Approved this 17th day of January, 2013.

/s/

Johnson Toribiong  
President  
Republic of Palau