

**NITIJELA OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS  
46<sup>TH</sup> CONSTITUTIONAL REGULAR SESSION, 2025**



Republic of the Marshall Islands  
*Jepilpilin Ke Ejukaan*

**CRIMINAL CODE (AMENDMENT) ACT 2025**

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**CRIMINAL CODE (AMENDMENT) ACT 2025**

**AN ACT** to amend the Criminal Code Act 2011 to extend the statute of limitations for the prosecution of felony offenses from six (6) years to ten (10) years in order to provide sufficient time for law enforcement and prosecutorial authorities to conduct thorough investigations and ensure that serious criminal offenses are not barred from prosecuting due to procedural time constraints, and for related purposes.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE NITIJELA OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS**

**§101. Short title.**

This Act may be cited as the Criminal Code (Amendment) Act 2025.

**§102. Amendment.**

Section 1.06 of the Criminal Code Act 2011 is hereby amended increase the statutory limitation for felony cases from six (6) years to (10) years to which it should read as follows:

§1.06. Time Limitations.

- (1) A prosecution for murder may be commenced at any time.
- (2) Prosecution for other offenses are subject to the following periods of limitation:
  - (a) a prosecution for a felony must be commenced within ten (10) years after it was committed;
  - (b) a prosecution for misdemeanor must be commenced within six years after it is committed;

- (c) a prosecution for a petty misdemeanor or a violation must be commenced within one year after it is committed.
- (3) An offense is committed either when every element occurs, or if a legislative purpose to prohibit a continuing course of conduct plainly appears, at the time when the course of conduct or the person's complicity therein is terminated. Time starts to run on the day after the offense is committed.
- (4) A prosecution is commenced when a complaint, information, or citation is filed or when a warrant or other process is issued, provided that such warrant or process is executed without unreasonable delay.
- (5) The period of limitation does not run:
  - (a) during any time when the accused is continuously absent from the Republic or has no reasonably ascertainable place of abode or work within the Republic.

**§103. Effective Date.**

This Act shall take effect on the date of certification in accordance with Article IV, Section 21 of the Constitution and the Rules of Procedure of the Nitijela.

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**CERTIFICATE**

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**I hereby certify:**

1. That Nitijela Bill No: 54 was passed by the Nitijela of the Republic of the Marshall Islands on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of September 2025; and

2. That I am satisfied that Nitijela Bill No: 54 was passed in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Rules of Procedures of the Nitijela.

I hereby place my signature before the Clerk this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October 2025.



**Hon. Brenson S. Wase**  
Speaker  
Nitijela of the Marshall Islands

**Attest:**



**Morean S. Watak**  
Clerk  
Nitijela of the Marshall Islands