

**TITLE 39 – CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS  
CHAPTER 8 - MARSHALLESE LANGUAGE ORTHOGRAPHY**



Republic of the Marshall Islands  
*Jepilpilin Ke Ejukaan*

**MARSHALLESE LANGUAGE ORTHOGRAPHY  
(STANDARD SPELLING) ACT 2010**

**Arrangement of Sections**

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**(STANDARD SPELLING) ACT 2010**

AN ACT to declare a standardize spelling system for written Marshalllese words and phrases.

*Commencement:*

*May 11, 2015*

*Source:*

*P.L. 2010-4*

**§801. Short title.**

This Chapter may be cited as the Marshalllese Language Orthography (Standard Spelling) Act, 2010. [P.L. 2010-45, §1]

**§802. Purpose.**

The purposes of this Chapter are:

- (1) to declare the correct way of writing Marshalllese words and phrases with the proper letters, usages and spelling; and
- (2) to ensure spelling used in written publication conforms to the standardized orthography. [P.L. 2010-45, §2].

**§803. Requirement for use of Standardized Spelling Rule.**

- (1) Any Government body, agency or any private institution or organization that engages in publishing of Marshalllese materials as a mode of learning or communication shall conform with the

Standardized Spelling Rule as set out in the Marshallese English Dictionary published by the University Press of Hawaii, as amended.

- (2) The Marshallese English Dictionary is set out in Schedule 1 to this Chapter .[P.L. 2010-45, §3]

#### **§804. Duties of the Language Commission.**

In furtherance to its functions and duties specified in Section 105 of the 39 MIRC 1, the Customary Law and Language Commission shall:

- (1) declare the spelling rule in the Marshallese English Dictionary as the Standard Spelling Rule for writing Marshallese words and phrases;
- (2) ensure conformity with the Standard Spelling Rule by both public and private institution or organization; and
- (3) educate the public and including a private institution or organization on the Standard Spelling Rules. [P.L. 2010-45, §4]

#### **§805. Transition.**

- (1) This Chapter shall come into force:
  - (a) for education, after one (1) year of standardizing the education materials including the Marshallese grammar;
  - (b) for other public organization, and private organization, after 2 years of fully aware and understanding the standard spelling rules.
- (2) Nothing in this section shall prevent any organization either public or private to fully comply with the Act upon its coming into effect pursuant to section 6.[P.L. 2010-45, §5]

#### **§806. Effective Date.**

This Chapter shall take effect on the date of certification in accordance with the Constitution and the Rules of Procedures of the Nitijela. [P.L. 2010-45, §6]