



THE COOK ISLANDS GAZETTE

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DECLARATION OF VACANT SEAT **IN THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COOK ISLANDS**

Pursuant to section 9(4) of the Electoral Act 2004, I, Tai Tura, Speaker of the Parliament of the Cook Islands, hereby declare that by reason of the resignation of the Member of Parliament Mr Henry Puna by writing under his hand today Wednesday 24th March 2021 in accordance with section 9(1)(d) of the Electoral Act 2004, his seat in the Parliament of the Cook Islands for the Manihiki Constituency is vacant.

Pursuant to section 105(2) of the Electoral Act 2004, the Chief Electoral Officer is hereby authorised to make all the necessary arrangements for the conduct of a by-election in the Manihiki Constituency.

Dated at Avarua this 24th Day of March 2021.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tai Tura'.

Hon. Tai Tura
Speaker of the Parliament of the Cook Islands

Jeannine Daniel

From: Honourable Henry Puna
Sent: Wednesday, 24 March 2021 09:51
To: Tai Tura
Cc: Prime Minister, Honourable Mark Brown; Anthony Brown; Jeannine Daniel
Subject: RESIGNATION FROM PARLIAMENT

24 March 2021`

Honourable Tai Tura
Speaker of Parliament
Parliament Chambers
Nikao
RAROTONGA

Dear Sir

In accordance with my announcement in Parliament yesterday, and pursuant to Section 9(1)(d) of the Electoral Act 2004, I wish to tender my resignation as Member of Parliament for Manihiki effective immediately. I would actually feel better submitting this as my retirement but such action is not covered anywhere in our legislation.

It has been an honour and a privilege to have served as the MP for Manihiki since 2010 and to have served as prime minister of our little paradise between November 30, 2010 and September 30, 2020.

I leave with no regrets but with every confidence that our country is in good hands despite the global difficulties posed by the Covid-19 pandemic. My parting hope is that our future leaders will adopt the practice I have initiated of voluntarily stepping down and passing on the mantle of leadership to the young ones coming through to ensure the smooth transition of leadership.

May God richly bless you and our Parliament in serving our people and country.

Kia manuia and all the best

Henry Puna
MP for Manihiki

Sent from my iPhone