

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 13-127

RE: C.R. NO. 13-106/R&D

SUBJECT: NOMINATION OF MR. YATILMAN AS  
SECRETARY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

MAY 31, 2004

The Honorable Peter M. Christian  
Speaker, Thirteenth Congress  
Federated States of Micronesia  
Third Regular Session, 2004

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Resources and Development, to which was referred  
C.R. No. 13-106, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF MR. ANDREW ROBERT  
YATILMAN TO BE THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS  
OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA.",

begs leave to report as follows:

The intent and purpose of the resolution are expressed in its title.

The nomination of Mr. Andrew R. Yatilman was transmitted to Congress  
via Presidential Communication No. 13-158. This communication  
outlines Mr. Yatilman's qualifications to serve as the Secretary of  
the Department of Economic Affairs of the Federated States of  
Micronesia and seeks Congress's advice and consent on the nominee.

Your Committee agrees that Mr. Yatilman is qualified to be the  
Secretary of Economic Affairs of the Federated States of Micronesia.  
The written information provided to your Committee in Presidential  
Communication 13-106, which included a copy of Mr. Yatilman's resume,  
reveals that Mr. Yatilman has served as an Assistant Principal of  
Xavier High School for two years, as Yap State Health Planner and  
Statistic Coordinator for three years, as Assistant Director for the  
Yap State Department of Health Services for eight years, as Yap State  
Lieutenant Governor for four years, and most recently, as General  
Manager for the Yap Visitors Bureau since 2003. Mr. Yatilman started  
his education at Satawal Elementary School and transferred to Outer  
Islands High School in the State of Yap. He attended Xavier High  
School from 1977 to 1980. He did his undergraduate studies at the  
University of Guam, Mangilao where he received a Bachelor of Science  
degree in Public Administration. He received a Certificate on Public  
Health Policy & Planning at the University of Hawaii. Mr. Yatilman  
served as a member of the State of Chuuk Scholarship Board from 1986  
to 1988, as Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Yap State  
Public Service Corporation from 1996 to 1999, as member of the College

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of Micronesia Board of Regents, as a member of National Oceanic Resource Management Authority (NORMA), as the Treasurer of the College of Micronesia Land Grant Program, and as Vice Chairman of the FSM Visitors Board.

Your Committee held a series of public hearings for the purpose of reviewing and discussing the nomination of Mr. Yatilman. Your committee held its first public hearing on Thursday, May 27, 2004. Your Committee also invited comments from the Acting Secretary and staff of the Department of Economic Affairs and Pohnpei State's Office of the Governor and Office of the Speaker. According to Senator Sailas Henry of the Pohnpei State Legislature, Pohnpei State supports the nominee. A representative from the Department of Justice also indicated that he endorses the nomination and supports the nominee. According to Tony Otto of the President Office, the nominee's resume reflects an extensive working experience in various management positions in government. Mr. Maderson Ramon from the Tourism Unit in the Department of Economic Affairs commented that the nominee has management capabilities as evidenced by the booming tourism industry in Yap State. Senator Resio Moses raised the question of what qualifies the nominee to be the Secretary of Economic Affairs when there is no background of work in economics related field in the nominee's bio data. The majority of the witnesses from the Department of Economic Affairs indicated that the Department has been leaderless for quite sometime and indicated their eagerness to have a Secretary to head the Department.

Your committee notes the importance of this nomination and extended its public hearings to Kosrae State. Your committee invited comments from the Kosrae State Office of Governor and Office of Speaker. The Director of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Singichy George indicated that a working group met and discussed the nomination of Mr. Yatilman and showed support of the nominee.

Your Committee held a public hearing in Palikir on Monday, May 31, 2004 to discuss the nomination of Mr. Yatilman. Your Committee was very pleased to greet the nominee, who attended the hearing. Mr. Yatilman personally addressed your Committee, extended his gratitude for the nomination and provided some of his comments and views. He thanked the President for his confidence in nominating him to the position. He indicated to your committee his vision if he becomes the Secretary of Economic Affairs. Your committee, during the hearing

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with Mr. Yatilman, asked the nominee how he will, if he becomes Secretary, improve the management of the Department. He indicated the Department is the backbone of the economic development of this nation and the problem with lack of coordination, communication, cooperation and responsiveness to the states should be improved. He stated that clear instructions, team work, follow-up on assigned tasks, and periodic visits to each state are necessary improvements. The Executive Director of the National Oceanic Resource Management Authority strongly supported the nominee. The Governor of Yap State, Mr. Robert A. Ruecho, in his letter dated May 28, 2004, indicated favorable consideration for the nominee.

Your Committee agrees that the nominee has impressive bio data and the experience that Mr. Yatilman has acquired through his many years on the various boards qualifies him for the position of Secretary of the Department of Economic Affairs.

Your Committee on Resources and Development is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 13-106 and recommends its adoption.

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Respectfully submitted,

<hr/> Alik L. Alik, chairman	<hr/> /s/ Dion G. Neth Dion G. Neth, vice chairman
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<hr/> Resio S. Moses, member	<hr/> Tiwiter Aritos, member
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<hr/> /s/ Sabino S. Asor Sabino S. Asor, member	<hr/> /s/ Ramon Peyal Ramon Peyal, member
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<hr/> /s/ Moses A. Nelson Moses A. Nelson, member
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