

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 13-236

RE: C.B. NO. 13-214/W&M

SUBJECT: CONTRIBUTION TO TSUNAMI RELIEF EFFORTS

MARCH 27, 2005

The Honorable Peter M. Christian
Speaker, Thirteenth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Seventh Special Session, 2005

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Ways and Means to which was referred C.B. No. 13-214 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$200,000 FROM THE GENERAL FUND OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2005 IN SUPPORT OF TSUNAMI RELIEF EFFORTS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

The reasons for passing C.B. No. 13-214 are explained in section 1 of the bill. Your committee fully endorses that statement and supports passage of the bill. We believe, however, that the sum appropriated should be set at \$100,000. Of paramount importance in that regard are the fiscal constraints that must affect all of our spending decisions. We are aware that the President's Office earlier contributed \$10,000 toward tsunami relief efforts. Your committee has also considered the enormous outpouring of financial and other assistance from around the world that has been directed to the benefit of victims of this natural disaster.

C.B. No. 13-214 identifies the President as the allottee of the funds. Your committee notes that, in light of the nation's limited resources, the contribution contemplated by the bill is made possible only by taking funds away from other important public programs and projects. It follows that this is truly a contribution by the entire nation and its people. Your committee encourages the President to make sure that the message is communicated that the contribution is made on behalf of the nation, not any single organization, branch or department.

With these thoughts in mind, your committee recommends the following amendments to C.B. No. 13-214:

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1. Page 1, title line 1, delete "200,000" and insert "100,000" in lieu thereof.
2. Page 2, line 1, delete "200,000" and insert "100,000" in lieu thereof.

With these amendments, your Committee on Ways and Means is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.B. No. 13-214 and recommends its passage on First Reading, and that it be placed on the Calendar for Second and Final Reading in the form attached hereto as C.B. No. 13-214, C.D.1.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sabino S. Asor
Sabino S. Asor, chairman

Roosevelt D. Kansou, vice
chairman

Claude H. Phillip, member

/s/ Henry C. Asugar
Henry C. Asugar, member

Peter M. Christian, member

/s/ Dohsis Halbert
Dohsis Halbert, member

/s/ Isaac V. Figir
Isaac V. Figir, member