

S.C.R. NO. 13-60

SEPTEMBER 5, 2003

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Your Committee on Health, Education and Social Affairs, to which was referred C.R. No. 13-46, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF MERLYNN ABELLO-ALFONSO, M.D. TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES' HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN.",

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

On September 2, 2003, via Presidential Communication No. 13-54, the President of the Federated States of Micronesia submitted the nomination of Dr. Merlynn Abello-Alfonso to the Congress for confirmation. Dr.

Abello has been nominated by the President to represent the FSM's private healthcare sector on the National Government Employees' Health Insurance Plan ("NGEHIP") Board of Directors.

According to her resume, Dr. Abello was employed as a full-time out-patient/emergency room physician at the Pohnpei State Hospital from November, 1991 through September, 1999. Since 1999, she has been practicing medicine at Genesis Medical Clinic, a privately-owned healthcare facility located in Kolonia, Nett. A copy of the nominee's resume is attached for your reference.

The NGEHIP Board of Directors is a newly-created board established to "oversee the [NGEHIP] and the assets of the Employees' Health Insurance Fund." 52 FSMC sec. 407(1). Appointed members serve for a period of three years, except that initial appointments to the Board are to be for "staggered" terms. Id. at sec. 407(3). Dr. Abello has been nominated to serve on the Board for a term of two years.

Your committee has reviewed the background and education of Dr. Abello, as set forth in her resume, and trusts the President's selection of Dr. Abello to represent the interests of the FSM's private healthcare community on this newly-created board.

Because your committee disfavors lengthy resolutions, your committee recommends the following amendments to C.R. No. 13-46:

1. Page 1 - delete lines 1 through 10 in their entirety.
2. Page 1, line 14 - after "Dr." insert "Merlynn".

3. Page 1, line 14 - delete "a member of" and insert "the member representing the private healthcare sector of the Federated States of Micronesia on" in lieu thereof.

With these amendments, your Committee on Health, Education and Social Affairs is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 13-46 and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as C.R. No. 13-46,  
C.D.1.

Signed by Senators Moses, Aritos, Halbert, Nelson, Kansou and Peyal