

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Your Committee on Health, Education and Social Affairs, to which was referred C.R. No. 13-12, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF MR. SIMAO NANPEI TO SERVE AS THE MEMBER REPRESENTING POHNPEI STATE ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

On July 11, 2003, after consultation with the Governor of the State of Pohnpei, the President of the Federated States of Micronesia submitted the nomination of Mr. Simao Nanpei to the Congress for confirmation. See Presidential Communication ("P.C.") No. 13-28. Mr. Nanpei, who currently serves as the Director of Health Services for the State of Pohnpei, has been nominated by the President to serve as the Pohnpei State representative on the newly-created National Government Employees' Health Insurance plan ("NGEHIP") Board of Directors. See P.L. No. 12-77, codified at 52 FSMC ch.4.

Your committee held a public hearing on August 29, 2003 to consider Mr. Nanpei's nomination. Witnesses called before your committee included the nominee, the President's representative, representatives of the Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Social Affairs, interested members of the public and others.

As noted above, the NGEHIP Board of Directors is a newly-created board established to "oversee the [NGEHI]Plan 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).

Testimony at the hearing indicated that Mr. Nanpei is willing to serve in the position. The nominee testified that, as Director of Pohnpei State Health Services, he has experience with the insurance program and medical referrals. He testified that he is honored to have been nominated. According to the President's representative, the nominee has the full support of the President. Attached is a copy of the nominee's resume, which details the nominee's educational background and professional experience. On September 4, 2003, your committee learned from Presidential Communication No. 13-56 that Mr. Nanpei is being nominated to serve on the Board for a term of 3 years.

Based on the information received at the hearing and in writing, your committee recommends confirmation of Mr. Simao Nanpei to a term of 3 years as a member of the NGEHIP Board of Directors. However, because your committee disfavors lengthy nomination resolutions, and because there are some technical errors in the resolution transmitted by the Executive, your committee recommends the following amendments to C.R. No. 13-12:

1. Title, line 4 - delete "Employee's" and insert "Employees' " in lieu thereof.
2. Title, line 4 - delete "Program" and insert "Plan" in lieu thereof.

3. Page 1 - delete lines 1 through 16 in their entirety.
4. Page 1, line 17 - after the first "the" insert "Thirteenth".
5. Page 1, line 18 - delete "First" and insert "Second" in lieu thereof.
6. Page 1, line 18 - after "that the" insert "Congress hereby gives its advice and consent to the".
7. Page 1, line 19 - delete "is hereby confirmed" and insert "to serve as the Pohnpei State representative on the National Government Employees' Health Insurance plan Board of Directors for a term of three years" in lieu thereof.
8. Page 2, line 4 - delete "Program" and insert "Plan" 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. 13-12, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as C.R. No. 13-12, C.D.1.

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