

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 14-28

RE: C.R. NO. 14-12/JGO

SUBJECT: NOMINATION OF MARSTELLA JACK TO BE SECRETARY OF JUSTICE

MAY 23, 2005

The Honorable Peter M. Christian
Speaker, Fourteenth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
First Regular Session, 2005

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations ("J&GO"), to which was referred C.R. No. 14-12 entitled:

"A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF MS. MARSTELLA E. JACK TO BE THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

Your committee has carefully considered the qualifications of Marstella Jack to be Secretary of the FSM Department of Justice. Ms. Jack received her law degree (LLB) from the University of the South Pacific. She received a master of laws degree (LLM) in international law from the University of Hull in the United Kingdom. She is a member of the FSM Bar and the bars of all of the states.

Since early 2004, Ms. Jack has been serving as Assistant Attorney General in the FSM Department of Justice. Her work has focused primarily on fisheries matters and litigation. Previously, she served as an Assistant Attorney General in the Pohnpei State AG's Office, as a legal consultant to the FSM Department of Justice and as a Deputy Assistant Secretary in the FSM Department of Foreign Affairs.

Your committee has invited comments from the states on Ms. Jack's nomination. As of this writing, no comments have been communicated. We will supplement the record if responses are subsequently received.

On May 22, 2005, your committee met with Marstella Jack to discuss her views on the Department of Justice, the role of the Secretary of the Department and her ability to perform this important job.

Ms. Jack demonstrated a good understanding of the challenges facing the FSM Department of Justice. Her broad experience, which includes the FSM Departments of Foreign Affairs and Justice and the Pohnpei State government, should be very helpful to her in setting the course

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for the Department of Justice. Members of your committee and members of the Congressional staff have had occasion to work with Ms. Jack during her service with the National Government. We consider her to be a capable lawyer and a dedicated public servant.

Your committee has found Marstella Jack to be well qualified to be Secretary of the Department of Justice and supports her nomination to that position.

Thus, your committee is in accord with the purpose and intent of C.R. No. 14-12 and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Dohsis Halbert
Dohsis Halbert, chairman

/s/ Roosevelt D. Kansou
Roosevelt D. Kansou, vice
chairman

Alik L. Alik, member

/s/ Tiwiter Aritos
Tiwiter Aritos, member

/s/ Peter M. Christian
Peter M. Christian, member

/s/ Moses A. Nelson
Moses A. Nelson, member

/s/ Ramon Peyal
Ramon Peyal, member