

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 14-55

RE: C.R. NO. 14-31/EA

SUBJECT: PLAN FOR ESTABLISHING EMBASSY IN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SEPTEMBER 26, 2005

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

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on External Affairs to which was referred C.R. No. 14-31 entitled:

"A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN FSM EMBASSY IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

Your committee is of the opinion that there are good reasons for establishing an FSM Embassy in Beijing. Some of those reasons are set forth in the recitals in C.R. No. 14-31. We also note that the People's Republic of China has established an embassy in this country, and appointed, as its senior officer, a diplomat of full-ambassadorial rank. We believe that this nation's ties with the PRC would be further strengthened if the FSM were to reciprocate.

Before making a final decision on whether to establish a Beijing embassy, the National Government should, however, develop a plan, including an estimate of the related costs. Careful thought should be given to the appropriate size and mission of such an embassy. Consideration should be given to whether some portion of the costs of a Beijing embassy could be offset by reducing the staffing of other overseas missions. Your committee therefore supports the request of C.R. No. 14-31 that the President cause the Department of Foreign Affairs to prepare a plan addressing these issues.

Thus, your Committee on External Affairs is in accord with the intent

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and purpose of C.R. No. 14-31 and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

Alik L. Alik, chairman

Peter Sitan, vice chairman

Isaac V. Figir, member

Resio S. Moses, member

Dion G. Neth, member

Moses A. Nelson, member

Tiwiter Aritos, member