

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 14-80

RE: C.B. NO. 14-85/HESA

SUBJECT: FOOD LABELLING

JANUARY 27, 2006

The Honorable Peter M. Christian
Speaker, Fourteenth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Third Regular Session, 2006

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Health Education and Social Affairs, to which was referred C.B. No. 14-85, begs leave to report as follows:

The subject bill would require all imported foods to have labels containing basic information such as ingredients, expiration date and the name and address of the manufacturer.

The proposed amendment will ensure that consumers are fully informed about the food they purchase.

At a Hearing on the subject bill held on January 23, 2006, representatives of the Department of HESA spoke strongly in favor of the proposal and recommended certain minor amendments.

Your Committee has given careful consideration to the subject bill and, in order to enhance its effectiveness and accommodate the recommendations of the Department of HESA, it recommends the following changes:

1. Page 1, line 3 - of the title, delete "with a complete list of ingredients".
2. Page 1, line 4 - of the title, delete "or in the predominant language in the State in which it is sold".
3. Page 1, line 5 - after "labeled" insert "in English".
4. Page 1, line 5 - after "with" insert ": the name of the food; the name and address of the manufacturer and distributor;".
5. Page 1, lines 5 to 7 - delete "in English or in the predominant language of the State into which it is imported or in which it is sold." insert "; the country of origin; the lot identification code; and expiration date.".

With the foregoing amendments, your Committee on Health, Education and Social Affairs is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.B. No. 14-85 and recommends its passage on First Reading, and that it be

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placed on the Calendar for Second and Final Reading in the form attached hereto as C.B. No. 14-85, C.D.1.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Resio S. Moses
Resio S. Moses, chairman

/s/ Tiwiter Aritos
Tiwiter Aritos, vice chairman

/s/ Dohsis Halbert
Dohsis Halbert, member

/s/ Roosevelt D. Kansou
Roosevelt D. Kansou, member

Manny Mori, member

/s/ Ramon Peyal
Ramon Peyal, member

Claude H. Phillip, member