

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 14-83

RE: C.B. NO. 14-149/EA/J

SUBJECT: SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET 2006

MARCH 02, 2006

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

Your Committee on Foreign Affairs, to which was referred C.B. No. 14-149, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND PUBLIC LAW NO. 14-21, THE FY 2006 BUDGET, AS AMENDED, IN ORDER TO PROVIDE SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2006, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.",

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee held a hearing to inquire about the supplemental budget requests for the Department of Foreign Affairs and others, including the following:

- housing for 1st secretary in New York;
- funding for embassy in Beijing;
- assistance to the Philippines.

The Deputy Secretary of Foreign Affairs and the Special Assistant to the President, Tony Otto, testified in front of the Committee at the hearing which doubled as an oversight hearing. The Committee was enlightened by the testimony, especially with respect to the policy decisions behind the request for the embassy in China.

Your Committee feels however, that the requests for funding were piecemeal, and that what is really needed is a comprehensive strategy for foreign affairs for the nation. In particular, the Committee would like to hear from the President about the possibility of closing down some foreign offices in order to avoid expanding too much the foreign affairs budget should the embassy in China be opened. The comprehensive strategy should also address possible reorganization of the Department of Foreign Affairs, including personnel reassignment, to respond to the current international situation.

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In light of the above, your committee recommends no supplemental appropriation during this session. Your committee will conduct further oversight hearings in May when funding requests can be further considered.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Alik L. Alik
Alik L. Alik, chairman

Peter Sitan, vice chairman

/s/ Isaac V. Figir
Isaac V. Figir, member

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

/s/ Dion G. Neth
Dion G. Neth, member

/s/ Resio S. Moses
Resio S. Moses, member

/s/ Tiwiter Aritos
Tiwiter Aritos, member
