

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 15-165

RE: C.R. NO. 15-167/HESA

SUBJECT: NOMINATION OF KASIO E. MIDA TO COM-FSM
BOARD OF REGENTS

DECEMBER 02, 2008

The Honorable Isaac V. Figir
Speaker, Fifteenth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Fifth Special Session, 2008

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Health, Education and Social Affairs, to which was referred C.R. No. 15-167, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF MR. KASIO E. MIDA TO BE THE MEMBER ON THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA-FSM.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

This is a re-nomination to confirm Mr. Kasio E. Mida as a regent on the College of Micronesia-FSM Board of Regents. Mr. Mida, if confirmed, will be the representative of the national government to the Board of Regents (FSMC Title 40, Chapter 7, Section 706).

The Standing Committee Report No. 15-146, dated September 26, 2008, outlines what transacted before your Committee on HESA from May 23, 2008, through September 26, 2008, regarding the nomination of Mr. Mida. C.R. No.15-146 further provides a concise summary of the nominee's professional background and delved into the concerns and issues that were raised during the initial nomination.

During the 5th Regular Session of the 15th Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, a resolution was adopted inviting the President to resubmit his nomination of Mr. Kasio E. Mida as member on the College of Micronesia-FSM Board of Regents.

The subject nomination was transmitted to Congress on October 30, 2008 through Presidential Communication No. 15-286.

On Friday, November 28, 2008, your Committee held a public hearing on the nomination to hear testimonies from the nominee and other representatives of the COM-FSM Institution. At the hearing, the

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nominee stated that he stands by his previous testimony given at the September 22, 2008 hearing on his first nomination. The only concern he would like to address was to assure the committee that if confirmed, he will not use his position as Chief of Staff to unduly influence policies of the COM-FSM, in any ways that could risk the school's accreditation. He believes that the Board should operate as one and that board members are prohibited from engaging in any actions that may advance his or her agenda. The nominee further stated that there has been no evidence of meddling in the affairs of the college by the administration in the past nor does he anticipate any in the future.

When asked about time constraints given his work load, the nominee responded that there has been some reorganization in his office, his staff are working more as a team resulting in better and efficient flow of assignments. When asked about the appearance of impropriety, how the public may view his being in close proximity with the President as not being a conflict of interest, the nominee acknowledged that he does answer to the President, and at the same time, he is fully aware of his obligations, duties and alliance to the Board of Regents and that he believes the President will never do any harm to a very important and cherished institution of this nation.

At the hearing, the President of the College, Mr. Spensin James, addressed the concern about the nominee's being very preoccupied. He indicated that when a member misses three consecutive meeting of the Board, he is automatically removed (Section 718). Mr. Spensin advised that the Board mandated training for all new members.

Witnesses at the hearing indicated their full support for the nomination. Therefore, your Committee on Health, Education and Social Affairs having reviewed the proposed resolution, is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 15-167, and recommends its adoption.

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Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Joseph J. Urusemal
Joseph J. Urusemal, chairman

/s/ Claude H. Phillip
Claude H. Phillip, vice chairman

/s/ Dohsis Halbert
Dohsis Halbert, member

Tesime Kofot, member

Resio S. Moses, member

/s/ Setiro Paul
Setiro Paul, member

/s/ Joe N. Suka
Joe N. Suka, member