

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 15-57

RE: C.R. NO. 15-49/R&D

SUBJECT: NOMINATION OF JOHNNY MEIPPEN AS THE MEMBER OF THE
NATIONAL OCEANIC RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY FROM CHUUK

NOVEMBER 22, 2007

The Honorable Isaac V. Figir
Speaker, Fifteenth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Third Special Session, 2007

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Resources and Development, to which was referred
C.R. No. 15-49, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF MR. JOHNNY MEIPPEN TO
BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL OCEANIC RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
(NORMA) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

The nomination of Mr. Johnny Meippen was transmitted to Congress via
Presidential Communication No. 15-78. This communication reveals that
Mr. Meippen's was recommended by the Governor of the State of Chuuk
for re-nomination to serve on the National Oceanic Resource Management
Authority (NORMA) and urges Congress to consider this nomination
favorably.

Your Committee agrees with President Mori that Mr. Meippen's re-
nomination to NORMA should be favorably considered.

Although no specific information regarding Mr. Meippen's qualifications
was provided in connection with Presidential Communication No. 15-78,
he has served as the Chuuk State member of NORMA since May, 2004.
From information obtained in SCR 13-114 approved prior to Mr.
Meippen's initial appointment, he has a distinguished academic
background including an Associate Degree in Business Administration
and Bachelor of Science degree from the College of Santa Fe, New
Mexico, USA and finally a Masters Degree in Public Administration from
the University of New Mexico. After completing his college education,
he served in many public capacities within Chuuk State. Included were
employment with the Chuuk State Department of Public Safety, service
as legal counselor and later Directing Attorney, Chuuk State
Micronesia Legal Services Corporation (MLSC), Assistant Legislative
Council, Chuuk State Legislature and as Chief Litigator for the State
of Chuuk. Your Committee agrees that Mr. Meippen was well qualified

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to as a member of NORMA when originally nominated and approved in 2004.

On November 20, 2007 a public hearing was conducted at the Congressional Hearing Room in Palikir where your Committee invited comments from the Executive Director and Deputy Director of the Authority. According to Executive Director Bernard Thoulag, Mr. Meippen is aware of the unique and challenging technical issues facing NORMA and has been a positive and enlightened voice as a member of the Authority.

Your Committee agrees that Mr. Meippen's past working experience as a member of NORMA will make him a valuable asset in future discussions and deliberations by the Authority on policy issues and matters.

The proposed Resolution approving this nomination as submitted and introduced repeatedly refers to the nomination as being to the NORMA "Board of Directors." Since no such "Board" is created by Title 24 of the Code and it is presumed Mr. Taulung is being nominated as a member of the Authority. C.R. No. 15-49 CD-1 is attached hereto as the form of the resolution recommended by this Committee.

Your Committee on Resources and Development is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 15-49 and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as C.R. 15-49 C.D.1.

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Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Dion G. Neth
Dion G. Neth, chairman

/s/ Setiro Paul
Setiro Paul, vice chairman

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

/s/ Peter Sitan
Peter Sitan, member

Joe N. Suka, member

/s/ Joseph J. Urusemal
Joseph J. Urusemal, member

/s/ Paliknoa K. Welly
Paliknoa K. Welly, member