

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 16-75

RE: C.B. NO. 16-90/J&GO

SUBJECT: CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION REFERENDUM

MARCH 24, 2010

The Honorable Isaac V. Figir
Speaker, Sixteenth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Third Special Session, 2010

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations, to which was referred C.B. No. 16-90 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT DIRECTING THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA, OR HIS DESIGNEE, THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 2 OF ARTICLE XIV OF THE CODE OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA THAT AT LEAST EVERY TEN YEARS THE QUESTION: "SHALL THERE BE A CONVENTION TO REVISE OR AMEND THE CONSTITUTION?" OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA BE SUBMITTED TO THE PEOPLE IN A GENERAL ELECTION, SUCH QUESTION SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE PEOPLE IN THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MARCH 8, 2011, AS WAS SUBMITTED IN 2001, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

begs leave to report as follows:

The intent and purpose of C.B. No. 16-90 are expressed in its title.

This bill directs the President to comply with Section 2 of Article XIV of the Constitution requiring a referendum to consider a constitutional convention at least every ten years.

Specifically, the bill directs the President to submit the question: "Shall there be a convention to revise or amend the constitution?" to the voters in the election of March 8, 2011.

Your Committee finds passage of this bill to be in the best interest of the Federated States of Micronesia because it will ensure compliance with the Constitution and will assess the will and contentment of the people regarding their Constitution.

Your committee recommends the following technical amendments:

1. Page 1, title, line 2, delete "Code", and insert "Constitution" in lieu thereof.
2. Page 1, line 7, after "election" insert "to".

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Committee Discussion

Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.B. 16-90, as amended hereby, and recommends its passage on First Reading and that it be placed on the Calendar for Second and Final Reading in the form attached hereto as C.B. 16-90, C.D.1.

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Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Peter Sitan
Peter Sitan, chairman

/s/ Fredrico O. Primo
Fredrico O. Primo, vice chairman

Dohsis Halbert, member

Tony Otto, member

Setiro Paul, member

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

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