

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 16-108

RE: C.R. NO. 16-90/T&C

SUBJECT: NOMINATION OF MR. MOHNER ESIEL TO BOARD OF CIA

SEPTEMBER 28, 2010

The Honorable Isaac V. Figir
Speaker, Sixteenth Congress⁰
Federated States of Micronesia
Fifth Regular Session, 2010

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Transportation and Communications (T&C), to which was referred C.R. No. 16-90, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE NOMINATION OF MR. MOHNER ESIEL TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR CAROLINE ISLAND AIR (CIA), PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW NO. 16-20.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

Your Committee held hearings in Palikir on September 21 and 23, 2010 to hear testimony regarding the nomination of Mr. Mohner Esiel to the Board of CIA. Present at the hearing were representatives from the Department of Transportation, Communication and Infrastructure, the Department of Resources and Development, the Department of Justice, and from the President's office.

The President's representative testified that the President nominated Mr. Esiel after receiving Mr. Esiel's name as a recommendation from the Governor of Pohnpei. The President's representative also testified that the President hopes for the Committee's cooperation so to expedite the process of confirming Mr. Esiel's nomination.

The testimony of the representatives from the Departments of TC&I and R&D was favorable to Mr. Esiel's nomination. Members

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questioned the witnesses concerning Mr. Esiel's full-time position with the Department of Justice as Chief of Immigration and Labor. The witnesses reference the letter from the Governor of Pohnpei to the President recommending the nominee. This letter states Mr. Esiel is willing and able to perform the duties required of a CIA Board member.

Members pointed out and noted that as Chief of Immigration and Labor he will provide knowledge and experience of Immigration to the CIA Board. This is important because as an airline arrives the first hurdle for passengers is Immigration. Or conversely, our first line of defense against undesirable entrants is Immigration.

The nominee testified to this effect himself. He testified that rather than hindering his duties to the Board or to his full-time employment, the experience and knowledge at each position would provide a benefit to both the Board and the Office of Immigration. When directly questioned whether he could attend the CIA Board meetings, Mr. Esiel stated that even if the meetings are quarterly he will have time to attend and participate.

The Committee recommends the following amendments to the resolution:

1. Page 1, title, line 3, after "16-" delete "20" and insert "26" in lieu thereof.

Your Committee on Transportation and Communication has considered the qualifications of the nominee and deliberated upon the testimony thoroughly and recommends adoption of C.R. No. 16-90.

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Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Tony H. Otto
Tony H. Otto, vice chairman

/s/ Peter M. Christian
Peter M. Christian, member

/s/ Claude H. Phillip
Claude H. Phillip, member

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

Joseph J. Urusemal, member

/s/ Tiwiter Aritos
Tiwiter Aritos, member