

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 17-169

RE: C.R. NO. 17-205/R&D

SUBJECT: MR. JACKSON SORAM'S NOMINATION TO THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS OF NORMA

JANUARY 16, 2013

The Honorable Isaac V. Figir
Speaker, Seventeenth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Sixth Regular Session, 2013

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Resources and Development, to which was referred
C.R. No. 17-205, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE NOMINATION OF MR. JACKSON
SORAM TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE NATIONAL OCEANIC RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
(NORMA) REPRESENTING THE FSM NATIONAL GOVERNMENT.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

The President has transmitted Congressional Resolution No. 17-205 to
Congress through Presidential Communication No. 17-348 on January 8,
2013. This communication is the nomination of Mr. Jackson Soram to
serve on the Board of Directors for the FSM National Oceanic Resource
Management Authority representing the National Government.

Your Committee conducted a public hearing on the nomination of Mr.
Jackson Soram on Saturday, January 12, 2013. Witnesses at the hearing
included the Executive Director of NORMA, Mr. Patrick Mackenzie, the
President's Office representative, Mr. Pelsesar Petrus and the
nominee. When the nominee was given an opportunity to comment on his
nomination, he had expressed the importance of the function of the
Board of NORMA and his willingness to serve on the Board. He indicated
that his experience as a foreign service officer and later as a Deputy
Assistant Secretary for the Department of Foreign Affairs is a benefit

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to him to sit on the Board.

Mr. Jackson Soram is currently the Deputy Assistance Secretary for Multilateral Affairs under the FSM Department of Foreign Affairs. He has served the Department of Foreign Affairs for over ten years. In 2003 to 2006, he served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for European Affairs. In 2003, he served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Information and Research. In 2002, he served as a Foreign Service Officer for Asian Affairs on all aspects of diplomacy between the FSM and Asian countries. The nominee also served as a Classroom Teacher at the Pohnpei Island Central School in 1999 to 2002. From 1994 to 1998, he served as Assistant Manager for Dollar Financial Group, Inc. in Honolulu, Hawaii.

In Mr. Soram's bio data, he had attended a workshop on Negotiations and Effective Performance at an international conference at Australia National University in 2006. He also attended the Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies in Honolulu, Hawaii in 2003.

Your Committee inquired with the Executive Director of NORMA whether it is good practice for the National Government representative on the Board to come from the Department of Foreign Affairs. The Executive Director stated that it is not a requirement, but an employee of the Department of Foreign Affairs to sit on NORMA's Board is an advantage. Your Committee also inquired with the nominee on his expectation to be a board member. The nominee stated that he is cognisant of the important role of fisheries development in the Nation. In fact, fisheries is one of his interests and being a member on the Board will further enhance his interest and contribute to his positive contributions to the Board in the fishery area.

Recommendations of your committee

Your Committee on Resources and Development agrees to favorably consider the nomination of Mr. Jackson Soram and is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 17-205 and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto.

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Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Roger S. Mori
Roger S. Mori, chairman

/s/ Yosiwo P. George
Yosiwo P. George, vice chairman

Peter M. Christian, member

/s/ Florencio S. Harper
Florencio Singkoro Harper, member

/s/ Bonsiano F. Nethon
Bonsiano F. Nethon, member

David W. Panuelo, member

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