

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 17-27

RE: C.R. NO. 17-38/R&D

SUBJECT: TO APPROVE \$452,000 FROM THE AUSTRALIAN
GOVERNMENT FOR THE PACIFIC ADAPTATION
STRATEGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

AUGUST 04, 2011

The Honorable Isaac V. Figir
Speaker, Seventeenth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
First Special Session, 2011

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Resources and Development to which was
referred C.R. No. 17-38, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A SUM OF \$452,000
FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF
AUSTRALIA TO ASSIST THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA TO CARRY OUT A
RESEARCH-BASED PROJECT ON IMPACTS OF CLIMATE
CHANGE ON FOOD CROPS IN THE ISLANDS AND OUTER
ISLANDS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF
MICRONESIA.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

The President transmitted this grant in the amount of
\$452,000 to Congress for its favorable action pursuant to
section 210(2) of title 55 of the FSM Code.

Your Committee held a public hearing with the Director and
staff of the Office of Emergency and Environment Management

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and the Secretary and staff of the Department of Resources and Development on Monday, August 1, 2011.

Your Committee inquired with the witnesses about the purpose of the funding. Director Yatilman stated the Office of Environment and Emergency Management submitted a proposal at an International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative workshop in March 2009 requesting funding to finance a research-based project on impacts of climate change on food crops in the islands and outer islands of the Federated States of Micronesia.

The funding is channeled through the Secretariat of the Pacific Community as part of a Pacific Adaptation Strategy Assistance Program and the Federated States of Micronesia Office of Environment and Emergency Management will be dealing with the SPC North Pacific Regional Office in implementing the project in accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding between the Commonwealth of Australia through the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency and the SPC North Pacific Regional Office.

The Pacific Adaption Strategy Assistance Program project is to be conducted in the Federated States of Micronesia in which the Office of Environment and Emergency Management, the SPC North Pacific Regional Office, and the College of Micronesia-FSM Cooperative Research and Extension Office will manage and deliver the required activities for the research. The Office of Environment and Emergency Management had revised the work plan to begin in the third quarter of this year until the second quarter of next year.

Your Committee was informed that this project focuses primarily on the effects of climate change on food availability and security in the islands and to develop adjustment and adaptation strategies, specifically to research on crops that can withstand saltwater intrusion like taro, tapioca and sweet potatoes. This research will benefit the people in the outer islands of the Federated States of Micronesia.

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Your Committee on Resources and Development is in accord
with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 17-38 and recommends
its adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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

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

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

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

/s/ David W. Panuelo
David W. Panuelo, member

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