

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 17-55

RE: C.R. NO. 17-34/W&M

SUBJECT: NOMINATION OF DIRECTOR OF SBOC

OCTOBER 03, 2011

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

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred C.R. No. 17-34 entitled:

"A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE NOMINATION OF MS. EVELYN ADOLPH TO THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF STATISTICS, BUDGET, OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AND COMPACT MANAGEMENT (SBOC) OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

Ms. Evelyn Adolph has been nominated by the President of the Federated States of Micronesia to serve as the Director of the Office of Statistics, Budget, Overseas Development Assistance and Compact Management (SBOC). Article X, section 2(d), of the FSM Constitution and title 2, section 207, of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia state this nomination is subject to the advice and consent of Congress.

The nominee's curriculum vitae is included in Presidential Communication No. 17-51. The nominee has most recently worked at the Department of Finance and Administration as the Manager of the Tax Reform Project. Previously the nominee served as a consultant with the FSM Office of Environment and Emergency Management where she worked to develop the FSM's position on climate change. The nominee also worked with the former Office of Compact Management, facilitating implementation of the Amended Compact. The nominee has international experience as well, having worked with both the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. Overall the nominee's history and experience

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prove she has the qualifications needed to fulfill the position of Director of SBOC.

PUBLIC HEARING

Your Committee held a public hearing with the nominee on August 3, 2011. Chairman Halbert opened the hearing by welcoming the nominee and informing her that the Committee takes the position of Director of SBOC very seriously. The floor was then turned over to the nominee. The nominee thanked the Committee for allowing her the opportunity to appear on her own behalf regarding the nomination. The nominee expressed her deep interest in and passion for the work SBOC does and her willingness to accept the nomination.

The nominee was vigorously questioned regarding her vision for and opinions of SBOC. Specifically, the nominee was asked whether there is a need to remove any of SBOC's functions and duties. In response, the nominee stated she still believes in the current structure of SBOC. She informed the Committee that she served on the team that recommended the structure of the office prior to its creation, and still feels that budget, economic planning, and Compact management are complementary and best managed within the same executive office. The nominee left open future discussion of the office's structure. She ensured the Committee that if confirmed, within months she will have gained additional insight and become better equipped to discuss the structure of SBOC.

The nominee went on to explain that through her service as a JEMCO Representative she has witnessed the importance of effective Compact management. She also informed your Committee that she understands the relationship between Compact management, budget, economic planning, and development assistance.

As a follow up to her stated experience as a JEMCO Representative, the nominee was asked if she has seen an improvement in Compact management since the creation of SBOC. The nominee stated she has seen definite improvements, particularly in the preparations for and budget submissions made to JEMCO. The nominee pointed out there remains room for improvement. She stated there are numerous hindrances to effective Compact management, only one of which is the location of Compact management within the Executive Branch. The nominee made clear her belief that SBOC needs more and better staffing in order to compete with the JEMCO preparation of the United States. The nominee stated that just as the United States has at least one staff dedicated

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to each sector, so should SBOC.

The hearing ended with the nominee restating her commitment to the position if confirmed and her passion for the work that SBOC performs.

Your Committee on Ways and Means recommends the following technical amendment to C.R. No.17-34:

1. Page 2, line 2, delete "First Special" and insert "Second Regular" in lieu thereof.

CONCLUSION

Your Committee is satisfied with the qualifications and dedication of the nominee and recommends her with confidence for the position of Director of the Office of Statistics, Budget, Overseas Development Assistance and Compact Management. Your Committee on Ways and Means is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 17-34, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption, in the form attached hereto as C.R. No. 17-34, C.D.1.

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Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Dohsis Halbert
Dohsis Halbert, chairman

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

/s/ Roger S. Mori
Roger S. Mori, member

/s/ Tony H. Otto
Tony H. Otto, member

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

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

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