

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 17-61

RE: C.B. NO. 17-61/J&GO

SUBJECT: AMENDING SECTION 9 OF PUBLIC LAW NO. 16-43 TO
PROVIDE FUNDING TO COVER UNPAID BILLS FOR THE
MARCH 2011 GENERAL ELECTION AND JULY 2011
SPECIAL ELECTION

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 Judiciary and Governmental Operations, to which was jointly referred C.B. No. 17-61, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 9 OF PUBLIC LAW NO. 16-43, AS AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW NO. 16-65, TO CHANGE THE USE OF FUNDS PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED THEREIN TO COVER UNPAID BILLS INCURRED FOR THE MARCH 2011 GENERAL ELECTION AND JULY 2011 SPECIAL ELECTION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

Further to Presidential Communication No. 17-94, your Committee received a communication dated September 27, 2011 from the Acting National Election Director detailing the request of the Office of the National Election Director for the reprogramming of funds and supplemental funding to cover shortfalls in the budgets for the March 8, 2011 General Election, the July 1, 2011 Special Election, and the operations budget of the Office for Fiscal Year 2011. Pursuant to the communication from the Acting National Election Director, \$11,371.10 is owed to vendors for expenses from the General Election, and \$38,533.39 is owed for expenses from the Special Election. In addition, the Office projects a shortfall of \$16,416.13 in its operations budget for FY11. The Office also states it has a

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fund balance of \$43,743.90 from the \$83,000 allocated for the Voter ID Card Project in FY11.

Your Committee notes that the Voter ID Card Project funds do not have a lapse date, and in the interests of expediting the payment of most of the unpaid bills from the General Election and Special Election, recommends that \$43,000 be reallocated in the FY11 budget from the Voter ID Card Project to Election Billings for the purpose of paying these bills, as provided in the subject bill. Your Committee expects that the Executive Branch will reallocate such funds as permitted by law as may be available to further reduce the deficiency, and will consider further proposals from the Executive Branch if necessary to ensure that outstanding bills are paid in full.

Your Committee recommends the following amendments to C.B. No. 17-61:

1. Page 1, title, line 1, delete "section 9 of"; add "s" to "Law".
2. Page 1, title, line 2, delete "No" and insert "Nos" in lieu thereof; before "16-65" insert "16-48, 16-53, 16-60,"; and following "16-65," insert "16-70, 17-01, and 17-16, by amending section 9 thereof".
3. Page 1, line 2, after "hereby" insert "further".

CONCLUSION

Your Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.B. No. 17-61, and, upon concurrence of your Committee on Ways and Means, recommends its passage on First Reading, that it be placed on the Calendar for Second and Final Reading in the form attached hereto as C.B. No. 17-61, C.D.1.

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Respectfully submitted,

/s/ David W. Panuelo
David W. Panuelo, chairman

/s/ Bonsiano F. Nethon
Bonsiano F. Nethon, vice chairman

/s/ Tiwiter Aritos
Tiwiter Aritos, member

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

/s/ Yosiwo P. George
Yosiwo P. George, member

/s/ Dohsis Halbert
Dohsis Halbert, member

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