

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 17-77

RE: C.R. NO. 17-98/EXAFF

SUBJECT: TO APPROVE A \$60,363 GRANT ASSISTANCE FROM  
U.S. OIA.

January 27, 2012

The Honorable Isaac V. Figir  
Speaker, Seventeenth Congress  
Federated States of Micronesia  
Third Regular Session, 2012

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on External Affairs, to which was jointly  
referred C.R. No. 17-98, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A \$60,363 GENERAL TECHNICAL  
ASSISTANCE GRANT FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
INTERIOR OFFICE OF INSULAR AFFAIRS TO SUBSIDIZE THE  
2011 FSM HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SURVEY,  
INCLUDING ALL THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE  
ASSISTANCE.",

begs leave to report as follows:

On January 25, 2012 your Committee held a hearing regarding  
the above-captioned C.R. No. 17-98 with the Department of  
Foreign Affairs, the Department of Justice and the Office  
of Statistics, Budget, & Economic Management, Overseas  
Development Assistance & Compact Management (SBOC). Your  
Committee requested detailed information as to how the  
survey subsidized by this grant differed from other surveys  
recently done. The Director of SBOC advised the Committee  
that a separate recent survey is being conducted in the  
United States regarding the compact impact of our citizens  
living there. That survey has nothing to do with the  
survey being subsidized by the grant that is the subject of  
C.R. No. 17-98. The Director of SBOC understood your  
Committee's confusion as C.R. No. 17-98 includes an  
inadvertent reference to citizens living in the United

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States. The Director recommended that the second WHEREAS clause of one page in C.R. No. 17-98 be taken out to clear up any confusion.

The Director of SBOC continued her explanation stating that the survey support by the grant in C.R. No. 17-98 is for households within the Federated States of Micronesia only. This survey would look at ten percent of the households in the country, sampling both from the main islands and the outer islands. The Director advised your Committee that this type of survey was very useful for policy makers to understand what households spend their money on. Important information, such as, how much subsistence farming and fishing add to a households income and support will also be captured by this survey. All departments present supported the adoption of C.R. No. 17-98. Finally, the Director of SBOC confirmed that other funding sources were available for the remainder of the cost of the survey subsidized by the grant referenced in C.R. No. 17-98. Your Committee requested a list of the additional funding sources and a more detailed summary of the survey project from SBOC. Your Committee agrees with the Director and recommends the WHEREAS clause referring to citizens living in the U.S be removed.

Your Committee recommends the following amendments to C.R. No. 17-98:

1. Page 1, delete "WHEREAS" clause starting at line 7 in accordance with the witness's request.

Your Committee on External Affairs is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 17-98, and, recommends its adoption as attached hereto as C.R. No. 17-98, C.D.1.

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Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Paliknoa K. Welly  
Paliknoa K. Welly, chairman

/s/ Tiwiter Aritos  
Tiwiter Aritos, member

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

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

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

/s/ Berney Martin  
Berney Martin, member

/s/ Wesley W. Simina  
Wesley W. Simina, member