

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 18-102

RE: C.B. NO. 18-98, C.D.10 (P.C. NO. 18-167)/W&M

SUBJECT: VETO OF CONGRESSIONAL ACT NO. 18-34

JANUARY 13, 2014

The Honorable Dohsis Halbert
Speaker, Eighteenth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Third Regular Session, 2014

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred Presidential Communication No. 18-167 and Congressional Bill No. 18-98, C.D.10, regarding the veto of Congressional Act No. 18-34, begs leave to report as follows:

Congressional Act No. 18-34 was vetoed by the President and did not become Public Law. The Congressional Act was then referred back to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Presidential Communication No. 18-167 echoes the usual Executive objections to Congressional procedure on public projects and specifically recommended that Congress prioritize projects such as "Fly Micronesia" and the Set Aside fund over additional public project spending. Yet, the decision of which projects to prioritize is a policy decision, and Presidential Communication No. 18-167 failed to provide a specific objection to any particular project. Nor did it maintain that inadequate funds existed for the given projects. Presidential Communication No. 18-167 further did not recognize that C.B. No. 18-98 reached a C.D.10, demonstrating it was the product of careful thought, debate, deliberation, and work by Congress in reaching its final submitted form as Congressional Act 18-34.

Your Committee thus views the veto as solely the result of a policy decision by the Executive. Your Committee has revisited the items

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subjected to veto, has found the vetoed items to be consistent with sound public policy, and therefore disagrees with the decision to veto.

CONCLUSION

Your Committee has reviewed the vetoed legislation and veto message. Your Committee recommends overriding the veto of Congressional Act No. 18-34.

Your Committee on Ways and Means is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.B. No. 18-98, C.D.10, and recommends it be placed on the calendar for veto override.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Isaac V. Figir
Isaac V. Figir, chairman

/s/ Peter M. Christian
Peter M. Christian, vice chairman

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

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

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

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

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Joseph J. Urusemal, member