

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 18-135

RE: C.R. NO. 18-119/H&SA

SUBJECT: TO CONFIRM THE NOMINATION OF MR. KALWIN
KEPHAS TO SERVE AS A MEMBER ON THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS FOR TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR
SOCIAL SECURITY

APRIL 01, 2014

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

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Health & Social Affairs, to which was
referred C.R. No. 18-119, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF MR. KALWIN
KEPHAS TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE FSM SOCIAL SECURITY
BOARD OF DIRECTIORS REPRESENTING THE STATE OF KOSRAE.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

Your Committee lauds the good work that the Social Security
Administration has done to ensure that the citizens of our
Nation receive benefits necessary to sustain them in their
old age or times of disability. In order to continue its
work with competence and efficiency the Administration needs
to have a complete Board of Directors with skilled members.
Your Committee believes that the nominee has the appropriate
knowledge and background to work on the important issues
facing the Administration at this time.

The Committee held a public hearing on this nomination on
March 31, 2014. Witnesses in attendance at this hearing
included the Administrator of the Social Security

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Administration and the nominee. The Committee also understands that the Administrator of Social Security is in receipt of a letter of recommendation from the Governor of Kosrae and spoke to the Governor of Kosrae directly regarding this nominee. The Administrator also made inquires regarding this nominee and received very high recommendations for Mr. Kephass.

Your Committee notes that the nominee has served in government, performing well for over 35 years. The nominee stated he has the time and interest to serve on the Social Security Board of Directors, and is concerned with the issues facing the Administration. At the hearing the Social Security Administration endorsed this nomination, and requested that the nominee be confirmed as soon as possible to allow the Board of Directors to meet with a full Board. The nominee is well known to the Committee and is distinguished for his hard work and integrity. The Committee further notes that during its review it found there was no conflict of interest or other issue that would prevent the nominee from serving on the Board of Directors for the FSM Social Security.

Upon an extensive review of the nominee and his qualifications your Committee is satisfied that the nominee is fit for service as a member of the Board of Directors for the Social Security Administration, and believes it is in the best interests of our country that the above named nominee be confirmed as soon as possible. Therefore, your Committee on Health & Social Affairs recommends that Mr. Kalwin Kephass be confirmed as a member of the Board of Directors for the Social Security Administration.

Your Committee would like to offer the following amendment to C.R. No. 18-119 as follows:

1. Page 1, line 21, delete "Regular" and insert "Special" in lieu thereof.

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Your Committee on Health & Social Affairs is in accord with
the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 18-119, and recommends
its adoption in the form attached hereto as C.R. No. 18-119,
C.D.1.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Tony H. Otto
Tony H. Otto, chairman

Tiwiter Aritos, vice chairman

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

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

Florencio S. Harper, member

David W. Panuelo, member

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