

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 18-150

RE: C.B. NO. 18-169/W&M

SUBJECT: AMENDMENTS TO PUBLIC LAW NO. 15-80, AS AMENDED

MAY 19, 2014

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

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred C.B. No. 18-169, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT TO FURTHER AMEND PUBLIC LAW NO. 15-80, AS AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAWS NOS. 16-04, 17-53 AND 18-37, BY AMENDING SECTION 1 THEREOF, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CHANGING THE USE OF CERTAIN FUNDS PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED THEREIN FOR PUBLIC PROJECTS AND SOCIAL PROGRAMS IN THE STATE OF YAP, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.,"

begs leave to report as follows:

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

C.B. No. 18-169 is a bill to further amend Public Law No. 15-80, as amended, to change the use of funds previously appropriated to fund public projects and social programs in the State of Yap. An amount of \$10,000 was previously appropriated to fund "COM-FSM Yapese students traveling expenses for hospitality training" under subsection 1(2)(a) of Public Law No. 15-80, as amended. The proposed amendment in this bill is to change the use of the \$10,000 to fund "Yap Women Associations supplemental/matching".

Your Committee on Ways and Means has conferred with the Yap Delegation and was informed that this is a very important need in Yap that has unfortunately been ignored by Yap State. Apparently

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in Yapese culture the requests of Yapese women, especially the Yapese elder women (*puwelwol*), carry significant weight and must be respected, especially when it concerns traditional Yapese matters. In this case we are talking about a *puwelwol* to enable them to have a place to discuss traditional matters of concern to women. From a traditional point of view the request can therefore not be ignored. From a modern point of view we note that the request has received support from foreign donors and what is needed is matching funds. This is the purpose of the present appropriation.

Your Committee on Ways and Means is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.B. No. 18-169, and recommends its passage on First Reading, and that it be placed on the Calendar for Second and Final Reading in the form attached hereto as C.B. No. 18-169

Respectfully submitted,

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

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

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

Tony H. Otto, member

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

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

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