

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 18-211

RE: C.B. NO. 18-214/W&M

SUBJECT: LIFTING OF RESTRICTIONS SERVE ON THE PRESIDENT TO
REPROGRAM CERTAIN FUNDS FOR FY 14.

SEPTEMBER 22, 2014

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

Dear Speaker:

Your Committee on Ways & Means, to which was referred
Congressional Bill 18-214, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 12 OF PUBLIC LAW
NO. 18-15, TO LIFT THE RESTRICTION ON REPROGRAMMING
BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA
OF CERTAIN PUBLIC FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO SUPPORT THE
OPERATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH FOR THE FISCAL
YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2014, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES."

begs leave to report as follows:

The intent and purpose of this act is expressed in its
title.

Congress held oversight on September 19, 2014 to address the
anticipated shortfall in personnel as communicated to
Congress through the Committee to Wait and Presidential
Communication Report No. 18-355.

The President's Chief of Staff stated that the Executive
Branch anticipates a shortfall of approximately \$38,000 for
personnel in the following four offices: Office of the
President- the President's Office, the PIO Office, and

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 18-211

RE: C.B. NO. 18-214/W&M

SUBJECT: LIFTING OF RESTRICTIONS SERVE ON THE PRESIDENT TO REPROGRAM CERTAIN FUNDS FOR FY 14.

SEPTEMBER 22, 2014

Office of Personnel; the Office of Environment & Emergency Management- Office of the Director, and Office of Environment & Sustainable Development; the FSM Insurance Board; and the Office of National Archives, Culture, and Historical Preservation.

Your committee inquired as to if passing an amendment to the current law, which lifted the President's restriction on reprogramming, was the best way to solve this shortfall.

The Chief of Staff stated that since other departments still have funds available that the Executive Branch felt it was best to attempt to appropriate those existing funds rather than to ask Congress for additional money in a supplemental budget request.

Your committee raised the concern that if this bill was passed as drafted then it could lead to funds being appropriated for other purposes, such as raising salaries.

The Chief of Staff reassured Congress that the C.B. 18-214 was drafted with the sole purpose of being able to access existing funds within other departments to cover the anticipated shortfall in personnel in the offices aforementioned.

The Chief of Staff stated that he would send over exact figures for each office with an anticipated shortfall. Your committee received a letter communicating the shortfall for each department the same day and the numbers reflect the testimony given in the oversight hearing.

Your committee would like to recommend the following technical amendments to C.B. No. 18-214 as follows:

1. Page 1, Line 4, after "funds" insert "not to exceed the amount of \$38,000".
2. Page 1, Line 4, after "into" delete "or".
3. Page 1, Line 4, after "into" insert "only the Office of the President - the President's Office, the Public Information Office, the Office of Personnel; the Office of Environment and Emergency Management - Office of the Director, the Office of

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 18-211

RE: C.B. NO. 18-214/W&M

SUBJECT: LIFTING OF RESTRICTIONS SERVE ON THE PRESIDENT TO
REPROGRAM CERTAIN FUNDS FOR FY 14.

SEPTEMBER 22, 2014

4. Environment and Sustainable Development, the Office of Emergency Management; the Federated States of Micronesia Insurance Board; and the Office of National Archives, Culture, and Historical Preservation,".
Page 1, Line 6, insert "President," before "Speaker".

CONCLUSION

Your committee has carefully reviewed Congressional Bill 18-214. Your Committee on Ways and Means is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.B. No. 18-214, 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. 18-214, C.D.1.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 18-211

RE: C.B. NO. 18-214/W&M

SUBJECT: LIFTING OF RESTRICTIONS SERVE ON THE PRESIDENT TO
REPROGRAM CERTAIN FUNDS FOR FY 14.

SEPTEMBER 22, 2014

Respectfully submitted,

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

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

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