

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 18-291

RE: C.R. NO. 18-255/ED

SUBJECT: TO CONFIRM THE NOMINATION OF MR. JOHANNES BERDON TO SERVE AS MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA-FSM, REPRESENTING CHUUK STATE.

APRIL 16, 2015

The Honorable Dohsis Halbert  
Speaker, Eighteenth Congress  
Federated States of Micronesia  
Seventh Special Session, 2015

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred C.R. No. 18-255, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE NOMINATION OF MR. JOHANNES BERDON TO SERVE AS MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA-FSM, REPRESENTING CHUUK STATE.",

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 College of Micronesia-FSM Board of Regents has done to ensure that the citizens of our Nation receive the benefits of education necessary to sustain them in their careers and personal development. In order to continue its work with competence and efficiency the Board of Regents needs to have a complete Board with skilled members. Your Committee believes that the nominee

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has the appropriate knowledge and background to work on the important issues facing the College at this time.

The Committee held a public hearing on this nomination on April 15, 2015. Witnesses in attendance at this hearing included representatives from the College of Micronesia-FSM, College of Micronesia Land Grant and the Office of the President. Unfortunately the nominee could not travel to this hearing on such short notice.

The Committee is in receipt of a letter of recommendation from the Governor of Chuuk to the President of COM-FSM recommending the nominee (this letter is attached to this Report). There is also a letter from the former Chairman of the Board of Regents recommending this nominee (also attached to this Report). This nominee, in particular, is working at the Weather Service Office in Pohnpei and his membership would diversify the Board, giving voice to the wider community interests and concerns. Including members outside of the education area is also a requirement by the College's accreditation authority and is highly desirable at this time. The President's Office also stated that the President recommends this nominee both on the individual level and agrees that this nominee would be a highly desirable member of the Board because of the diversity issue.

Your Committee notes that the nominee has been an active member of his community, living and working for over 35 years in our Nation. His nomination is strongly supported by all the stakeholders, and your Committee has heard only positive comments regarding his nomination.

Upon a 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 Regents COM-FSM, and believes it is in the best interests of our country that the above named nominee be confirmed as soon as possible. Therefore, your

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Committee on Education recommends that Mr. Johannes Berdon be confirmed as a member of the Board of Regents for the College of Micronesia-FSM.

Your Committee would like to offer the following amendment to C.R. No. 18-255, to read as follows:

1. Page 1, line 14, delete "Sixth Regular Session" and insert "Seventh Special Session" in lieu thereof.

Your Committee on Education is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 18-255, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as C.R. No. 18-255, C.D.1.

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Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Joseph J. Urusemal  
Joseph J. Urusemal, chairman

/s/ Bonsiano F. Nethon  
Bonsiano F. Nethon, vice chairman

/s/ Dohsis Halbert  
Dohsis Halbert, member

/s/ Berney Martin  
Berney Martin, member

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

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

/s/ Paliknoa K. Welly  
Paliknoa K. Welly, member