

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 18-292

RE: C.R. NO. 18-254/ED

SUBJECT: TO CONFIRM THE NOMINATION OF MR. CHURCHILL EDWARD TO SERVE AS MEMBER OF THE COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA LAND GRANT BOARD, REPRESENTING THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA.

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. 18-254, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE NOMINATION OF MR. CHURCHILL EDWARD TO SERVE AS MEMBER OF THE COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA LAND GRANT BOARD, REPRESENTING THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

Your Committee appreciates the good work that the College of Micronesia Land Grant Board has done to ensure that the citizens of our region receive the benefits of higher education.

The Committee held a public hearing on this nomination on April 15, 2015. Witnesses in attendance at this hearing

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included representatives from the College of Micronesia-FSM, College of Micronesia Land Grant Board, and the Office of the President. Unfortunately the nominee could not travel to this hearing on such short notice.

This nominee is particularly knowledgeable regarding the issues of higher education in our region. He is currently serving on the Board of Regents COM-FSM. He has also acted as a proxy member to the College of Micronesia Land Grant Board during this last year. His proxy was due to the resignation of the previous FSM representative to the Board. The representative from the Board of the College of Micronesia Land Grant spoke very favorably of the nominee's service on the Board this year. He stated that the nominee contributed fully at meetings, knows the issues and is experience in dealing with economic and governmental issues. As a result of the nominee's participation as a proxy the Board was able to move forward seamlessly with its agenda items. The nominee also participated in an intensive investment training to further his work on the Board.

The previous FSM representative board member for the College of Micronesia Land Grant has submitted a letter in support of this nominee (attached with this Report). The President's Office also stated that the President was in full support of this nominee, and he also reminded the Committee that this board position has been vacant for some months and the President would like to see it filled.

The Committee was impressed with on going Land Grant research projects in agriculture being conducted in Kosrae and Pohnpei. It is hoped that seedlings from this project will be able to assist in replanting in the typhoon damaged areas. Also, the Committee was advised that research being conducted regarding tissue culture has been favorably recognized at the international level.

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Your Committee would like to offer the following amendment to C.R. No. 18-254 to read as follows:

1. Page 1, line 16 delete "Sixth Regular Session" and insert "Seventh Special Session" in lieu thereof.

Your Committee notes that the nominee is strongly supported by all the stakeholders, and your Committee has heard only positive comments regarding his nomination.

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 College of Micronesia Land Grant Board, 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 Education recommends that Mr. Churchill Edward be confirmed as a member of the College of Micronesia Land Grant Board.

Your Committee on Education is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 18-254, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as C.R. No. 18-254, 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