

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 18-32

RE: C.R. NO. 18-23/H&SA

SUBJECT: REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT THAT IN THE FUTURE  
U.S. GRANT APPLICATIONS IN THE AREA OF  
HEALTH INDIVIDUALS WHOSE SALARIES ARE PAID  
FROM THESE GRANTS BE SPECIFIED AS STATE  
EMPLOYEES.

SEPTEMBER 13, 2013

The Honorable Dohsis Halbert  
Speaker, Eighteenth Congress  
Federated States of Micronesia  
Second Regular Session, 2013

Dear Speaker,

Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs, to which was  
jointly referred C.R. No. 18-23 entitled:

"A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATED  
STATES OF MICRONESIA THAT IN FUTURE U.S. GRANT  
APPLICATIONS IN THE AREA OF HEALTH INDIVIDUALS WHOSE  
SALARIES ARE PAID FROM THESE GRANTS AND WHO ARE  
PERFORMING DUTIES IN THE FOUR STATES ARE SPECIFIED TO  
BE EMPLOYEES OF THE STATE GOVERNMENTS RATHER THAN  
EMPLOYEES OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT."

begs leave to report as follows:

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

During public hearings held this May 2013 with the  
Department of Health and Social Affairs your Committee  
received updated information regarding the distribution of  
employees of the National Department of Health and Social  
Affairs by duty station. From the information received by  
the Committee it appears that more than half of the National  
health employees for the Department, that are funded by U.S  
grants, carry out their work at the State level and have

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duty stations in those states. This confirms for the Committee that much of the work being done by National health employees is situated in the States, and is more characteristic of work done by State health employees. In fact, in many instances the National health employees work along side their State employee colleagues doing the same work, and at a duty station located with a State government office.

For some time your Committee has voiced its concern that the Department of Health and Social Affairs has grown disproportionately larger, both in budget and employees compared to its responsibilities under the FSM Constitution, and in comparison to the State departments of health. Your Committee believes that in the interests of efficiency and fairness those health employees working at the State level, dealing primarily with tasks related to health, including prevention and education, that are a state responsibility, should be State employees.

As it has stated many times in the past your Committee on Health and Social Affairs is very supportive of efficiency in government and in our Nation's endeavors to support our States. For the reasons set forth above, your Committee finds C.R. No. 18-23 to be in the best interest of the Federated States of Micronesia.

Your Committee is satisfied regarding the overall positive impact this resolution would have on public health. Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs is in accord with the intent and purposes of C.R. No. 18-23, and recommends its adoption, subject to the concurrence by the Committee on External Affairs.

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Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Tiwiter Aritos  
Tiwiter Aritos, vice chairman

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

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

/s/ Florencio S. Harper  
Florencio S. Harper, member

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

Joseph J. Urusemal, member