

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 18-44

RE: C.R. NO. 18-40/H&SA

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A GRANT FROM
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN
RESOURCES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$35,520 FOR
THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL
AFFAIRS.

SEPTEMBER 30, 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. 18-40 entitled:

"A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING THE RECEIPT OF A
GRANT ASSISTANCE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$35,520 FROM THE U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES HEALTH
RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION, TO FUND THE HIV
CARE GRANTS AND RELATED PROGRAMS IN THE FSM, INCLUDING
ALL THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE ASSISTANCE.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

The resolution would approve funding to continue health
programs that provide care for our citizens with HIV.

Your Committee held a joint public hearing with the
Committee on External Affairs on September 25, 2013. In
attendance were representatives from the Department of
Health and Social Affairs, the Department of Foreign

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Affairs, the Department of Finance, SBOC, the Department of Justice and the Office of President.

The Secretary of Health & Social Affairs and her staff advised your Committee that the grant provide funding for programs that are already established to care for our citizens afflicted with HIV. The activities anticipated for the upcoming grant year remain the same as in years past.

When questioned by your Committee the Secretary confirmed that more than half of these grant monies would be used for program salaries and little has been budgeted for travel as each State with affected citizens provides its own program of health support for those individuals.

In related discussions the Committee inquired as to the balance between privacy rights for patients and protection of the public in general from infectious disease. Your Committee was advised by the Departments of Health & Social Affairs and Justice that at least one State has passed legislation regarding this issue, and it was the intention of the Departments to revisit this issue regarding appropriate National companion legislation.

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Your Committee is satisfied regarding the overall positive impact this grant would have on public health. Your Committee on Health and Department of Social Affairs is in accord with the intent and purposes of C.R. No. 18-40, and on concurrence of your Committee on External Affairs recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto.

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

Peter M. Christian, member

Florencio S. Harper, member

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

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