

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 18-56

RE: C.R. NO. 18-59/H&SA

SUBJECT: APPROVING A GRANT SUBMISSION IN THE  
AMOUNT OF \$250,000 FROM THE U.S.  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES-  
CDC.

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. 18-59 entitled:

"A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT  
PROPOSAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$250,000, TO FUND THE  
CONTINUATION OF THE STRENGTHENING PUBLIC HEALTH  
INFRASTRUCTURE FOR IMPROVED HEALTH OUTCOMES PROJECT IN  
THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA, TO THE UNITED  
STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES CENTERS  
FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

The resolution would approve funding for the Department of  
Health & Social Affairs for a new project to further advance  
health outcomes by strengthening our public health  
infrastructure.

Your Committee held a joint public hearing with the  
Committee on External Affairs on September 25, 2013. In

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attendance were representatives from the Department of Health and Social Affairs, the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Department of Finance and Administration, SBOC, the Department of Justice and the Office of President.

Your Committee is well aware of the advances in tracking and data gathering in recent years that are providing better information to our public health system. With additional data the Department has been able to target certain segments of its system that need strengthening. This project would train individuals across the four States in areas that are now known to be weak, and provide additional infrastructure.

The Committee did inquire, since this is a new grant proposal, how this differs from current programs. The Secretary stated that this is working on a current model that targets where the public health needs are, something that was in the past not possible because the data was not available. Your Committee also stated that it was not predisposed to favor this project if the majority of the budget was for travel. The Department came to the hearing with a budget for this proposed grant. The proposed budget is as follows: Personnel: \$62,669; Travel: \$44,000; Contractual \$105,773; OCE: \$37,558. Your Committee was pleased that the Department came to this hearing prepared with detailed budget information and a reasonable proposal that appears to fit into the current public health scheme.

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Your Committee is satisfied that this hearing-screening project is important. Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs is in accord with the intent and purposes of C.R. No. 18-59 and on concurrence with 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