

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 19-124

RE: C.R. NO. 19-202/H&SA

SUBJECT: ACCEPTING GRANT ASSISTANCE FROM THE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN
SERVICES, HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$35,057.

MAY 23, 2016

The Honorable Wesley W. Simina
Speaker, Nineteenth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Fourth Regular Session, 2016

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs to which was
referred C.R. No. 19-202, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION APPROVING A GRANT ASSISTANCE IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$35,057 FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, HEALTH RESOURCES AND
SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (HRSA), 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.

Your Committee held a hearing on May 20, 2016, the
witnesses present included the Department of Health and
Social Affairs, including the Secretary and key staff, the
Office of the President, the Department of Finance and
Administration, and the Department of Justice.

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The Department of H&SA stated that this grant was a supplement to the funding received to prevent HIV/AIDS and support those who suffer from this disease. This grant would support the salary of a case manager and provide medical, nutritional and other support to patients.

The Committee is very familiar with the work funded by this grant. The Department provided an update regarding the program. It appears now that more individuals suffering from HIV/AIDS reside in Pohnpei so it was determined to locate the position of case manager in Pohnpei.

A detailed budget was received from the Department regarding this program and is attached for review. The Committee also received a progress report for this program, and noticed its intention to do oversight of the program during the next session of Congress.

Discussion was held with witnesses regarding the timing of submission of these grants for approval. Again, there appears to be some delays between the time that the grant award is received and when it is transmitted to Congress with a proposed resolution. Concerns were raised regarding some programs that have a second approval process at the state level. This second approval process leads to delays that often result in the inability to make payroll on a timely basis for some U.S. federally funded programs. Continued work and oversight needs to be done in this area.

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Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs is in accord
with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 19-202 and
recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Ferny S. Perman
Ferny S. Perman, vice chairman

/s/ Tiwiter Aritos
Tiwiter Aritos, member

Florencio S. Harper, member

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

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

/s/ Alik L. Alik
Alik L. Alik, member