

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 19-130

RE: C.R. NO. 19-203/H&SA

SUBJECT: ACCEPTING A GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, HEALTH RESOURCES AND
SERVICES ADMINISTRATION IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$114,732.

MAY 24, 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. 19-203, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION APPROVING A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$114,732 FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN
SERVICES, HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION, TO FUND THE UNIVERSAL NEWBORN HEARING
SCREENING AND INTERVENTION PROJECT, 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
it 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.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 19-130

RE: C.R. NO. 19-203/H&SA

SUBJECT: ACCEPTING A GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$114,732.

MAY 24, 2016

The Department of H&SA confirmed that this grant will fund the long time project of screening all our Nation's newborn infants for hearing. This grant would support salaries of the local staff and a specialist doctor traveling to the FSM, as well as, all necessary equipment and travel. The Department stated that we are fortunate to have a portion dedicated to training for our local healthcare providers. This should increase the number of screened infants to nearly 100% for those babies born in hospitals. As always the coverage for our most remote areas remains difficult. The Department hopes that with more local staff this challenge can be overcome.

The Committee is very familiar with the work funded by this grant but as with the other U.S. federally funded programs, wish to conduct oversight at the next possible opportunity.

The Department provided a summary budget for this project which is attached. The Committee inquired as to why the financial assistance (grant award) was in the amount of \$250,000 but a category named "offset" in the amount of \$135,268 decreased the overall amount. This offset amount was carryover from the previous year's project, which has now been authorized for use this year. The Committee advised that it would follow up on this issue during the oversight hearings.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 19-130

RE: C.R. NO. 19-203/H&SA

SUBJECT: ACCEPTING A GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, HEALTH RESOURCES AND
SERVICES ADMINISTRATION IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$114,732.

MAY 24, 2016

Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs is in accord
with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 19-203 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