

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 19-142

RE: C.R. NO. 19-247/H&SA

SUBJECT: ACCEPTING A GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, IN THE AMOUNT OF  
\$33,744.

AUGUST 01, 2016

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

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs to which was  
referred C.R. No. 19-247, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A GRANT IN THE  
AMOUNT OF \$33,744 FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
AND HUMAN SERVICES, SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH  
SERVICES ADMINISTRATION, TO FUND THE COMMUNITY MENTAL  
HEALTH PROGRAM 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.

Your Committee held a hearing on July 27, 2016 the  
witnesses present included: the Department of Health and  
Social Affairs, including the Acting 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 two small supplemental grants have been received to provide services and support to the programs funded by the substance abuse and mental health primary grant. The grant funding of \$33,744 in this C.R. No. 19-247, and \$47,579 in C.R. No. 19-242 will be used for support for mobile distribution of medicine, counseling and care of patients in all the four states.

A summary of activities and budget details for the entire FSM Substance Abuse and Mental Health Program is with the Committee and is available for review.

As this is a long standing program your Committee understands the challenges facing the Department of Health and Social Affairs regarding providing medical assistance, counseling, and prevention education and activities throughout our Nation. However, during the hearing your Committee did inquire as to the availability of hospital facilities for our most severely mentally ill citizens. The Committee was advised that there are currently no hospital facilities in our Nation for long term care of the mentally ill. The public hospitals are modestly equipped to provide short-term care for mentally ill patients. It has been the trend in the U.S. to promote care inside the family residence for most mentally ill patients both in the United States, and to promote the same in countries where they provide funding. Your Committee commented that it would like to see more clinical facilities made available for mentally ill patients who need support during a mental health crisis. It also commented that more needs to be done support families and caregivers of our mentally ill citizens in remote areas.

The Committee understands the many challenges facing the FSM Substance Abuse and Mental Health Program, and was pleased when the Department stated that they were actively seeking additional funding for this area. Your Committee advised the Department that this was one of the programs

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that it intended to review during oversight hearings in the  
September regular session of Congress.

Your Committee supports the work done by the Department and  
believes it important to support services to one of our  
most vulnerable groups' of citizens.

Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs is in accord  
with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 19-247 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