

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 19-148

RE: C.R. NO. 19-241/EDUCATION

SUBJECT: CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF MS. LOURDES F.
ROBOMAN TO SERVE AS THE YAP STATE REPRESENTATIVE
ON THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA NATIONAL
SCHOLARSHIP BOARD.

AUGUST 02, 2016

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

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred C.R. No.
19-241, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE NOMINATION OF MS. LOURDES
F. ROBOMAN TO SERVE AS THE YAP STATE REPRESENTATIVE ON
THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA NATIONAL
SCHOLARSHIP BOARD.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

For some time your Committee has worked to introduce a more
efficient and standardized system for the award of our
National scholarships. During the May 2016 Regular Session
the Congress passed C.B. No. 19-03, which established a
formal National Scholarship Board. Congressional Bill No.
19-03 has since been signed by the President and passed
into law as Public Law No. 19-90. It is the nomination of

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one of the first members to the first national Scholarship Board that is the subject of this report.

Your Committee has long understood the importance of the efficient implementation of reasonable and fair standards in the award of our National scholarships, and it is important that members of the National Scholarship Board are able to operate at the highest levels when dealing with financial awards affecting the future of our students. It is especially important to have members of the first National Scholarship Board who can develop, implement and maintain the efficient and skilled administration of the scholarship awards.

On July 29, 2016, your Committee held public hearings regarding all the nominations for the National Scholarship Board that had thus far been transmitted to Congress for action. Present at this hearing were the Acting Secretary of the Department of Education and his key staff, representatives from the Department of Justice, and the Department of Finance and Administration, as well as, the Office of the President.

The nominee to serve as the representative from Yap, Ms. Lourdes F. Roboman, has shown herself to be highly competent in the field of higher education. She is currently the Campus Dean for the Yap Campus of the College of Micronesia-FSM. She has served in this capacity since 2012. Prior to this appointment she served as the Campus Director for 18 years. Ms. Roboman has a bachelor's degree in psychology and began her professional life working in public health programs primarily dealing with mental health and substance abuse. She, therefore, has not only an excellent background in higher education, but also a well-rounded set of career experiences to draw on for her work with the National Scholarship Board. It would be in the best interests of our Nation if the board member in this

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position had many years of experience in school administration and leadership at the national level, as well as, an in-depth knowledge of the relevant policy issues.

All of the witnesses at the hearing on Ms. Roboman's nomination spoke highly of her, and endorsed her nomination. The representative from the Department of Justice stated that there was no conflict in her current employment and service on the Board. Due to the short notice given for this hearing the nominee was unable to attend the hearing in person.

Your Committee is impressed with Ms. Roboman's educational background and professional experience. It also would like to emphasize the importance it places on confirming an individual who is organized and efficient, and thereby, able to make fair and consistent decisions regarding the high volume of scholarship applications. Your Committee believes that Ms. Roboman also has these abilities.

Ms. Roboman is known for her personal integrity and work ethic. She has been recommended by both the Governor of Yap State and the President. A letter of recommendation from the Governor of Yap State is attached for reference. Your Committee has not received any subsequent communication from any individual or organization that would cast doubt on the performance or integrity of this nominee. Further your Committee defers to the President and the Governor of Yap State as to the decision to put forward this nominee. Absent any contrary indication, your Committee believes this nominee should be confirmed, and so recommends that Ms. Lourdes F. Roboman be confirmed as the Yap State representative on the National Scholarship Board of the Federated States of Micronesia.

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Your Committee on Education is in accord with the intent
and purpose of C.R. No. 19-241, and recommends its adoption
in the form attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Joseph J. Urusemal
Joseph J. Urusemal, chairman

/s/ Esmond B. Moses
Esmond B. Moses, vice chairman

Florencio S. Harper, member

/s/ Bonsiano F. Nethon
Bonsiano F. Nethon, member

/s/ Ferny S. Perman
Ferny S. Perman, member

/s/ Wesley W. Simina
Wesley W. Simina, member

Paliknoa K. Welly, member