

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 19-49

RE: C.R. NO. 19-96/EDUCATION

SUBJECT: ACCEPTING A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$717,930 FOR
THE FSM DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, SPECIAL
EDUCATION DIVISION

SEPTEMBER 24, 2015

The Honorable Wesley W. Simina
Speaker, Nineteenth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Second Regular Session, 2015

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred C.R. No.
19-96, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A GRANT IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$717,930 FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION, TO FUND THE FSM DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,
DIVISION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION, FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015
UNDER PART B OF THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES
EDUCATION ACT, 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 recognizes the importance of the education
of our Nation's children, particularly those who face
special challenges. As our Nation's children represent the
future welfare and progress of our country it is imperative
that all of our children receive the appropriate education

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and training that will allow them to be successful. The Department of Education, Division of Special Education has played an enormously important part in the success of our children with special needs.

The above referenced grant is an annual award that is well known to your Committee, as is the good work of the Division of Special Education. Your Committee held a hearing on September 22, 2015, with the staff of the Department of Education, including the Secretary of the Department of Education, and the Chief of the Division of Special Education, and their staff a representative from the Office of the President, a representative from the Department of Justice, and the Department of Finance and Administration.

Your Committee notes that the Chief of the Division of Special Education was very articulate regarding his Division's programs, and provided your Committee with a seven page detailed summary of their work and budgets. This report is attached for the reference of members. The Committee believes that it is worthwhile to highlight that during this past school year, 2014-2015, 2,061 students were served in our Nation by 284 education specialists throughout our four States. The program serves young people from birth to 21 years old. It provides services for students in general education classrooms, and it also provides home services for students if appropriate. The budgets for each of the four States under this grant are calculated to be in proportion to the number of students served, and are shown in detail for each State in the attached report.

Your Committee has received only positive communication from the witnesses, and the general public regarding the Division of Special Education. Further, your Committee strongly recommends the passage of the resolution accepting the special education grant funding so that the work of the

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Division of Special Education can continue smoothly
throughout the Nation.

Your Committee on Education is in accord with the intent
and purpose of C.R. No. 19-96, and recommends its adoption
in the form attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Esmond Moses
Esmond Moses, vice chairman

/s/ Florencio S. Harper
Florencio S. Harper, member

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

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

Wesley W. Simina, member

/s/ Paliknoa K. Welly
Paliknoa K. Welly, member