

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 19-65

RE: C.R. NO. 19-94/H&SA

SUBJECT: ACCEPTING GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF  
\$179,438 TO FUND THE FSM IMMUNIZATION  
AND VACCINE PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN.

OCTOBER 01, 2015

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

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs to which was  
referred C.R. No. 19-94, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A GRANT IN THE  
AMOUNT OF \$179,438 FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
AND HUMAN SERVICES, CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND  
PREVENTION, TO FUND THE FSM IMMUNIZATION AND VACCINES  
FOR CHILDREN GRANTS, 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 September 28, 2015 the  
witnesses present included: the Department of Health and  
Social Affairs, including the Acting Secretary and his key  
staff, the Department of Justice, the Department of Finance  
and Administration and the Office of the President.

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This grant will provide for the Department, travel and contract expenses for the continuation of the FSM Immunization and Vaccine Program for Children. It will also provide for training and interface for the State and National Departments of Health, as well as, providing funding to assess the coverage of the Program. Although the Immunization and Vaccine Program is one of the most successful and long standing programs in our Nation's public health system full coverage in the outer islands has proved challenging. More coordination and attention to our most remote populations is necessary to provide protection from potentially devastating diseases in our most vulnerable citizens.

Your Committee requested additional information for activities to be funded, as well as, a detailed budget and performance schedule for this grant. The Department stated that it will provide quarterly reports and performance outcomes for the Committee. This particular funding will be for the administration costs of the immunization and vaccination program. The breakdown is as follows: National \$17,944; Kosare \$26,916; Pohnpei \$44,860; Chuuk \$53,831; and Yap \$35,888. The National Department of Health and Social Affairs will use most of its funding for travel to facilitate training, while the at the State level the majority will be used for contractual services to bring in trainers. The vaccines are provided under a different grant.

The Committee believes very strongly in the importance of this program, and strongly supports it. However, the Committee noted that at the next oversight for the Department it will review the performance outcomes for this and the other U.S. federally funded programs.

Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 19-94, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto.

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Respectfully submitted,

/s/  
Bonsiano F. Nethon, chairman

/s/  
Ferny S. Perman, vice chairman

/s/  
Tiwiter Aritos, member

/s/  
Florencio S. Harper, member

/s/  
David W. Panuelo, member

/s/  
Joseph J. Urusemal, member

/s/  
Alik L. Alik, member