

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 19-68

RE: C.R. NO. 19-132/H&SA

SUBJECT: ACCEPTING A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$71,797

OCTOBER 02, 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. 19-132, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$71,797 FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, TO FUND THE BEHAVIORAL RISK FACTOR SUVEILLANCE SYSTEM PROGRAM, 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 30, 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.

The Department has done a lot of work to decrease the factors that contribute to non-communicable disease. This

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funding is important as it will continue the survey to gather data at the State level to determine the behavioral risk factors at specific locations. This funding will be used in Chuuk to do their survey. Preliminary data gathered in Kosrae has already proved useful there in securing more funding and identifying target areas for local health campaigns.

The budget for this grant award is as follows: Personnel \$21,809 and \$2,399 fringe benefits; Contractual Services \$36,786 and Other \$10,803. The Department stated that the contractual services category will be used to pay 20 temporary survey workers in Chuuk to do the survey. This survey will take approximately two months, and an additional two months to analyze the data and write the report. Some money may be used for supplies for the survey.

Your Committee believes that it is important for the health providers to identify risk behaviors that are linked to chronic diseases, such as diabetes, heart disease, cancer and hypertension. The Department has also emphasized that it is important to have reliable data to secure funding to run programs targeting these risky behaviors. It is therefore, in the Committee's position that this survey should be supported.

The Committee believes strongly in the benefits of the survey to be funded by this grant, and 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. 19-132, 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/
Alik L. Alik, member

/s/
Tiwiter Aritos, member

/s/
Florencio S. Harper, member

/s/
David W. Panuelo, member

/s/
Joseph J. Urusemal, member