

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 19-69

RE: C.R. NO. 19-119/EX AFF

SUBJECT: CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF MR. VINCENT
SIVAS TO SERVE AS DEPUTY CHIEF OF MISSION AT
THE FSM EMBASSY IN CHINA

NOVEMBER 17, 2015

The Honorable Wesley Simina
Speaker, Nineteenth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Third Special Session, 2015

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on External Affairs, to which was referred C.R.
No. 19-119, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. VINCENT
SIVAS TO BE THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF MISSION IN THE FSM
MISSION IN BEIJING, CHINA.”,

begs leave to report as follows:

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

On September 18, 2015, the President, through Presidential
Communication No. 19-174, transmitted to Congress
Congressional Resolution No. 19-119. The said resolution
is the nomination of Mr. Vincent Sivas to serve as the
Deputy Chief of Mission at the FSM Embassy in China.
Attached with P.C. No. 19-174 is the resume of Mr. Vincent
Sivas.

Educational Background

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The nominee attended Willamette University in Salem, Oregon, and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Studies. He also attended the Australian National University in Canberra, Australia, and graduated with a Masters of Strategic Studies.

Working Experience

The nominee served as the First Secretary at the FSM Embassy in Beijing, China since 2008. In 2007, the nominee served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Asian Affairs at the Department of Foreign Affairs. In 2006, the nominee served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Information and Research. From 2004 to 2006, the nominee served as a Foreign Service Officer. From 2003 to 2004, the nominee served as a Foreign Service Officer trainee.

Your Committee held a hearing on the said resolution on November 5, 2015, at the Hotel Villa Fontaine in Tokyo, Japan. Your Committee on External Affairs consisted of Vice Chairman Robson U. Romolow, members David W. Panuelo, Victor Goulard and staff Alik Jackson. The nominee was present at the hearing.

Vice Chairman Romolow chaired the hearing and greeted the nominee. He welcome the nominee and gave the nominee an opportunity to comment on his nomination. The nominee greeted the members and staff. He congratulated the members for being members of Congress because it was his first time to meet them. He stated that he personally thanked the President who was in Japan during that week for nominating him to the DCM post in China.

Your Committee inquired of the nominee about his length of service at the FSM Embassy in China. The nominee explained that he started working at the FSM Embassy in China in 2008 as its First Secretary.

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Your Committee asked how he was approached to take the position of DCM. The nominee explained that before the First Regular Session, he was asked to submit his resume. At that time, he did not know who recommended him to the President. He informed your Committee that the Acting Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Carl Apis, wrote to him and informed him about his nomination. At first, he was suprised because he thought that Mr. Jackson Soram will be nominated to the post.

The nominee was given a last opportunity to comment on his nomination. The nominee thanked the Committee and indicated that he will continue to strive as he works in the diplomatic area, especially at the FSM Embassy in China. Your Committee thanked the nominee and encouraged him to continue his good work at the FSM Embassy in China.

Your Committee has reviewed the qualifications of the nominee. There is no further need to do so at this time. Your Committee has not heard anything that would cast doubt on the performance of the nominee. Absent any contrary indication, your Committee believes the nominee should be reconfirmed, and so recommends Mr. Vincent Sivas be reconfirmed as DCM of the Embassy in China.

Your Committee wishes to offer the following amendments to C.R. No. 19-119 as follows:

1. Title, line 1, delete "~~appointment of Mr. KS Vincent Sivas to be the Deputy Chief of Mission in the FSM Mission in Beijing, China~~" and insert "nomination of Mr. Vincent Sivas to serve as the Deputy Chief of Mission at the Federated States of Micronesia Embassy in China" in lieu thereof.
2. Page 1, line 16, delete "~~Second Regular~~", and insert "Third Special" in lieu thereof.

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Your Committee on External Affairs is in accord with the
intent and purpose of C.R. No. 19-119, and recommends its
adoption in the form attached hereto as C.R. No. 19-119,C.D.1.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Paliknoa K. Welly
Paliknoa K. Welly, chairman

/s/ Robson U. Romolow
Robson U. Romolow, vice chairman

/s/ Isaac V. Figir
Isaac V. Figir, member

Victor V. Gouland, member

/s/ Berney Martin
Berney Martin, member

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

/s/ David W. Panuelo
David W. Panuelo, member