A RESOLUTION

Requesting the President of the Federated States of Micronesia to direct the Department of Health, Education and Social Affairs (HESA) to finalize and prepare to implement an avian influenza pandemic preparedness and response plan.

WHEREAS, regional and international public health officials have warned of devastating consequences for small islands like the FSM should the avian influenza virus mutate to allow human-to-human transmittal; and

WHEREAS, the virus has spread to Asia, Europe and Africa and through bird-to-human contact caused isolated cases of human illness, including death; and

WHEREAS, in July 2005, the Department of Health, Education and Social Affairs prepared a draft pandemic preparedness and response plan; and

WHEREAS, this plan has yet to be formally submitted or approved by the Executive Branch; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Fourteenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, Second Special Session, 2006, that the Congress hereby requests the President of the Federated States of Micronesia to direct the Secretary of HESA to finalize the draft preparedness and response plan for his review and transmittal to Congress without further delay;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the Federated States of Micronesia request the Secretary of HESA to begin discussions with all relevant Departments and Agencies of the
Executive Branch to discuss plans should the current situation result in a pandemic in the region;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the Federated States of Micronesia and the Governor of each state.

Date: 2/28/06 Introduced by: /s/ Resio S. Moses

Resio S. Moses