A RESOLUTION

Calling on the President of the Federated States of Micronesia to request that Compact Supplemental Education Grant (SEG) funds be appropriated by the US Congress on the same basis as Compact sector grant assistance.

WHEREAS, Section 105(f)(B)(iii) of US Public Law No. 108-188 approving the Compact of Free Association amendments of 2003 extends Supplemental Education Grants (SEGs) to the FSM in lieu of education programs available under the 1986 Compact but not extended to the FSM under the Compact amendments of 2003; and

WHEREAS, under this law, SEG funds are currently subject to annual appropriation by the US Congress; and

WHEREAS, sector grant assistance under Article 211 of the Compact, including the education sector, are subject to the provisions of Section 233 of the Compact, which constitutes a multi-year appropriation pledge; and

WHEREAS, the ability of the FSM state and national governments to plan education programs covered by the SEGs has been hampered by uncertainty resulting from the US Congress annual appropriation process and delays in releasing these funds to the FSM; and

WHEREAS, many of the programs funded through SEGs require advance planning beyond the annual budget cycle, such as those programs funding scholarships for higher education students, now therefore,
BE IT RESOLVED by the Fourteenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, Second Special Session, 2006, that the Congress requests the President to direct the Secretary of Foreign Affairs to propose amendments to the Compact to allow for SEG funds to be appropriated subject to Article 233 of the Compact and in the amounts specified under Section 105(f)(B)(iii)(I) of US Public Law No. 108-188; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Governor of each State, the Secretary of Health, Education and Social Affairs, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, the Director of the Office of Compact Management, and the United States Embassy in Kolonia.

Date: 3/1/06

Introduced by: /s/ Peter Sitan

Peter Sitan