

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 14-104

RE: C.R. NO. 14-73/T&C

SUBJECT: AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

MAY 18, 2006

The Honorable Peter M. Christian
Speaker, Fourteenth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Fourth Regular Session, 2006

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Transportation and Communications, to which was referred C.R. No. 14-73, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA TO UNDERTAKE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES REGARDING CONTINUING ELIGIBILITY OF THE FSM FOR PROJECTS FUNDED THROUGH THE AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (AIP) OF THE US FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

In 2007, the US Congress will undertake a review of all aspects of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Airport Improvement Program (AIP). Included in this review is the matter of continuing eligibility for project funds of the Freely Associated States (FAS), which includes the FSM.

Past AIP grants have been instrumental in the development of the FSM and its states. Most importantly, AIP assistance has been essential in maintaining and improving the safety and security of the FSM's civil aviation system.

Substantial needs in these areas remain, however, and it is hoped that these might be addressed, at least in part, through continued access of the FSM to AIP grants beyond 2007. Termination of eligibility would seriously jeopardize the FSM's ability to keep pace with safety and security requirements.

The resolution in question calls upon the President to direct the Secretary of Foreign Affairs and other appropriate officials from the Executive Branch to engage in discussions with the US Congress to encourage consideration of extending eligibility for the FSM beyond 2007.

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Your Committee on Transportation and Communications is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 14-73 and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Moses A. Nelson
Moses A. Nelson, chairman

/s/ Dion G. Neth
Dion G. Neth, vice chairman

/s/ Resio S. Moses
Resio S. Moses, member

/s/ Ramon Peyal
Ramon Peyal, member

/s/ Claude H. Phillip
Claude H. Phillip, member

/s/ Simiram Sipenuk
Simiram Sipenuk, member

/s/ Peter Sitan
Peter Sitan, member