

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 16-12

RE: C.B. NO. 16-33/W&M

SUBJECT: APPROPRIATION OF \$60,000 FOR A
SPECIAL ELECTION

SEPTEMBER 02, 2009

The Honorable Isaac V. Figir
Speaker, Sixteenth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
First Special Session, 2009

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred C.B. No. 16-33, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$60,000 FROM THE GENERAL FUND OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2009, FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING THE NATIONAL SPECIAL ELECTION TO FILL THE VACANT AT LARGE SEAT TO TAKE PLACE PURSUANT TO LAW, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

On July 8, 2009, in Presidential Communication No. 16-33, the President transmitted an amount of \$59,912 as the proposed Special Election Budget. This amount according to the President is adequate to administer a National Special Election in Pohnpei to fill the vacant At Large seat in the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia should one is declared.

The intent of C.B. No. 16-33 is to appropriate an amount of \$60,000 from the General Fund of the Federated States of Micronesia to fund the upcoming National Special Election in Pohnpei. There is only \$88 dollar more than the President's proposed Special Election Budget. Your Committee is very much concerned that even the \$60,000 is more than enough to fund this special election, and only approved of the said amount.

During the opening day of the First Special Session of the 16th FSM Congress on August 31, 2009 and Speaker's letter dated August 31, 2009 to the National Election Director, this vacant seat was formally declared and the National Election Director was formally notified pursuant to 9 FSM Code Section 106.

By law, the National Election Director is mandated to conduct a

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special election to fill the Pohnpei At Large congressional seat for the remainder of the 16th FSM Congress after the vacancy is declared and he is notified in writing of the vacancy.

Your Committee wishes to inform all interested parties that the said amount is intended solely to defray any cost relating to the upcoming special election, and not to pay outstanding expenses of the Office of the National Election Commission.

Your Committee on Ways and Means is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.B. No. 16-33 and recommends its passage on First Reading, and that it be placed on the calendar for Second and Final reading in the form attached hereto as C.B. No. 16-33.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Dohsis Halbert
Dohsis Halbert, chairman

Claude H. Phillip, vice chairman

/s/ Roger S. Mori
Roger S. Mori, member

/s/ Setiro Paul
Setiro Paul, member

/s/ Fredrico O. Primo
Fredrico O. Primo, member

Peter S. Sitan, member

/s/ Joseph J. Urusemal
Joseph J. Urusemal, member