STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 18-232

RE: C.R. NO. 18-205/H&SA

SUBJECT: APPROVING A GRANT AWARD IN THE AMOUNT OF

\$376,250 TO FUND THE FSM ORAL HEALTH

WORKFORCE ACTIVITIES.

SEPTEMBER 26, 2014

The Honorable Dohsis Halbert Speaker, Eighteenth Congress Federated States of Micronesia Fifth Regular Session, 2014

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs, to which was jointly referred C.R. No. 18- 198 entitled:

"A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A GRANT AWARD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$376,250 FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION, TO FUND THE FSM ORAL HEALTH WORKFORCE ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING ALL THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE ASSISTANCE.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

On September 24, 2014, your committee held hearings regarding the above-captioned C.R. No. 18-205 jointly with the Committee on External Affairs. The Committee was advised that this grant is a new grant that will help expand the dental health capacity for our Nation. The Committee has been advised of the importance of dental health to the overall health of our citizens and it believes this grant will have a positive impact on the health of our Nation's

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citizens. Financial support for this new program is desirable.

The Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Affairs and her relevant staff gave a brief summary of the state of this program. It is noted that funding will remain at the National level. In the initial year the newly hired project director will target pre-school and first grade children through out the Nation to provide basic dental care and prevention services and information. In the attached budget the summary provides the cost of supplies and services to be used throughout the four states.

The program supported will also provide for training in all of the four States. The training will be targeted at the dental assistant level in an attempt to improve the skills and increase the numbers of those working in the dental health area. It was also noted by the Committee that the budget provides for a site coordinator in each State. The Committee was advised that in future years it is intended that the program will target other ages and groups for dental health intervention.

Your committee was impressed with this new program, particularly since it will provide basic dental health screening and dental care supplies to our young children, including those from low income backgrounds. It has always been the goal of this committee to ensure the basic health of all citizens of our Nation.

Overall your Committee on Health and Social Affairs is supportive of the program that this grant will support. Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs is in accord with the intent and purposes of C.R. No. 18-205, and upon concurrence with your Committee on External Affairs recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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/s/ Tony H. Otto	/s/ Tiwiter Aritos
Tony H. Otto, chairman	Tiwiter Aritos, vice chairman
/s/ Peter M. Christian	
	/s/ Yosiwo P. George
Peter M. Christian, member	Yosiwo P. George, member
/s/ Florencio S. Harper	
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	/s/ David W. Panuelo
Florencio S. Harper, member	David W. Panuelo, member