RE: C.R. NO. 18-43/H&SA

SUBJECT: APPROVING A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,000 FROM UNICEF TO FUND FSM'S

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REPORT OBLIGATION UNDER THE CONVENTION OF THE RIGHTS OF

THE CHILD.

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

The Honorable Dohsis Halbert Speaker, Eighteenth Congress Federated States of Micronesia Second Regular Session, 2013

Dear Speaker,

Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs, to which was jointly referred C.R. No. 18-43 entitled:

"A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A GRANT ASSISTANCE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,000 FROM THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND, TO FUND THE FSM'S UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REPORT AS OBLIGATED UNDER THE CONVENTION OF THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN, 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.

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

The resolution would approve additional funding for the Department of Health & Social Affairs finish compiling the data and information necessary to prepare the Federated States of Micronesia's Universal Periodic Report as obligated under the Convention of the Rights of the Child.

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Your Committee held a joint public hearing with the Committee on External Affairs on September 25, 2013. In attendance were representatives from the Department of Health and Social Affairs, the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Department of Finance and Administration, SBOC, the Department of Justice and the Office of President.

The Secretary of Health & Social Affairs advised your Committee that this grant would provide the additional funding to complete the information gathering process in all States, and to finalize the Universal Periodic Report. The Secretary stated that with this money she would confident that the report could be submitted by its due date at the end of this year.

Your Committee's members commented during the hearing that although it is important to comply with our obligations under the Convention of the Rights of the Child the Department has had ample resources to comply with the reporting requirements before this time, particularly since other funding had previously been made available for this purpose. Your Committee is concerned that the reporting obligations under the Convention of the Rights of the Child should have been completed several years ago.

Notwithstanding the above statements, your Committee strongly believes in upholding the human rights of our children and young people, and it also believes our Nation must not fail in its obligations under an international Convention. Your Committee agrees that funding in the form of the proposed grant is necessary. The Committee also urges the Department to complete its reporting obligation under the Convention for the Rights of the Child as soon as possible.

Your Committee would like to offer the following amendments to C.R. No. 18-43 as follows:

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- 1. Title line 4, delete "Children" and insert "the Child" in lieu thereof.
- 2. Page 1, line 9, delete "Children" and insert "the Child" in lieu thereof.
- 3. Page 1, line 1 delete "Children" and insert "the Child" in lieu thereof.

Your Committee agrees that completing the reporting obligations under the Convention for the Rights of the Child is important. Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs is in accord with the intent and purposes of C.R. No. 18-43, and on concurrence with your Committee on External Affairs recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto, as C.R. No. 18-43.

RE: C.R. NO. 18-43/H&SA

SUBJECT: APPROVING A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF

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THE CHILD.

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Respectfully submitted,

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

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