STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 18-58

RE: C.R. NO. 18-60/H&SA

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AND CITY HEALTH OFFICIALS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,000 FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS.

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. 18-60 entitled:

"A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,000 FROM THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AND CITY HEALTH OFFICIALS, TO FUND THE LOCAL MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS UNITS IN THE FSM, 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 resolution would approve funding to support first responders for health emergencies. This would include funding for transporting healthcare workers and communications equipment (telephones).

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

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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 very small grant is new and will support first healthcare responders to medical emergencies. The grant will be used to transport first response healthcare workers to an area where there is a medical emergency. It is also planned to equip the designated healthcare workers with cell phones.

The Secretary acknowledged that the grant amount is very small, but she envisions an expanded program in the future, provided that funding is available in the future. Providing mobile healthcare workers to respond to medical emergencies is vital to the FSM, particularly in light of the shortage of healthcare workers.

The Department of Finance and Administration and SBOC confirmed to your Committee that this is a new grant and no money has been expended.

Your Committee believes that support for mobile first responder healthcare workers is necessary to meet the needs of our citizens, and as stated above, in particular due to our shortage of healthcare workers.

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Your Committee is satisfied regarding the overall positive impact this grant would have on public health. Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs is in accord with the intent and purposes of C.R. No. 18-60, and on concurrence of your Committee on External Affairs recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto.

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