

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 20-22

RE: C.R. NO. 20-28/EDUCATION

SUBJECT: APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A GRANT IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$853,081 FROM THE U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SEPTEMBER 21, 2017

The Honorable Wesley W. Simina
Speaker, Twentieth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Second Regular Session, 2017

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred C.R. No. 20-28, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$853,081 FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, DIVISION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM, FOR THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2017 FUND UNDER PART B OF THE INDIVIDUAL WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT (IDEA), 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 20, 2017, your Committee held a public hearing regarding the proposed grant for Special Education in the amount of \$853,081 that has been transmitted to Congress for action. Present at this hearing were the Secretary of the Department of Education and his key staff, including the Division of Special Education, representatives from the

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Department of Justice, as well as, the Department of Finance and Administration.

Your Committee recognizes the importance of the education of our Nation's children, particularly those who face special challenges. As our Nation's children represent the future welfare and progress of our Nation it is imperative that all of our children receive the appropriate education and training that will allow them to be successful. The Department of Education, Division of Special Education has played an enormously important part in the success of our children with special needs. A June 28, 2017, letter from the United States Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services is compliant with all requirements and was congratulated for its continuing improvement in results for students with disabilities.

The grant under consideration in this report is well known to your Committee, as is the work of the Division of Special Education. Your Committee notes that the Chief of the Division of Special Education was very articulate regarding his Division's programs, and provided your Committee with several documents related to the Division, including the attached budget breakdown for the National Office and the four states. The Special Education program serves young people from birth to 21 years old. It provides services for students in general education classrooms, and it also provides home services to students if appropriate. The number of young people served remains approximately the same as in year's past at 2,073, and the number of education specialists at 280.

Your Committee remains impressed with the good work that the Division of Special Education does. The only concern at this time arises from comments by the Chief of the Division that this grant may not be available in 2023, and

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the Committee urged all witnesses to be pro-active in
lobbying for the continuation of this funding.

Your Committee on Education is in accord with the intent
and purpose of C.R. No. 20-28 and recommends its adoption
in the form attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Joseph J. Urusemal
Joseph J. Urusemal, chairman

Derensio S. Konman, vice chairman

Florencio S. Harper, member

/s/ Alik L. Alik
Alik L. Alik, member

/s/ Esmond B. Moses
Esmond B. Moses, member

/s/ Wesley W. Simina
Wesley W. Simina, member

/s/ Ferny S. Perman
Ferny S. Perman, member