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A BILL FOR AN ACT

To establish a housing policy for the National Government, and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA:

1 Section 1. Statement of purpose. It is determined that at this early
2 stage of its history, the National Government needs to continue to provide
3 housing in order to ensure recruitment of the qualified personnel necessary
4 for successful development. It is also determined that the best housing
5 policy will minimize expense, emphasize phasing out as the need phases out,
6 and ensure fairness to the greatest degree practicable. This act, therefore,
7 provides for the housing necessary for the Nation's development while
8 imposing appropriate conditions herein prescribed.

9 Section 2. Eligibility for housing. The following employees and
10 officials of the National Government are eligible for housing benefits:

11 (1) Nonresidents of the State where the job is located who are
12 in pay level 21 and above as set out in the Public Service System Act;

13 (2) Expatriate employees of the National Government who are in pay
14 level 21 and above as set out in the Public Service System Act;

15 (3) The President, Vice President, Speaker, and Chief Justice; and

16 (4) Any other National Government employee or official pursuant to
17 Presidential approval of the recommendation of the Committee on Need as
18 created in section 6 of this act.

19 Section 3. Nature of housing benefits. Housing benefits shall be
20 provided in the following manner:

21 (1) Employees who occupy Government houses shall be charged for
22 the full cost of the units and furnishings;

23 (2) Federated States of Micronesia citizen employees shall receive
24 a housing allowance in the form of a stipend which they may use to pay rent on
25 Government housing or to defray the cost of their private housing arrangements.

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1 The stipend shall be inversely related to salary, to wit: pay level 21
2 receives a \$250 monthly stipend and each pay level thereafter receives \$5
3 less per month than the preceding pay level. In annual figures the stipend
4 shall be \$3,000 for pay level 21 with each pay level thereafter receiving \$60
5 less per year. Federated States of Micronesia citizen employees who build
6 their houses shall receive a stipend for no more than two years according to
7 the formula above; and

8 (3) Expatriate National Government employees shall receive housing
9 benefits in an amount determined by the formula set out in section 3(2) of
10 this act; that is, the amount will be inversely related to salary as stipulated
11 in section 3(2) for expatriate employees; PROVIDED that, all expatriate employees
12 receiving housing benefits under contract at this act's effective date will
13 continue to receive the housing benefits agreed to by contract and will not
14 be governed by this subsection.

15 Section 4. Furniture and appliances and shipping allowance. The National
16 Government shall provide basic furniture and appliances for eligible National
17 employees and shall grant the following shipping benefits:

18 (1) For employees with families, a shipping allowance of 3,000
19 pounds.

20 (2) For employees without families, a shipping allowance of 1,000
21 pounds.

22 Section 5. Locating and assigning housing. The National Government
23 shall be responsible for locating suitable housing for eligible employees.
24 The National Government shall assign the most appropriate available house
25 to an eligible employee based on the particular circumstances of that employee

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1 and the available choices.

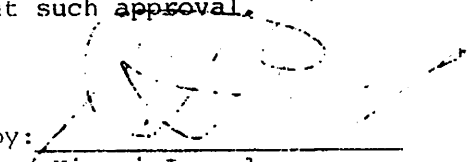
2 Section 6. Committee on Need. A Committee on Need is established
3 consisting of one representative of each of the three branches of Government,
4 each member to be appointed by the head of his branch of Government. The
5 Committee on Need shall hear requests by ineligible employees who seek an
6 exception and apply for housing benefits. The Committee on Need shall base
7 its recommendation on need and report to the President who shall approve or
8 disapprove the Committee on Need's recommendation on the basis of need.

9 Section 7. Phasing out. The National Government shall at an opportune
10 time institute a plan to phase out housing benefits when it determines that
11 the need to provide housing to recruit qualified personnel has been balanced
12 by the easy availability of housing at reasonable cost on the open market.

13 Section 8. Interpretation and implementation. This act shall be
14 interpreted and implemented to the greatest degree practicable by reference
15 to the "Report of the Task Force on Housing Policy," dated July 8, 1981, a
16 copy of which is attached to this act as exhibit A.

17 Section 9. Effective date. This act shall become law upon approval
18 by the President or upon its becoming law without such approval.

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20 Date: 7/22/81

Introduced by: 
Hiroshi Ismael

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