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TENTH CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

FOURTH REGULAR SESSION, 1998

C. R. NO. 10-132

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A RESOLUTION

Endorsing the 1998 Institute of Medicine Report entitled "Pacific Partnerships for Health, Charting a Course for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century".

1           WHEREAS, in 1996 the Institute of Medicine was asked by  
2 the Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S.  
3 Department of Health and Human Services to examine health  
4 care delivery in the U.S.-Associated Pacific Basin flag  
5 territories of Guam, the Commonwealth of the Mariana Islands  
6 and American Samoa, and in the three Pacific Basin freely  
7 associated states of the Republic of the Marshall Islands,  
8 the Republic of Palau and the Federated States of  
9 Micronesia; and

10           WHEREAS, the Institute of Medicine was asked to collect  
11 and examine information on the status of health service  
12 programs in the Pacific Basin, including the recently  
13 concluded Pacific Basin Medical Officers' Training Program;  
14 develop assumptions about benchmarks to be used to assess  
15 needs and services in those jurisdictions; assess the  
16 accomplishments, adequacy, and shortcomings of health  
17 services programs and related health interventions compared  
18 to these baseline assumptions; and develop a strategic plan  
19 to address problems and inadequacies, and reinforce  
20 successes, in health services; and

21           WHEREAS, the Institute of Medicine undertook the  
22 requested study in 1996 and 1997, and as part of that study  
23 visited Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei and Yap in April, 1997; and

24           WHEREAS, the efforts of the Institute of Medicine  
25 culminated in the drafting of a report finalized in December,

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1 1997 and published in 1998, which made numerous observations  
2 and recommendations on the state of health care systems in  
3 the six island jurisdictions studied (the "Institute of  
4 Medicine Report"); and

5 WHEREAS, the contents of the Institute of Medicine's  
6 report were discussed at the Pacific Health Summit in  
7 Washington, D.C. in March, 1998; and

8 WHEREAS, the Institute of Medicine Report was endorsed  
9 and recommended for implementation in March, 1998, by the  
10 Pacific Island Health Officers Association; and

11 WHEREAS, in September, 1998, the heads of governments of  
12 the six U.S.-Associated Pacific Basin jurisdictions involved  
13 were invited to Guam to discuss the Institute of Medicine  
14 Report; and

15 WHEREAS, representatives attending that discussion from  
16 the Federated States of Micronesia included the Honorable  
17 Leo A. Falcam, Vice President of the FSM National  
18 Government, and the Honorable Jack Fritz, Speaker of the FSM  
19 Congress; Governor Moses T. Mackwelung, Senator Josaiiah  
20 Saimon and Senator Paterson Benjamin of Kosrae; Governor Del  
21 S. Pangelinan and Senator Valerio Hallens of Pohnpei;  
22 Governor Vincent Figir and Senator James Mangefel of Yap;  
23 and Lieutenant Governor Manuel Sound and Senator Tatasy  
24 Terry of Chuuk; and

25 WHEREAS, the Institute of Medicine Report strongly

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1 recommends continued U.S. involvement and investment in the  
2 region's health care and specifically recommends that the  
3 United States and island communities work together with a  
4 renewed sense of partnership to provide for the improved  
5 health of Pacific Islanders, by: (1) adopting a viable  
6 system of community-based primary care and preventative  
7 services; (2) improving coordination within and between  
8 jurisdictions and the United States; (3) increasing  
9 community involvement and investment in health care; and (4)  
10 promoting the education and training of the health care  
11 workforce; and

12 WHEREAS, the Congress of the Federated States of  
13 Micronesia supports each of these goals and recommendations,  
14 and appreciates and shares the desire of the U.S. Department  
15 of Health and Human Services that essential and improved  
16 health care delivery services be made available to the  
17 people of the U.S.-Associated Pacific Basin, and in  
18 particular to the families and children of the Federated  
19 States of Micronesia; now, therefore

20 BE IT RESOLVED by the Tenth Congress of the Federated  
21 States of Micronesia, Fourth Regular Session, 1998, that the  
22 Congress hereby endorses the Institute of Medicine's 1998  
23 Report entitled "Pacific Partnerships for Health, Charting a  
24 Course for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century"; and

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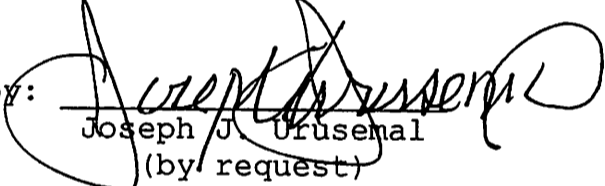
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
2 resolution be transmitted to the President of the Federated  
3 States of Micronesia, the Secretary of the FSM Department of  
4 Health, Education and Social Affairs, Directors of the  
5 Pohnpei State Department of Health Services, Kosrae State  
6 Department of Health Services, Yap State Department of  
7 Health Services and Chuuk State Department of Health  
8 Services, the Pacific Island Health Officers Association,  
9 the Director of Health Resources and Services Administration  
10 of the United States Department of Health and Human  
11 Services, and United States Senator Daniel K. Inouye of  
12 Hawaii.

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Date: 11/11/98

Introduced by:   
Joseph J. Urusemal  
(by request)