



COMMITTEE ON
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

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STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 24-20

RE: C.R. NO. 24-40/EX AFF.

SUBJECT: TO RATIFY THE AMENDMENT TO THE TREATY BETWEEN THE
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF
PALAU CONCERNING MARITIME BOUNDARIES AND
COOPERATION ON RELATED MATTERS.

SEPTEMBER 22, 2025

The Honorable Esmond B. Moses
Speaker, Twenty-Fourth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Second Regular Session, 2025

Dear Speaker,

Your Committee on External Affairs, to which was referred
Congressional Resolution No. 24-40, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION TO RATIFY THE AMENDMENT TO THE TREATY BETWEEN
THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU
CONCERNING MARITIME BOUNDARIES AND COOPERATION ON RELATED
MATTERS.",

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee received Congress Resolution No. 24-40 that
proposes to ratify an amendment to a treaty between the
Federated States of Micronesia and Palau to ensure both
nations retain their current fixed maritime boundaries
despite sea-level rise.

Your Committee met on September 17, 2025 and discussed this
important amendment to the treaty. The Committee notes that
NORMA and the Department of Justice have worked hard on
these issues to bring about this agreement. Both the FSM and
Palau cooperatively came to this amendment to ensure that
their respective Maritime Boundaries currently in place will

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not be affected by sea-level rise. This agreement is the
first of its kind in the Pacific region.

CONCLUSION

Your Committee on External Affairs has carefully reviewed
and is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 24-
40, and recommends its passage.

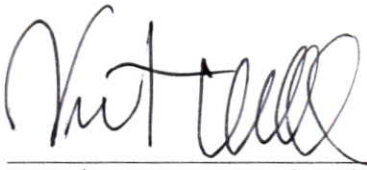
Respectfully submitted,


Peter M. Christian, chairman


Johnson A. Asher, member


Andy P. Choor, member


Robson U. Romolow, member


Victor V. Gouland, member


Esmond B. Moses, member


Fabian S. Nimea, member

A RESOLUTION

To ratify the Amendment to the Treaty Between the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of Palau concerning Maritime Boundaries and Cooperation on Related Matters.

1 WHEREAS, FSM and Palau concluded the Treaty Between the
2 Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of Palau
3 Concerning Maritime Boundaries and Cooperation on Related Matters
4 on July 16, 2006, and this treaty has remained in effect up to
5 now; and

6 WHEREAS, the two nations concluded an amendment to their
7 treaty on June 11, 2025, in Nice, France, in the margins of the
8 United Nations Ocean Conference to formally incorporate the 2021
9 Pacific Islanders' Declaration, which preserves maritime zones of
10 the Federated States of Micronesia despite sea-level rise; and

11 WHEREAS, this amendment represents a significant
12 development in international conventional law, marking the first
13 time in the Pacific region where the principle of fixed maritime
14 boundaries amid climate change has been codified in a treaty
15 context; now, therefore,

16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Twenty-Fourth Congress of the
17 Federated States of Micronesia, First Special Session, 2025, that
18 Congress hereby ratifies the Amendment to the Treaty Between the
19 Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of Palau
20 Concerning Maritime Boundaries and Cooperation on Related Matters;

1 and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
3 resolution be transmitted to the President of the Federated States
4 of Micronesia, the Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs,
5 Secretary of the Department of Justice, the Secretary of the
6 Department of Resource and Development, and the Governors of each
7 state of the Nation.

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9 Date: 8/11/25 Introduced by: for /s/ Joseph J. Urusemal
10 Julio M. Marar
11 (by request)

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