

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 24-08

RE: COMMITTEE TO WAIT ON THE PRESIDENT

JANUARY 14, 2026

The Honorable Esmond B. Moses
Speaker, Twenty-Fourth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Third Regular Session, 2026

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee to Wait on the President was duly appointed on January 13, 2026, consisting of members Fabian S. Nimea, Yoslyn G. Sigrah, Merlynn Abello-Alfonso and Andrew Yatilman. Fabian S. Nimea was designated as the chairman. The meeting took place with the President and Vice President and the key Executive cabinet officials on January 13, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. The Chairman thanked the President on behalf of Congress for the opportunity to meet. The President extended his best wishes for a productive 2026, and his hope that our two branches would enjoy successful session of Congress. The President extended his congratulations to the newly seated senator Andrew Yatilman. Chairman reported that Congress was in session and ready to transact business. The Committee communicated it had several priority items on an agenda for Congress for this session, and it received the President's agenda in return.

The President stated that his first priority was to secure an extension of the declaration of emergency declared regarding the oil spill in Chuuk. He stated that while work has been done there is still much to clean-up and support to be given those living in the affected areas. He stated that the relevant departments and agencies were also working hard on the medium- and long-term challenges of removing the oil in the remainder of sunken vessels. The Committee raised the concern that Chuuk

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State had not renewed its state declaration of emergency. In response the President stated that work is being done in Chuuk regarding the renewal, and in any event, the oil leak is of a magnitude to be a national disaster and needs the declaration to trigger outside funding and expert support. The Committee advised that a hearing is scheduled on this matter for tomorrow, January 14, 2026.

The next item on the President's agenda was the supplemental budget. Here the President stated that many items were routine, had been requested previously, and were necessary for the operations of the government. The Committee informed the President that review had already begun on this matter and a hearing would take place on the revenue projections later in the day.

Item number three in the President's agenda was a request to take action on the bill to fund the Google cable. This bill has recently been transmitted and it was the President's hope that this new bill would take care of concerns previously raised by Congress regarding the funding of this project. In discussion of this new bill the Committee stated that first review of the bill showed it to be a complicated measure that de-appropriated and appropriated funding over a several year period. It was the understanding of the Committee that further review is ongoing and perhaps an alternate set of bills separating the various actions into individual bills may be drafted.

Finally, the President asked that action be taken on the pending bills and resolutions, specifically on the grant resolutions and the nominations before Congress. He stated that at least one nomination is pending from the previous Congress special session and that he would appreciate that be given priority.

As the President addressed many of the Congress priority items the Committee brought up only a few additional matters for discussion. First, the Committee stated, it was the understanding of Congress that a task force was being set up by the Executive branch to address the challenges now facing the Post Office. The President stated that internally there has not been a task force set up yet. There was work being done to

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bring on a private company to work with all the COFA states to mitigate some of the issues. The Post Master General was not in attendance, but this matter was noted for a more detailed response.

The Committee had several questions regarding the purpose and use of the new convention center. It did not appear to be utilized and there was information that it may possibly be used for office space. The President said that the convention center had a board and that contact information for them would be forwarded to Congress to answer their more detailed inquiries.

An update was requested regarding the Independent Prosecutor and the process for funding and opening his office. The President provided an update. The Committee stated they would have the relevant committee monitor this issue.

As a final issue the Committee reiterated that it hoped that heads of departments and agencies, as well as, relevant key staff would be advised not to travel and to make themselves available during the session. Congress has experienced recent delays on several matters when important witnesses were not available for hearing. The President agreed and said it was his policy to have key staff and heads of departments available during the Congress session

Both your Committee, and the President stated they looked forward to a busy and successful session. Your Committee has endeavored to make this report brief and requests that the Members address any additional questions and concerns during the discussion of the report on the floor of Congress.

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Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Fabian S. Nimea
Fabian S. Nimea, chairman

/s/ Merlynn Abello-Alfonso
Merlynn Abello-Alfonso, member

/s/ Andrew Yatilman
Andrew Yatilman, member

/s/ Yoslyn G. Sigrah
Yoslyn G. Sigrah, member