



CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

P.O. Box PS 3

Palikir, Sokehs

Pohnpei State, FM 96941

Tel: (691) 320-2324/2325/2326/2327/2337/2338/2707

Fax: (691) 320-5122

COMMITTEE ON
JUDICIARY AND
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 24-33

RE: C.B. No. 24-94/J&GO/R&D

SUBJECT: TO AMEND TITLE 33 OF THE CODE OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA (ANNOTATED), BY AMENDING CHAPTER 1 TO ADD A NEW SECTION 101 TO DEFINE HANDWRITTEN SIGNATURES AND ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES, TO ADD A NEW SECTION 102 TO RECOGNIZE ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES WITH THE VALIDITY AS HANDWRITTEN SIGNATURES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

MAY 20, 2026

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

Dear Speaker:

Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations, to which was jointly referred Congressional Bill No. 24-94, entitled:

"TO AMEND TITLE 33 OF THE CODE OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA (ANNOTATED), BY AMENDING CHAPTER 1 TO ADD A NEW SECTION 101 TO DEFINE HANDWRITTEN SIGNATURES AND ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES, TO ADD A NEW SECTION 102 TO RECOGNIZE ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES WITH THE VALIDITY AS HANDWRITTEN SIGNATURES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.",

begs leave to report as follows:

The intent and purpose of this bill are expressed in its title.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 24-33

RE: C.B. No. 24-94/J&GO/R&D

SUBJECT: TO AMEND TITLE 33 OF THE CODE OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA (ANNOTATED), BY AMENDING CHAPTER 1 TO ADD A NEW SECTION 101 TO DEFINE HANDWRITTEN SIGNATURES AND ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES, TO ADD A NEW SECTION 102 TO RECOGNIZE ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES WITH THE VALIDITY AS HANDWRITTEN SIGNATURES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

MAY 20, 2026

Your Committee received Congress Bill No. 24-94 that adds a new section 101 to define handwritten signatures and electronic signatures, to add a new section 102 to recognize electronic signatures with the validity as handwritten signatures.

Your Committee held public hearings in Yap (November 25, 2025), Chuuk (November 28, 2025), and Kosrae (December 2, 2025), to meet with the Legislative branch, Executive branch, and the general public to brief them on all the cybersecurity bills and to solicit comments. Chairman of the J&GO Committee, Senator Andy P. Choor, who served as head of the delegation, and Senator Perpetua S. Konman. Senator Yoslyn G. Sigrah joined your Committee in Kosrae. Your Committee was joined by the Secretary of the Department of Transportation, Communications, and Infrastructure (hereafter "TC&I"), Carl Apis; Assistant Secretary for TC&I, Edward Albert for all the hearings and Assistant Secretary of the Department of Justice's Cybersecurity Division (hereafter "DOJ"), Minoru Stephen, joined the hearings in Yap and Kosrae. Your delegation was supported by Congress Staff Attorney Catherine Allen and Legislative Counsel for the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, Yancy Cottrill.

November 25, 2025, Yap State Legislative Chamber

Chairman Choor addressed the two bills dealing with electronic signatures, C.B. No. 24-23 and 24-94. It was explained that the bill was jointly assigned to the J&GO Committee and the Committee on Resources and Development as it will have an effect on commerce.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 24-33

RE: C.B. No. 24-94/J&GO/R&D

SUBJECT: TO AMEND TITLE 33 OF THE CODE OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA (ANNOTATED), BY AMENDING CHAPTER 1 TO ADD A NEW SECTION 101 TO DEFINE HANDWRITTEN SIGNATURES AND ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES, TO ADD A NEW SECTION 102 TO RECOGNIZE ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES WITH THE VALIDITY AS HANDWRITTEN SIGNATURES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

MAY 20, 2026

Legislative Counsel Cottrill explained that there are two bills because the Executive sent over C.B. No. 24-23 and Chairman Choor drafted a much simpler bill, C.B. No. 24-94, which allows the Executive to issue regulations. There were no questions or suggestions regarding the electronic signature bills.

November 28, 2025, Chuuk State Legislative Chamber

Chairman Choor discussed the electronic signature bills C.B. Nos. 24-23 and 24-94 at the end of the hearing. Chairman Choor explained the intent behind C.B. No. 24-94, in simplifying the process. There were no questions regarding these two bills.

December 2, 2025, Kosrae State Legislative Chamber

The discussion regarding C.B. Nos. 24-23 and 24-94 in Kosrae was brief due to time constraints. Chairman Choor encouraged the Kosrae legislature, executive, and courts to submit their comments to the Committee for consideration.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 24-33

RE: C.B. No. 24-94/J&GO/R&D

SUBJECT: TO AMEND TITLE 33 OF THE CODE OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA (ANNOTATED), BY AMENDING CHAPTER 1 TO ADD A NEW SECTION 101 TO DEFINE HANDWRITTEN SIGNATURES AND ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES, TO ADD A NEW SECTION 102 TO RECOGNIZE ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES WITH THE VALIDITY AS HANDWRITTEN SIGNATURES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

MAY 20, 2026

Pohnpei and Comments

Your Committee was unable to schedule at time with the Pohnpei Legislature to hold a public hearing on Pohnpei. Your Committee sent a letter to the Pohnpei Legislature, the Pohnpei State Supreme Court, and to the Governor's office on April 8, 2026 soliciting comments on all the cybersecurity bills. As of date, your Committee has not received any comments from Pohnpei state.

Your Committee encouraged all the states to send us comments and formal suggestions to improve the cybersecurity legislation. Your Committee received detailed suggestions and comments from the Kosrae State Government on January 14, 2026. Please find their comments attached to this report. To date, your Committee has not received any correspondence from the Yap or Chuuk governments regarding any of the cybersecurity bills.

CONCLUSION

Your Committee believes that C.B. No. 24-94 provides a much quicker and simpler path to accomplish the same goal as C.B. No. 24-23. Your Committee on Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations has carefully reviewed C.B. No. 24-94, held public hearings in three of the states, solicited comments, and now defers to the Committee on Resources and Development, to which this bill is jointly assigned, to render a recommendation.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 24-33

RE: C.B. No. 24-94/J&GO/R&D

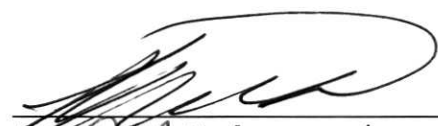
SUBJECT: TO AMEND TITLE 33 OF THE CODE OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA (ANNOTATED), BY AMENDING CHAPTER 1 TO ADD A NEW SECTION 101 TO DEFINE HANDWRITTEN SIGNATURES AND ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES, TO ADD A NEW SECTION 102 TO RECOGNIZE ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES WITH THE VALIDITY AS HANDWRITTEN SIGNATURES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

MAY 20, 2026

Respectfully submitted,



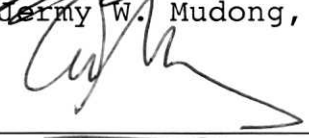
Andy P. Choor, chairman



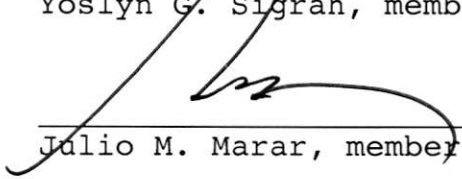
Jerry W. Mudong, vice-chairman



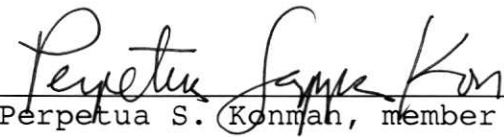
Yoslyn G. Sigrah, member



Esmond B. Moses, member



Julio M. Marar, member



Perpetua S. Konnah, member

Robson U. Romolow, member

A BILL FOR AN ACT

To amend title 33 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated), by amending chapter 1 to add a new section 101 to define handwritten signatures and electronic signatures, to add a new section 102 to recognize electronic signatures with the validity as handwritten signatures, and for other purposes.

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

2 Section 1. Chapter 1 of Title 33 of the Code of the
3 Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated), is hereby
4 amended by adding a new section 101, to read as follows:

5 "Section 101. Definitions.

6 When used in this chapter:

7 (1) "Handwritten signature" means a
8 handwritten mark or sign made by a person, it does
9 not need to be legible or in English, and may be
10 abbreviated as long as this is consistent with how
11 the person signing normally signs his or her name.
12 A person may use an "X" or similar mark as his or
13 her signature;

14 (2) "Electronic Signature" means an electronic sound,
15 symbol, or process, attached to or logically associated
16 with a contract or other record and executed or adopted
17 by an individual with the intent to sign the record."

18 Section 2. Chapter 1 of Title 33 of the Code of the
19 Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated), is hereby amended

1 by adding a new section 102, to read as follows:

2 "Section 102. Electronic signatures.

3 (1) Electronic signatures shall have the same
4 validity as handwritten signatures;

5 (2) the framework and any other implementing measures
6 will be promulgated by regulations by the Department of
7 Resources and Development in conjunction and
8 consultation with other relevant departments within the
9 Executive branch."

10 Section 3. This act shall become law upon approval by
11 the President of the Federated States of Micronesia or upon
12 its becoming law without such approval.

13

14 Date: 11/15/25

Introduced by:



Andy P. Chopr

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25