



*The President*  
*Palikir, Pohnpei*  
*Federated States of Micronesia*

PRESIDENTIAL COMM. NO. 16-234  
FSM CONGRESS

June 29, 2010

The Honorable Isaac V. Figir  
Speaker  
16<sup>th</sup> FSM Congress  
Palikir, Pohnpei State, FM 96941



Dear Speaker Figir:

I am pleased to transmit herewith the following Congressional Act which I have signed to become Public Law No.16-37, to wit:

Congressional Act No. 16-40, "AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 40 OF THE CODE OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA BY ADDING A NEW SUBCHAPTER VI WITHIN CHAPTER 3 TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AWARDING SELECTED HIGH SCHOOL VALEDICTORIANS A SCHOLARSHIP OF UP TO \$25,000 PER YEAR FOR UP TO FOUR YEARS TO BE APPLIED TO THE TUITION FEES OF THE COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY OF THE VALEDICTORIAN'S CHOICE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

The program established in the act has laudable objectives. Our Nation needs more of this type of program as a form of investment. Scholarship programs build capacity for future leaders, public servants, technocrats and economic drivers in the private sector. This program requires as well substantial funding in order to succeed. While I commend Congress for this legislative measure, I also encourage that we work together to ensure the viability of the scholarship program, particularly since this act creates a public expectation for its continuity and sustainability.

I take this opportunity to thank you and all the members of Congress for your hard work and for the passage of this act.

With warm personal regards, I remain,

Sincerely,

  
Manny Mori  
President

Enclosures:

xc: Acting Chief Justice, FSM Supreme Court  
Secretary, Department of Justice  
Director, Office of SBOC  
Legislative Counsel, CFSM  
Library, CFSM  
PIO, FSM



CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

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Office of the Chief Clerk

June 02, 2010

His Excellency Manny Mori  
President  
Federated States of Micronesia  
Palikir, Pohnpei FM 96941



Dear President Mori:

I have the honor to transmit herewith Congressional Act No. 16-40, "AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 40 OF THE CODE OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA BY ADDING A NEW SUBCHAPTER VI WITHIN CHAPTER 3 TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AWARDING SELECTED HIGH SCHOOL VALEDICTORIANS A SCHOLARSHIP OF UP TO \$25,000 PER YEAR FOR UP TO FOUR YEARS TO BE APPLIED TO THE TUITION AND FEES OF THE COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY OF THE VALEDICTORIAN'S CHOICE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.", which was passed by the Sixteenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, Fourth Regular Session, 2010, by a two-thirds vote of all the State delegations as required and as duly certified.

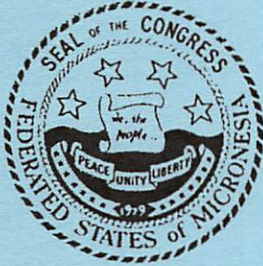
Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Liwiana Ramon Ioanis".

Liwiana Ramon Ioanis  
Chief Clerk, Congress of the  
Federated States of Micronesia

Enclosures





SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE  
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA  
FOURTH REGULAR SESSION  
MAY 11 - 30, 2010

PUBLIC LAW No. 16-37

## An Act

TO AMEND TITLE 40 OF THE CODE OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA BY ADDING A NEW SUBCHAPTER VI WITHIN CHAPTER 3 TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AWARDING SELECTED HIGH SCHOOL VALEDICTORIANS A SCHOLARSHIP OF UP TO \$25,000 PER YEAR FOR UP TO FOUR YEARS TO BE APPLIED TO THE TUITION AND FEES OF THE COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY OF THE VALEDICTORIAN'S CHOICE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

INTRODUCED BY: SENATOR DOHSIS HALBERT

DATE: MAY 20, 2009

REFERRED TO: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
S.C.R. NO. 16-89 – MAY 29, 2010

FIRST READING: MAY 29, 2010

SECOND READING: MAY 30, 2010

Liwiana Ramon Ioanis  
Chief Clerk, FSM Congress





CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

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*Office of the Speaker*

ACT NO. 16-40

(CONGRESSIONAL BILL NO. 16-17, C.D.1)

We hereby certify that on May 30 the foregoing act passed Second and Final Reading of the Sixteenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, Fourth Regular Session, 2010, by a two-thirds vote of all the State delegations as required under article IX, section 20, of the Constitution of the Federated States of Micronesia.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Isaac V. Figir".

Isaac V. Figir  
Speaker  
Congress of the  
Federated States of Micronesia

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Liwiana Ramon Ioanis".

Liwiana Ramon Ioanis  
Chief Clerk  
Congress of the  
Federated States of Micronesia

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**PUBLIC LAW No. 16-37**

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AN ACT

To amend Title 40 of the Code of the Federated states of Micronesia by adding a new subchapter VI within chapter 3 to establish a National Merit Scholarship Program awarding selected high school valedictorians a scholarship of up to \$25,000 per year for up to four years to be applied to the tuition and fees of the college or university of the valedictorian's choice, and for other purposes.

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

1       Section 1. Purpose. The Federated States of Micronesia  
2 hereby establishes a National Merit Scholarship Program. The  
3 intent of the Program is to create an exceptional scholarship  
4 program recognizing and awarding the very top high school  
5 valedictorians in the Federated States of Micronesia.

6       Section 2. Title 40 of the Code of the Federated States of  
7 Micronesia is hereby amended by adding a new subchapter VI within  
8 chapter 3 entitled "National Merit Scholarship Program."

9       Section 3. Title 40 of the Code of the Federated States of  
10 Micronesia is hereby further amended by adding within the new  
11 subchapter VI of chapter 3 a new section 381 as follows:

12               "Section 381. Definitions

13               (1) 'Valedictorian' means an individual graduating  
14 with the highest Grade Point Average (GPA) of all  
15 students in that individual's high school graduating  
16 class;

17               (2) 'National Merit Scholar' means an individual who:

18                       (a) Is a citizen of the Federated States of  
19 Micronesia;

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1                   (b) Graduated or will graduate as valedictorian  
2                   of a high school located within the Federated States of  
3                   Micronesia;

4                   (c) Plans to enroll in or attend any college or  
5                   university within twelve months after high school  
6                   graduation;

7                   (d) Has taken and passed the COM-FSM Entrance Test  
8                   (COMET); and

9                   (e) Was selected in accordance to the procedures  
10                  set forth in Section 383."

11               Section 4. Title 40 of the Code of the Federated States of  
12               Micronesia is hereby further amended by adding within the new  
13               subchapter VI of chapter 3 a new section 382 as follows:

14               "Section 382. Benefits

15               Individuals selected as National Merit Scholars shall  
16               receive the following benefits:

17               (1) Recognition as a National Merit Scholar under the  
18               Federated States of Micronesia National Merit  
19               Scholarship Program; and

20               (2) Payment of undergraduate tuition and fees directly  
21               to the attending college or university (but not payment  
22               towards living expenses, books or other incidental  
23               expenses) of up to \$25,000 per year for up to four years  
24               as long as the Merit Scholar maintains a minimum 3.2  
25               grade point average (GPA)."

1       Section 5. Title 40 of the Code of the Federated States of  
2 Micronesia is hereby further amended by adding within the new  
3 subchapter VI of chapter 3 a new section 383 as follows:

4           "Section 383 - Selection

5           (1) The Secretary of Education shall administer the  
6 National Merit Scholarship Program.

7           (2) Each year the Secretary shall invite applications  
8 from individuals meeting the requirements of Section  
9 381(2)(a) through (d).

10          (3) No application shall be accepted from individuals  
11 who graduated more than 12 months before the date of the  
12 application.

13          (4) Applications shall include the individual's COM-  
14 FSM Entrance Test (COMET) score.

15          (5) No later than 30 days from the closing date of  
16 receipt of applications, the Secretary shall announce  
17 the appointment of the National Merit Scholars.

18          (6) A maximum of four applicants, and no more than one  
19 applicant per State, shall be selected as a National  
20 Merit Scholar per year. An applicant is considered an  
21 applicant of the State where the applicant permanently  
22 resides, and not of the State where the applicant  
23 attended high school, if the applicant attended a high  
24 school outside of the applicant's usual State of  
25 residency. The applicant from each State who meets all

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**PUBLIC LAW No. 16-37**

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1           eligibility requirements and scores the highest COMET  
2           score shall be selected that State's National Merit  
3           Scholar for the year.

4           (7) In the event that two applicants from one State  
5           meet all eligibility requirements and score the same  
6           COMET score, each applicant will be designated a  
7           National Merit Scholar and receive the benefits set  
8           forth in Section 382. In the event there is no eligible  
9           applicant from a State in a given year, no National  
10          Merit Scholar from that State shall be selected for the  
11          year.

12          (8) The Secretary is authorized to promulgate rules  
13          and regulations to implement, administer and otherwise  
14          further the intent of this Program."  
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**PUBLIC LAW No. 16-37**

Section 6. This act shall become law upon approval by the President of the Federated States of Micronesia or upon its becoming law without such approval.

June 29, 2010

For 

Manny Mori  
President  
Federated States of Micronesia