A BILL FOR AN ACT

To further amend title 54 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia, regarding taxation, as amended, by further amending section 112, as amended by Public Law No. 7-41, to exclude the foreign service premium from the wages and salaries tax, and for other purposes.

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

Section 1. Section 112 of title 54 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia, as amended by Public Law No. 7-41, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"Section 112. Definitions. Wherever used in this chapter, unless the subject matter, context, or sense otherwise requires.

(1) 'Business' means any profession, trade, manufacture, or other undertaking carried on for pecuniary profit and includes all activities whether personal, professional, or incorporated, carried on within the Federated States of Micronesia for economic benefit either direct or indirect, and excludes casual sale, as determined by the Secretary; however, one who qualifies as an employee under this section shall not be considered as a business. Copra production by unincorporated copra producers collectively 'or severally shall not be included as a business under this definition.

(2) 'Commercial aircraft' means any aircraft capable of and intended for use in commercial aviation.

(3) 'Employee' means any individual who, under the usual common law rules applicable in determining the employer-employee relationship, has the status of an employee.

(4) 'Employer' includes any individual, corporation, association, joint stock company, bank, insurance company, credit union, cooperative, or other equity or group employing any person, and also includes the Federated States of Micronesia, State and local governments, and their agencies, charged with the disbursement of public moneys as salaries or wages. 'Employer' also includes the
United States Government and instrumentalities thereof.

(5) 'Gross revenue' means the gross receipts, cash or accrued, of the taxpayer received as compensation for personal services not in the form of salaries or wages as defined in subsection (11) of this section and the gross receipts of the taxpayer derived from trade, business, commerce, or sales and the value proceeding or accruing from the sale of tangible personal property, or services, or both, and all receipts, actual or accrued by interest, rentals, royalties, fees, or other emoluments however designated and without any deductions on account of the cost of property sold, the cost of materials used, labor cost, taxes, royalties, or interest paid or any other expenses whatsoever.

Gross revenue shall not include the following:

(a) refunds and rebates;

(b) moneys held in a fiduciary capacity;

(c) income in the form of wages and salaries which are taxed under other provisions of this chapter;

(d) sale payments received for the sale of a commercial aircraft, to the extent that such sale payments in any quarter shall equal the rental payments made to the buyer by the seller of such aircraft for its rental by seller;

(e) rental payments received for the rental of a commercial aircraft, to the extent that such rental payments in any quarter shall equal the sale payments made to the lessor by lessee of such aircraft for its purchase by the lessor;
(f) cash discounts allowed and taken on sales, the
proceeds of sale of goods, wares, or merchandise returned by
customers when the sale price is refunded either in cash or by
credit; or the sale price of any article accepted as part of
payment of any new article sold, if the full sale price of a new
article is included in 'gross revenue'; or

(g) gross revenue received by an international
organization, foreign contractor, or other foreign entity paid from
foreign aid proceeds donated to the Federated States of
Micronesia pursuant to a foreign aid agreement entered into by
the Federated States of Micronesia, the terms of which require
that such gross revenue shall not be subject to taxation by the
Government of the Federated States of Micronesia.

(6) 'Military or Naval Forces of the United States' and 'Armed
Forces of the United States' means all regular and reserve
components of the uniformed services which are subject to the
jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Army, Navy, or Air Force, and
also includes the Coast Guard.

(7) 'Month' means calendar month.

(8) 'Purchase Payments' means payments on the actual selling
price, including any interest, carrying charges, or other charges
associated with a sale. As used herein, the word 'sale' implies a
transfer of ownership of that which is sold, in exchange for the
purchase payments or promise thereof.

(9) 'Rental payments' means any payments made in exchange
for use or rental, and includes interest, carrying charges, or other charges associated with use or rental.

(10) 'Secretary' means the Secretary of the Department of Finance.

(11) 'Wages' or 'Salaries' means and includes commissions, fees, compensation, emoluments, bonuses, and every and all other kinds of compensation paid for, credited, or attributable to personal services performed by such person as an employee.

Wages and salaries shall not include the following:

(a) wages and salaries received from the United States by members of the Military or Naval Forces of the United States or the Armed Forces of the United States;

(b) reasonable per diem and travel allowances to the extent that they do not exceed any comparable Federated States of Micronesia Government rates;

(c) rental value of a home furnished to any employee or a reasonable rental allowance paid to any employee (to the extent such allowance is used by the employee to rent or provide a home);

(d) any payment on account of sickness or accident disability, or any payment of medical or hospitalization expenses, made by an employer to or on behalf of an employee; provided however, that normal wages or salaries paid to an employee for a period of time during which he is excused from work because of sickness shall not be excluded from wages and salaries under this
subsection;

(e) any payment made to or on behalf of an employee
or to his beneficiary from a trust or annuity;

(f) remuneration paid in any medium other than cash to
an employee for services not in the ordinary course of the
employer's trade or business or for domestic service in a private
home of an employer;

(g) remuneration paid for casual or intermittent labor
not performed in the ordinary course of the employer's trade or
business and for not more than one week in each calendar month;

(h) any payment in the form of a scholarship, fellowship,
or stipend made to any employee while he is a full time, bona fide
student at an educational institution;

(i) wages and salaries received by a minister of the
gospel or clergyman from a religious group or organization;

(j) wages and salaries received by an employee for
services performed or rendered in the capacity of a domestic or
household employee for a private individual or family; \( \beta \)

(k) wages and salaries received by an employee, who is
not a citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia, while employed
by an international organization, foreign contractor, or other
foreign entity performing services or otherwise conducting business
in furtherance of a foreign aid agreement entered into by the
Federated States of Micronesia, the terms of which require that
such wages and salaries shall not be subject to taxation by the
Government of the Federated States of Micronesia; or

(l) the foreign service premium authorized by section

163 of title 52 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia.

(12) 'Year' means calendar year."

Section 2. This act shall become law upon approval by the President of the Federated States of Micronesia or upon its becoming law without such approval.

Date: 02/10/98

Introduced by:

Yosiwo P. George