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A BILL FOR AN ACT

To further amend title 52 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia, as amended, by adding a new chapter 5, for the purpose of establishing policies and restrictions concerning housing provided to FSM National Government officials and employees, including the imposition of a charge and establishment of a Government Housing Fund therefor, and for other purposes.

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

1 Section 1. Title 52 of the Code of the Federated  
2 States of Micronesia is hereby further amended by adding  
3 a new chapter 5, to be headed as follows:

4 "Chapter 5. Miscellaneous."

5 Section 2. Title 52 of the Code of the Federated  
6 States of Micronesia is hereby further amended by adding  
7 a new subchapter I of chapter 5 to be headed as follows:

8 "Subchapter I. Government Housing."

9 Section 3. Title 52 of the Code of the Federated  
10 States of Micronesia is hereby further amended by adding  
11 a new section 501 of subchapter I of chapter 5 to read as  
12 follows:

13 "Section 501. Housing Benefits.

14 (1) Housing benefits may be provided to FSM  
15 National Government ('Government') officials and  
16 upper-level employees according to regulations only  
17 where necessary to reduce the hardship associated with  
18 recruitment or transfer of such persons to duty  
19 stations beyond normal commuting distance from their  
20 places of residence at time of recruitment or  
21 transfer.

22 (2) In circumstances where an official or  
23 employee is eligible under the regulations for housing  
24 benefits, the official or employee may elect to  
25 receive housing or a housing allowance. If the

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1 official or employee elects to receive housing, the  
2 Personnel Officer shall provide the employee with  
3 government-owned or leased housing and shall charge  
4 the official or employee an amount not more than  
5 fifteen dollars per month per bedroom for the housing,  
6 provided that officials eligible for housing under  
7 subsection (3) shall be exempt from the charge.

8 (3) Unless the official owns a home within  
9 normal commuting distance from his duty station,  
10 housing may be provided on Pohnpei to the President  
11 and Vice President of the Federated States of  
12 Micronesia and the Speaker of Congress of the  
13 Federated States of Micronesia, and in the State in  
14 which the justice sits to the Chief Justice and  
15 Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the  
16 Federated States of Micronesia.

17 (4) In the event that the President, Speaker or  
18 Chief Justice is ineligible for a housing allowance  
19 because he owns in home within normal commuting  
20 distance of his duty station, the Government may, upon  
21 approval according to regulation, improve his home in  
22 in order to make it suitable for the housing and  
23 official entertainment needs of an official of high  
24 standing.

25 (5) The Government may not rent from an

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1 official or employee, or from a close relative of the  
2 official or employee, to provide the official or  
3 employee with housing. 'Close relative' means spouse,  
4 parent, child, including adoptive and step parents and  
5 children, brother, and sister.

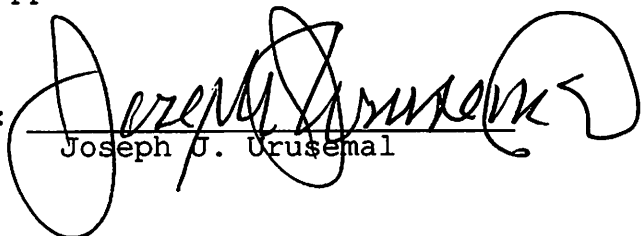
6 (6) Funds received pursuant to this section  
7 shall be deposited into the Government Housing Fund,  
8 hereby created as a fund separate from the General  
9 Fund. Funds so deposited shall be available to defray  
10 expenses of the Government incurred in the maintenance  
11 and repair of housing; provided, that at no time  
12 shall the total amount of monies in the Government  
13 Housing Fund exceed \$50,000; and provided further,  
14 that any revenues received which would cause the total  
15 amount of monies in the Government Housing Fund to  
16 exceed \$50,000 shall be deposited in the General Fund  
17 of the Federated States of Micronesia."

18 Section 4. This act shall become law upon approval by  
19 the President of the Federated States of Micronesia or  
20 upon its becoming law without such approval.

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22 Date: 2/17/98

Introduced by:

  
Joseph J. Urusemal

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