A RESOLUTION

Supporting the bid of the Republic of China (Taiwan) to participate in the World Health Organization as an observer.

1 WHEREAS, the goal of the World Health Organization (WHO) is "the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health"; and

2 WHEREAS, the Republic of China (Taiwan) has been excluded from participation in the WHO; and

3 WHEREAS, good health is a basic right for every citizen of the world and access to the highest standards of health information and services is necessary to help guarantee this right; and

4 WHEREAS, wide-spread participation in international health cooperation organizations, forums and programs by countries in all parts of the world is crucial, especially with the ever-increasing potential for the spread of various infectious diseases such as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) across national boundaries; and

5 WHEREAS, Taiwan has the capability and has expressed its willingness to provide financial and technical assistance to health care activities around the world; and

6 WHEREAS, Taiwan's exclusion from the WHO creates a gap in the global health network that seeks to ensure the health of the people of the WHO member states, reduces its ability to effectively share its health-related resources with the
international community, and denies its 23 million citizens access
to health information, technology and key medical supplies
available to citizens of the other 190 member countries of the
WHO; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan has requested the support of the Federated
States of Micronesia in its bid to achieve observer status in the
WHO, a bid that has been supported by the United States and the
European Parliament, among others; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Thirteenth Congress of the Federated
States of Micronesia, First Regular Session, 2003, that the
Congress hereby extends its support to Taiwan in its bid to
participate in the World Health Organization as an observer;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
resolution be transmitted to the President of the Federated States
of Micronesia, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, and to the
Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan).

Date: 5/13/03  Introduced by: /s/ Peter M. Christian
Peter M. Christian

Co-sponsored by: /s/ Henry C. Asugar
Henry C. Asugar