A RESOLUTION

Expressing support by the Seventeenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia on providing local revenue funding for the College of Micronesia-FSM.

1. WHEREAS, the College of Micronesia-FSM (COM-FSM) is the national institution of higher education for the Federated States of Micronesia with campuses in all four states, and
2. WHEREAS, COM-FSM is fully accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior College (ACCJC) of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges; and
3. WHEREAS, COM-FSM is committed to continually improving its program and services, assisting with the workforce development of the Nation and increasing student success; and
4. WHEREAS, the ACCJC has expressed concern about the sustainability of funding for COM-FSM; and
5. WHEREAS, changes in the Pell Grant eligibility and reduction in Compact scholarship funds are affecting students ability to pay for their higher education; and
6. WHEREAS, the Joint Economic Management Committee (JEMCO) passed resolution 2011-2 reducing Education Sector Grant (SEG) funding for the college by $2,800,000 over four years starting with $700,000 in FY 2013, and
7. WHEREAS, the FSM National Government has showed it support for the sustainability of COM-FSM by funding $700,000 from local
revenue in FY 2013 in response to the reduction in Compact funds; and

WHEREAS, COM-FSM must demonstrate to ACCJC that it has financial resources for long term sustainability of its programs and services to the Nation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Seventeenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, Fourth Special Session, 2012, that Congress is hereby committed to ensuring the financial sustainability of COM-FSM in the interest of providing quality education for the future of our students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia expresses its view that local revenue be utilized to fund COM-FSM to replace the reduction in SEG funding in FY 2014, FY 2015, FY 2016 and maintain a sustainable level of local revenue support for future years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the Federated States of Micronesia, the President of the College of Micronesia-FSM and the Secretary of Foreign Affairs.

Date: 11/19/12

Introduced by: /s/ Florencio S. Harper
Florencio S. Harper
(by request)