June 2, 2016

The Honorable Wesley W. Simina
Speaker
Nineteenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia
Palikir, Pohnpei FM 96941

Dear Speaker Simina:

I am transmitting the following Congressional Act, which I have signed to become Public Law No. 19-85:

Congressional Act No. 19-86: AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON COMPACT REVIEW AND PLANNING AND ITS SECRETARIAT, FOR THE PURPOSE OF COORDINATING THE NATION’S PREPARATION EFFORTS TOWARDS EFFECTIVE AND SMOOTH POST COMPACT GOVERNMENT UPON EXPIRATION OF THE COMPACT IN 2023, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Sincerely,

Peter M. Christian
President

Enclosures:

Xc: Chief Justice, FSM Supreme Court
Secretary, Department of Justice
Secretary, Department of Finance and Administration
Legislative Counsel, CFSM
Library, CFSM
FSM PIO
May 25, 2016

His Excellency Peter M. Christian
President
Federated States of Micronesia
Palikir, Pohnpei FM 96941

Dear President Christian:

I have the honor to transmit herewith Congressional Act No. 19-86, "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON COMPACT REVIEW AND PLANNING AND ITS SECRETARIAT, FOR THE PURPOSE OF COORDINATING THE NATION’S PREPARATION EFFORTS TOWARDS EFFECTIVE AND SMOOTH POST COMPACT GOVERNMENT UPON EXPIRATION OF THE COMPACT IN 2023, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.", which was passed by the Nineteenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, Fourth Regular Session, 2016, by a two-thirds vote of all the State delegations as required and as duly certified.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

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

Enclosures
An Act

TO ESTABLISH THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON COMPACT REVIEW AND PLANNING AND ITS SECRETARIAT, FOR THE PURPOSE OF COORDINATING THE NATION'S PREPARATION EFFORTS TOWARDS EFFECTIVE AND SMOOTH POST COMPACT GOVERNMENT UPON EXPIRATION OF THE COMPACT IN 2023, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR: ISAAC V. FIGIR

DATE: MAY 22, 2015

REFERRED TO: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS


FIRST READING: MAY 19, 2016
SECOND READING: MAY 23, 2016

Liwiana Ramon Ioanis
Chief Clerk, FSM Congress
ACT NO. 19-86

(CONGRESSIONAL BILL NO. 19-12, C.D.1)

We hereby certify that on May 23 the foregoing act passed Second and Final Reading of the Nineteenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, Fourth Regular Session, 2016, 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.

Wesley W. Simina
Speaker
Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia

Liwiana Ramon Toanis
Chief Clerk
Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia
AN ACT

To establish the Joint Committee on Compact Review and Planning and its Secretariat, for the purpose of coordinating the Nation’s preparation efforts towards effective and smooth post Compact government upon expiration of the Compact in 2023, and for other purposes.

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

1 Section 1. Purpose. In 1986 the Governments of the
2 Federated States of Micronesia and the United States of America
3 entered into a treaty of cooperation styled as the Compact of Free
4 Association. The treaty acknowledged and declared the terms of
5 financial, economic, and defense exchanged between the Parties for
6 the mutual benefit of the two governments. In 2023 the economic
7 and financial terms of the Compact of Free Association between the
8 Government of the Federated States of Micronesia and the
9 Government of the United States of America will expire. Certain
10 terms, including defense and immigration provisions continue
11 indefinitely until one or both parties to the treaty decide to end
12 such terms as well. It is now incumbent on the Government of the
13 Federated States of Micronesia to prepare for the eventual
14 expiration of the economic and financial assistance from the
15 United States of America. In anticipation of the termination of
16 the financial provisions of the Amended Compact of Free
17 Association in 2023, there is hereby established a joint committee
18 of the Executive and Legislative branches.
Section 2. Establishment of the Joint Committee on Compact Review and Planning. There is hereby created and established a joint committee to be known as the Joint Committee on Compact Review and Planning ("JCRP"), comprising nine members as follows: one representative from each of the four States, as appointed by the President in consultation with the leadership of each State, and four representatives from the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, one from each congressional delegation. The Secretary of Foreign Affairs shall be a member ex officio. He shall chair the Joint Committee's first meeting, and organize the election of its Chairman and Vice Chairman. Six of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Decisions shall be made within the Committee by at least five concurring votes, with each participating member casting a single vote.

Section 3. Meetings. The JCRP shall hold its first meeting at the call of the acting Chairman. Subsequent meetings shall be held in accordance with a schedule set by the JCRP covering the entire period between the first meeting and the termination of the Amended Compact in 2023.

Section 4. Mandate. The JCRP shall carry out the following responsibilities and obligations:

(1) In consultation with the Congress, set goals and objectives in anticipation of the termination of the Amended Compact of Free Association;
(2) Conduct a thorough analysis of all factors relating the future of the Nation;
(3) Develop all necessary strategies and approaches to enable the Federated States of Micronesia to explore alternatives for the future of the Nation;
(4) Direct its Secretariat in preparing the documentation necessary to accomplish its responsibilities hereunder;
(5) Analyze all economic information available on the Federated States of Micronesia, with the aim of identifying the FSM's continuing requirement for reasonable, fair, and effective financial assistance from all sources from the year 2023 onward;
(6) Provide reports periodically to the Congress at each regular session, and to the Office of the President, on all developments, actual or potential, positive or negative, that may be related to the future of the Nation, including but not limited to new information, actions, communications, domestic and foreign policies, bilateral and multilateral plans, as well as periodic surveys exploring the value of net benefits to a foreign nation from an exclusive security prerogative; and
(7) Collaborate with the State Governments, the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Congress, and the Office of the President in identifying the nominees for the JCRP whose selection will be subject to Congress's expressed approval; and
(8) Use funds for each separate category of expense
1 only up to the aggregate amount of the line-items of the
2 corresponding expense category set out in the associated
3 appropriations bill or bills approved by Congress, and select and
4 hire the personnel needed to staff the Secretariat, as specified
5 in section 6 below.

6  Section 5. Financing of the JCRP.
7  (1) The President shall include the JCRP operations
8 budget in his annual budget to Congress;
9  (2) The departments and agencies of the Executive
10 Branch shall cooperate in providing information and other
11 logistical support to the JCRP upon request; and
12  (3) The expenses of experts and consultants for the
13 governments (state and national) traveling with JCRP shall be
14 borne by their agencies of origin.

15  Section 6. Establishment of the Secretariat. There is
16 hereby created and established a full-time Secretariat for the
17 JCRP. The Secretariat shall consist of an Executive Director,
18 an Administrative Officer, a staff counsel, and a secretary, all
19 based in Pohnpei. The Secretariat shall have the following
20 responsibilities.
21  (1) Provide all administrative and logistical support
22 to the JCRP, and shall (a) prepare an annual budget for approval
23 by the Joint Committee, (b) transmit an approved budget to the
24 President to submit, with comments, to the Congress of the
25 Federated States of Micronesia;
(2) Coordinate with the various departments, offices and agencies of the FSM and State Governments to collect all information and technical input necessary for satisfying its responsibilities; and

(3) As directed by the JCRP, hire professionals including an outside developmental economist and other consultants with expertise in security or defense policy to assist the Joint Committee with any aspect of its responsibilities, particularly that are provided under section 4(5) above.

Section 7. This act shall become law upon approval by the President of the Federated States of Micronesia or upon its becoming law without such approval.

Jun 2nd, 2016

Peter M. Christian
President
Federated States of Micronesia