A RESOLUTION

To amend section 1 of rule 6, and to create a new section 8 of rule 7 of the Official Rules of Procedure of the Nineteenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, to remove a portion of the duties of the Committee on Resources and Development, and to create a new standing committee entitled: “Environmental Affairs”.

1 WHEREAS, the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia is governed by its Official Rules of Procedure; and;
2 and
3 WHEREAS, rule 15 of the Official Rules of Procedure stipulates that a motion is required to amend the said rules;
4 and
5 WHEREAS, a Congressional Resolution is a transparent and open mechanism for an amendment to the Official Rules of Procedure; and
6 WHEREAS, section 1 of rule 6 as currently written sets forth that the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia shall have seven standing committees; and
7 WHEREAS, the Members of the Nineteenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia desire that an eighth standing committee be created, entitled: “Environmental Affairs”; and
8 WHEREAS, the Members of the Nineteenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia strongly believe that matters pertaining to climate change, sustainable use of resources, protection of the natural environment and health of all living
things require the special dedication and oversight, and can not be properly dealt with under the larger rubric of the Standing Committee for Resources and Development; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Nineteenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, Eighth Special Session, 2017 that Congress hereby adopts amendments to section 1 of rule 6, and a new section 8 of rule 7 of the Official Rules of Procedure to read as follows:

Section 1 of Rule 6 be amended, to read as follows:

“Section 1. Types of committees. There shall be eight standing committees established by the Rules. The standing committees shall be organized pursuant to Rules 6 and 7. Special committees shall be established by the Speaker as required to consider and report on such special or temporary matters as are referred to them. Special committees shall be temporary committees, which shall remain in existence until discharged by the Speaker, subject to appeal to the Congress. The Congress may resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole, consisting of the entire membership of the Congress, whenever it decides to consider a matter as a committee. The Committee of the Whole shall remain in being until such time as it dissolves itself and reports back to the Congress.”
Section 1 of Rule 6 be amended, to read as follows:

"Section 1. Types of committees. There shall be [seven] eight standing committees established by the Rules. The standing committees shall be organized pursuant to Rules 6 and 7. Special committees shall be established by the Speaker as required to consider and report on such special or temporary matters as are referred to them. Special committees shall be temporary committees, which shall remain in existence until discharged by the Speaker, subject to appeal to the Congress. The Congress may resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole, consisting of the entire membership of the Congress, whenever it decides to consider a matter as a committee. The Committee of the Whole shall remain in being until such time as it dissolves itself and reports back to the Congress."

Rule 7 to be amended to create a new Section 8, to read as follows:

"Section 8. Environmental Affairs.

(a) The Committee on Environmental Affairs shall consist of not more than seven members with at least one member from each of the four states. It shall be the duty of this Committee to consider and report on all bills, resolutions, and other matters referred to it regarding the health and protection of
the natural environment of the Federated States of Micronesia. It shall be the specific duty of this committee to consider, investigate, and recommend to Congress any needed revisions of existing laws or new legislation relation to the mitigation and adaptation to climate change, protection and conservation of the natural environment and the health and sustainability of the practices that impact the environment.

(b) This committee shall be responsible, for reviewing specific subjects in the budget of the President, and all supplements thereto, which make a request for an appropriation, with relates to a subject matter within its jurisdiction. Pursuant to its review the committee shall recommend whether the matters referred to it, or portions thereof, will be authorized, and if so, in what amount. Following its review the Committee shall promptly report its recommendation the Congress. Those subjects which fall with the jurisdiction of this committee include, but are not limited to, the following:
(i) Office of Environment of Emergency Management.”

Date: 3/29/17

Introduced by: /s/ Wesley W. Simina

Wesley W. Simina