

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 20-16

RE: P.C. NO. 20-39/T&C

SUBJECT: VETO OF CONGRESSIONAL ACT 20-16

JULY 14, 2017

The Honorable Wesley W. Simina
Speaker, Twentieth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
First Special Session, 2017

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Transportation and Communication, to which was referred Presidential Communication 20-39 regarding the veto of Congressional Act 20-16, entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 389 AND 391, AND INSERT A NEW SECTION 392, UNDER CHAPTER 3 OF TITLE 21 OF THE CODE OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA (ANNOTATED) AS AMENDED, PERTAINING TO ASSETS AND LIABILITIES OF THE OPEN ACCESS ENTITY ,AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee did not find any legal impediments or drafting errors in the Act. Your Committee has determined that the veto is purely based on policy decision. The purpose of the Act was to require the Open Access Entity to provide connectivity free of charge to FSM Telecom. Congress remains committed to that policy. The Presidential Communication did not provide any arguments as to why this is not a sound policy or why it is not in the best interest of the Nation.

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CONCLUSION

Your Committee has reviewed the veto of Congressional Act 20-16 and the veto message. Your Committee finds that the decision made by the Executive was made based on policy and not on a violation of the law. Your Committee disagrees with this policy decision and recommends overriding the veto of Congressional Act No. 20-16.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Victor V. Gouland
Victor V. Gouland, chairman

/s/ Alik L. Alik
Alik L. Alik, vice chairman

Florencio S. Harper, member

/s/ Ferny S. Perman
Ferny S. Perman, member

/s/ Dion G. Neth
Dion G. Neth, member

/s/ Wesley W. Simina
Wesley W. Simina, member

/s/ Joseph J. Urusemal
Joseph J. Urusemal, member