

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 21-37

RE: C.R. NO. 21-97/H&SA

SUBJECT: TO CONFIRM THE NOMINATION OF MR. VINCENT TAFILELUW

JANUARY 31, 2020

The Honorable Wesley W. Simina
Speaker, Twenty-First Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Third Regular Session, 2020

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs to which was referred C.R. 21-97, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE NOMINATION OF MR. VINCENT TAFILELUW TO SERVE AS A BOARD MEMBER OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS, REPRESENTING YAP STATE”.,

begs leave to report as follows:

The intent and purpose of the resolution are expressed in its title.

Your Committee held a hearing on January 29, 2020. The witnesses present included: the nominee Mr. Vincent Tafileluw, Chairman Jack Harris, Member Nakama Sana, Member Alexander R. Narruhn and Jun Bacalondo representing the Justice Department.

Your Chairmen began the hearing by welcoming all witnesses and the public to the hearing. It was noted that this is a renomination of this member.

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Senator Urusemal spoke of the nominees level of involvement in community outreach Programs and stressed how important it is that social security continue to travel to the outer islands to ensure those qualified are receiving benefits and also to monitor deaths and other changes in eligibility. Senator Urusemal indicated that he endorses the nomination.

Senator Harris noted that the program has been struggling over the past few years, that they have been going through a lot. He noted the importance of maintaining expertise within the board members. He mentioned that the members have been trained on investment strategies, etc. and that the nominee has 6 years of direct experience. The nominee is very knowledgeable regarding the process. The Board endorses the nominee.

Mr. Bacalondo spoke on behalf of the Department of Justice. He shared that Secretary Gallen and the Department are in full support of nomination. He also encouraged Congress to take action on the nomination during this session if possible.

Chairman Perman reminded the Social Security Board members of the importance of sending any new legislation and any amendments through the President's office, not directly to Congress. It is important procedurally to make sure the President signs off first. He noted that Congress does it's job to try and stimulate the economy, create jobs, etc. to support the Program and they must ensure that legislation goes through the proper procedures.

The nominee has demonstrated that he has extensive experience. He comes highly recommended by his colleagues. Mr. Tafileluw is dedicated, competent and highly regarded. All witnesses and the Committee have confidence in his ability.

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In light of the positive comments by the witnesses and the lack of any negative comments regarding this individual, your Committee recommends that this nominee be confirmed as a board member of the Federated States of Micronesia Social Security Board of Directors, representing Yap State.

Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 21-97, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Ferny S. Perman
Ferny S. Perman, chairman

/s/ Tiwiter Aritos
Tiwiter Aritos, vice chairman

/s/ Esmond B. Moses
Esmond B. Moses, member

/s/ Derensio S. Konman
Derensio S. Konman, member

/s/ Aren B. Palik
Aren B. Palik, member

/s/ Florencio S. Harper
Florencio S. Harper, member

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