

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 21-79

RE: C.R. NO. 21-238/HSA

SUBJECT: APPROVING A \$821,849 GRANT FROM US DHHS, CDC

JANUARY 22, 2021

The Honorable Wesley W. Simina
Speaker, Twenty-First Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Sixth Regular Session, 2021

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs to which was referred C.R. 21-238, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$821,849 FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, TO FUND AND SUPPORT THE COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL PROJECT OF THE FSM'S DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS, INCLUDING ALL THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE GRANT.",

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 20, 2021. The witnesses present included: CD Medication Director Mayleen Ekiek, Acting Secretary of Health Marcus Samos and Jun Bacalondo representing the Justice Department, and others.

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Chairman Perman welcomed the witnesses and members and asked the Department to provide a summary of the grant. It was noted that this is a grant for funding to continue the program and this is the 4th year of a 5 year cycle. Each year the funding amount remains the same. The grant deals with education and prevention regarding HIV/Aids, TB, hepatitis, STDs.

She noted that through the grant, they have been able to improve surveillance for communicable diseases, identifying new cases and treating quickly. She reported that there is no hepatitis treatment in the FSM. If there are cases identified they counsel them and provide preventative services.

The program tries to screen those who may have been infected. They have requested increased funding from the CDC, but the amount has been the same.

Dr. Ekiek was pleased to report that WHO has certified the FSM as having eliminated Hep B in children due to vaccinations. There is no adult vaccination. Dr. Ekiek noted that this program has been in operation for many years. The program supports prevention activities in the states.

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Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 21-238, and recommends its adoption, in the form attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Tiwiter Aritos, vice chairman

Florencio S. Harper, member

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

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

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

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