

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 21-81

RE: C.R. NO. 21-236/T&C

SUBJECT: APPROVING A \$5,276,484 GRANT FROM UNDP TO  
FUND MPSBEE

JANUARY 26, 2021

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

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Transportation and Communication to which  
was referred Presidential Communication No. 21-480, regarding  
Congressional Resolution No. 21-236, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT A \$5,276,484  
GRANT FROM THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME  
(UNDP) TO FUND THE MICRONESIA PUBLIC SECTOR  
BUILDINGS ENGERGY EFFICIENCY (MPSBEE) PROJECT,  
INCLUDING ALL THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE  
ASSISTANCE.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

Your Committee had conducted a public hearing on the said  
resolution on Monday, January 25, 2021, at the Congressional  
hearing room.

The witnesses present at the hearing included representatives  
from other jurisdictions, including representatives from the

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FSM Department of Resources and Development, the FSM Department of Transportation, Communications and Infrastructure, the FSM Department of Finance and Administration, the FSM Department of Justice, and the Office of the President.

At the hearing, there was a misunderstanding of the assignment of the measure. Nevertheless, your Committee heard from the Acting Secretary of the Department of Resources and Development, Mrs. Elina Akinaga.

According to Acting Secretary Akinaga, the funding is for a climate change mitigation project, with the project implementation partner being the Energy Division of the FSM Department of Resources and Development. The objective of the MPSBEE project is the improved application of energy conserving and energy efficient (EC&EE) techniques and practices in the design, retrofit, and ongoing Operation and Management of public sector buildings in the FSM.

Your Committee had asked on the disbursement of the funding. Acting Secretary Akinaga explained that the funding is not going to be disbursed to each state. Once the resolution is adopted by the FSM Congress, there will be hiring of a project coordinator at the National Government who will work with coordinators at the state level. Pursuant to the Energy Policy adopted by the National Government, there is an existing Energy Steering Committee, and this Committee will be assisting with the project.

Your Committee was informed that the project is actually based on a study that was done based on an energy audit of public sector buildings like National Government buildings and hospitals in each state on the improvement of energy efficiency.

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CONCLUSION

Your Committee on Transportation and Communication is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 21-236 and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Peter M. Christian  
Peter M. Christian, vice chairman

Florencio S. Harper, member

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

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

Joseph J. Urusemal, member

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