

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 22-05

RE: C.R. NO. 22-15/T&C

SUBJECT: TO CONFIRM THE NOMINATION OF MR. MATHEW CHIGIYAL
TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE FSM TELECOM, REPRESENTING THE NATIONAL
GOVERNMENT

JUNE 02, 2021

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

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Transportation and Communication, to which was
referred C.R. No. 22-15 entitled:

"TO CONFIRM THE NOMINATION OF MR. MATHEW CHIGIYAL TO SERVE
AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FSM
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION, REPRESENTING THE NATIONAL
GOVERNMENT.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

Congressional Resolution No. 22-15 was transmitted to Congress
on January 5, 2020, through Presidential Communication No. 21-
207, and the nominee's bio data was enclosed with the said
communication. Your Committee conducted a public hearing on
Congressional Resolution No. 22-15 on Tuesday, June 2, 2021, at
9:30 a.m. at the Congress hearing room.

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Chairman Victor V. Gouland chaired the hearing. Those in attendance included: the nominee, the Secretary of the Department of Transportation, Communications and Infrastructure (TC&I), Mr. Carl Apis, the CEO of the FSM Telecommunications Corporation, Mr. Fredy Perman, Assistant Attorney General Robert Nakazone, Jr., staff of the Department of TC&I, and staff of the FSM Telecommunications Corporation.

Chairman Gouland opened the hearing and yielded the floor to the nominee. The nominee thanked the Committee and apologized for not showing up at the first scheduled hearing. Further, he thanked the President for submitting his nomination, and he stated that he had accepted the nomination. He further indicated that he believes the telecommunication sector is a critical sector to the development of this nation.

He had discussed with the Committee on the current set up in the telecommunication sector. In his view, it is an exciting time for him to be directly involved in the telecommunication sector in this nation. He had shared with the Committee his past experience in the field of computer programming. In fact, he graduated with a bachelor degree in computer programming.

Your Committee inquired of the nominee if confirm, what sort of development can he contribute to the Corporation. In his view, with the changing environment within the telecommunication sector, he must articulate on how to develop the telecommunication sector. He stated that the most important goal for the Corporation be to move forward and implement its development goals. Should the aspiration of the Corporation be hindered by the changes in the telecommunication environment; the Corporation should review its current development plan and make changes. He believes that if the Corporation is facing challenges, the Corporation can look at those challenges, and transform those challenges into opportunities. The FSM Telecommunications Board should be proactive in adapting to those challenges.

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Your Committee is still of the view that the Corporation should improve services in other islands if they are affordable. Your Committee heard from the witnesses and how they all echoed full support for the nominee. Absent any contrary indication, your Committee believes that the nominee should be confirmed, and so recommends Mr. Matthew Chigiyal be confirmed as a Board member of the FSM Telecommunications Corporation, representing the National Government.

Your Committee on Transportation and Communications is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 22-15, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto.

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Respectfully submitted,

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

Peter M. Christian, vice chairman

Florencio S. Harper, member

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

Aren B. Palik, member

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

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