

A RESOLUTION

To amend Rule 3 of the Official Rules of Procedure for the Twenty-Second Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia to clarify that Congressional Members participating remotely in any congressional session must participate remotely via videoconference and have their camera on throughout the congressional session in order to considered present for quorum count, voting and attendance purposes.

1 WHEREAS, the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia
2 is governed by its Official Rules of Procedure; and

3 WHEREAS, Rule 3 of the Official Rules of Procedure of the
4 Twenty-Second Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia
5 stipulates that a majority of Congressional Members shall be
6 present to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business
7 and Congressional Members absent without leave of Speaker shall
8 be noted as absent in the Journal; and

9 WHEREAS, a Congressional Resolution is a transparent and
10 open mechanism for an amendment to the Official Rules of
11 Procedure; and

12 WHEREAS, the Members of the Twenty-Second Congress of the
13 Federated States of Micronesia desire to amend Rule 3 of the
14 Official Rules of Procedure to require Congressional Members
15 participating in congressional sessions remotely to participate
16 via videoconference and have their camera on throughout the
17 congressional session in order to considered present for quorum
18 count, voting and attendance purposes; and

1 WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to impact the ability of the
2 Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia to meet in
3 person for Congressional sessions; now, therefore,

4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Twenty-Second Congress of the
5 Federated States of Micronesia, Fourth Regular Session,
6 2022, that Rule 3 of the Official Rules of Procedure of the
7 Twenty-Second Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia
8 is hereby amended to read as follows:

9 “RULE 3. QUORUM AND ATTENDANCE.

10 A majority of the Members shall constitute a quorum for the
11 transaction of business. A majority of less than a quorum
12 shall have the power to compel the attendance of absent Members
13 and to adjourn from day to day. For the opening day of
14 session, at least one Member from each of the four States shall
15 be included in the initial quorum unless sufficient notice was
16 given to permit the attendance of the Members absent and they
17 do not answer to the quorum count. In addition to the member
18 requirement to answer to the quorum count, members
19 participating remotely shall participate via videoconference
20 and have their camera on throughout the session in order to be
21 considered present for any quorum count, voting and attendance
22 purposes. The Speaker may declare the Congress adjourned if no
23 quorum is present at the hour of opening. For purposes of
24 ascertaining whether a quorum exists, the Speaker shall count
25 the Members present. During a meeting of the Congress, any

1 Member may call upon the Speaker to determine whether a quorum
2 exists or not, and the Speaker shall so determine and announce
3 his finding. A Member shall not be absent unless he has leave
4 of the Speaker, subject to appeal to the Congress. The name of
5 a Member not present to answer to a quorum count and call for a
6 vote, without their camera on for members participating
7 remotely, and not excused by the Speaker, shall be noted on the
8 Journal as absent; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
10 resolution be transmitted to the President of the Federated
11 States of Micronesia.

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13 Date: 4/20/22

Introduced by: /s/ Esmond B. Moses
Esmond B. Moses

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