

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 23-06

RE: C.R. NO. 23-16/EX AFF

SUBJECT: TO CONFIRM THE NOMINATION OF MS. TERESA  
FILEPIN TO SERVE AS THE FSM DEPUTY CHIEF OF  
MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

JULY 14, 2023

The Honorable Esmond B. Moses  
Speaker, Twenty-Third Congress  
Federated States of Micronesia  
First Special Session, 2023

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on External Affairs, to which was referred C.R.  
No. 23-16 entitled:

"A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE NOMINATION OF MS. TERESA  
FILEPIN TO SERVE AS THE FSM DEPUTY CHIEF OF MISSION TO  
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

Your Committee stresses our Nation's need to continue to operate  
its overseas diplomatic mission with efficiency, integrity and  
the highest levels of expertise. The Deputy Chief of Missions  
is in charge of day-to-day operations and citizen outreach,  
which is particularly important given the many diverse issues  
facing our citizens living in the U.S. A good Deputy Chief of  
Mission must also be able to stand in for the ambassador with  
short notice. Policy and diplomatic skills are also very  
important. A successful DCM is, one that has already proved she  
can forge strong relationships and deal with challenging issues.

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An in-depth knowledge of the relevant policy issues facing the FSM in its relationship with the U.S., would be in the best interests of our Nation.

The nominee has served very successfully as the Consulate General in Guam. She is well known for improving FSM relations with the Government of Guam, and assisting our citizens in locating support networks and services while living in the territory. It is in the best interests of our Nation that the nominee be allowed to continue using her extensive knowledge of the issues facing our citizens living abroad.

Your Committee reviewed the qualifications of this nominee at the time of her initial confirmation. The Committee has not received any subsequent communication that would cast doubt on the performance or integrity of the nominee. During the Committee's recent FY24 budget hearing it had a chance to speak with the leadership at the Department of Foreign Affairs. The nominee's performance during the past four years was considered excellent. Further, your Committee defers to the President and the Department of Foreign Affairs as to the decision to nominate this individual to serve in Washington D.C. Absent any contrary indication, your Committee believes that the nominee should be confirmed, and so recommends that Ms. Teresa Filepin be confirmed as the FSM Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission in the United States of America.

Your Committee on External Affairs is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 23-16, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto.

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Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Palinkoa K. Welly  
Palinkoa K. Welly, chairman

Tiwiter Aritios, member

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

/s/ Victor V. Gouland  
Victor V. Gouland, member

/s/ Peter M. Christian  
Peter M. Christian, member

/s/ Robson U. Romolow  
Robson U. Romolow, member

/s/ Quincy Lawrence  
Quincy Lawrence, member