

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 23-03

RE: C.R. NO. 23-11/EX AFF

SUBJECT: TO CONFIRM THE NOMINATION OF MR. JOHN FRITZ  
TO SERVE AS THE FSM AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY  
AND PLENIPOTENTIARY TO JAPAN.

JULY 04, 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. 23-11 entitled:

"A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE NOMINATION OF MR. JOHN  
FRITZ TO SERVE AS THE FSM AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND  
PLENIPOTENTIARY TO JAPAN.",

begs leave to report as follows:

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

Your Committee stresses our Nation's commitment to its close  
relationship with Japan, and the need to continue to operate its  
overseas diplomatic mission with efficiency, integrity and the  
highest levels of expertise.

The Ambassador, as the face of our country in Japan, plays an  
important role in the high-level policy discussions between our  
two nations. Therefore, an extended period of service for a  
good ambassador, one that has already forged strong

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relationships with his Japanese counterparts, and has an in-depth knowledge of the relevant policy issues, would be in the best interests of our Nation.

The nominee has served very successfully as our Ambassador to Japan. He is well known for his promotion of FSM products and tourism. During his previous tenure as ambassador he assisted many of our students studying in Japan, including providing internships and mentoring. It is in the best interests of our Nation that the nominee be allowed to continue using his extensive knowledge of Japan and the relevant policy issues.

Your Committee reviewed the qualifications of this nominee at the time of his 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 with the FSM Japan Embassy it had a chance to speak with that overseas mission and the leadership at the Department of Foreign Affairs. The nominee's performance during the past four years was considered very good. Further, your Committee defers to the President and the Department of Foreign Affairs as to the decision to maintain the nominee in his post. Absent any contrary indication, your Committee believes that the nominee should be confirmed, and so recommends that Mr. John Fritz be confirmed as the FSM Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Japan.

Your Committee on External Affairs is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 23-11, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto.

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Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Paliknoa K. Welly  
Paliknoa K. Welly, chairman

/s/ Tiwiter Aritos  
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