A BILL FOR AN ACT

To establish a rural postal system within the Federated States of Micronesia, to appropriate the sum of $30,000 from the General Fund of the Federated States of Micronesia for fiscal year 1981 for the purpose of providing initial funding for the rural postal service program, and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA:

Section 1. Short title. This act is known and may be cited as the "Rural Postal Act of 1981."

Section 2. Purpose. The purpose of this act is to promote efficient postal delivery to population centers not currently served by the United States Postal Service. The Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, by providing funds for a rural postal service program, seeks to ensure that the majority of the citizens in the Federated States of Micronesia have access to adequate postal service.

Section 3. Appropriation. The sum of $30,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated from the General Fund of the Federated States of Micronesia for fiscal year 1981 for the purpose of providing initial funding for a rural postal service program.

Section 4. Postmaster General.

(1) There is hereby established the Office of the Federated States of Micronesia Postmaster General. The Postmaster General shall be appointed by the President of the Federated States of Micronesia, subject to the advice and consent of the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia. An appointment shall be for a term of two years.

(2) The Postmaster General shall have the following duties, responsibilities, and authority:

(a) To supervise all the operations of the rural postal service program;

(b) To adopt regulations pertaining to the operations of the rural postal service program; and

(c) To perform such other duties and functions as may be necessary
to carry out the purposes of this act.

Section 5. Allotment. The sum appropriated by section 3 shall be allotted to the Postmaster General, who shall manage, administer, and account for such sum in accordance with applicable law, including, but not limited to, the Financial Management Act of 1979. The authority to obligate the funds appropriated by this act shall lapse as of September 30, 1982.

Section 6. State plans required. The Postmaster General shall distribute said funds to any State which submits a satisfactory State plan for the establishment of a rural postal service, as may be determined by the Postmaster General pursuant to policies and procedures established by the Postmaster General for the purpose of implementing this act. The State plan must be submitted to the Postmaster General on or before July 30, 1982.

Section 7. State plans. The official State plan referred to in section 6 shall include not less than the following:

1. Specific outlying areas to be served by the State plan;
2. The method to be used for delivery of the mail to the outlying areas;
3. The schedule by which the delivery of the mail will occur; and
4. The total cost of the plan.

Section 8. Discretionary authority over State plans. The Postmaster General shall have full authority to accept or reject any State plan presented to him.

Section 9. State plan approval. The Postmaster General may make final approval of any State plan conditional upon acceptance by the State government of any modifications to the State plan which the Postmaster General determines promotes postal efficiency or is in the best interests of the public.
Section 10. Effective date. This act shall become law upon approval by
the President of the Federated States of Micronesia or upon its becoming law
without such approval.

Date: 5/18/81

Introduced by: Elias H. Thomas