A RESOLUTION

Requesting the United States Congress to appropriate sufficient funds to ensure full payment of all Federated States of Micronesia citizen claims adjudicated under the Micronesian Claims Act of 1971, and not wait for the Government of Japan to first appropriate funds for such purposes.

WHEREAS, many Micronesians suffered from the hostilities of the Second World War as well as other incidents involving the actions of military and civilian employees of the United States and Japan; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of these unfortunate facts, the United States and Japan signed an agreement in 1969 which provided that, as an ex gratia contribution, Japan would contribute $5 million in goods and services to the Micronesian people and the United States would establish a $5 million fund for the welfare of the Micronesian people; and

WHEREAS, this agreement between the United States and Japan was implemented in the United States by the Micronesian Claims Act of 1971, which established a Micronesian Claims Commission to receive, examine, adjudicate, and render final decisions with respect to the combat- and noncombat-related claims of the Micronesian people; and

WHEREAS, under title I of said act, $5 million was contributed by the United States, which amount was matched by a contribution from Japan; and

WHEREAS, under title II of said act, $20 million dollars was contributed by the United States; and

WHEREAS, said amounts proved inadequate to ensure full payment of claims adjudicated by the Micronesian Claims Commission, inasmuch as millions of dollars of adjudicated claims were never paid; and

WHEREAS, the United States has maintained the position that additional funds for the payment of adjudicated claims will not be appropriated until and unless the Government of Japan also contributes funds for such purposes; and
WHEREAS, it is the sense of the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia that the position of the United States is inappropriate and unrealistic, in that it appears evident that the Government of Japan has no intention of contributing funds for the payment of Micronesian claims; and

WHEREAS, the United States, unlike Japan, is responsible for the welfare of the people of the Federated States of Micronesia as the administering authority of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; and

WHEREAS, many Micronesians, including numerous citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia, have been left with unsatisfied adjudicated claims; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Third Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, Fourth Regular Session, 1984, that the Congress hereby requests the United States Congress to appropriate sufficient funds to ensure full payment of all Federated States of Micronesia citizen claims adjudicated under the Micronesian Claims Act of 1971, and not wait for the Government of Japan to first appropriate funds for such purposes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate of the United States Congress, the President of the United States, the Director of Territorial Affairs of the Department of Interior, the President of the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Secretary of External Affairs of the Federated States of Micronesia.

Date: 10/23/84

Introduced by:

Elias H. Thomas

2 of 2