

A RESOLUTION

Calling upon the Department of Health and Social Affairs to dramatically improve the delivery of health services to citizens of the FSM, particularly with regard to the preventable and/or treatable communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, hepatitis B and syphilis, in order to be responsive to the concerns of the State of Hawaii and other affected jurisdictions concerning the health status of migrants from the FSM to those jurisdictions.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii, Guam, The Commonwealth of the
2 Northern Mariana Islands and American Samoa are recognized as
3 "affected jurisdictions" by the amended Compact of Free
4 Association between the Federated States of Micronesia and the
5 United States of America; and

6 WHEREAS, provisions were made by the Congress of the United
7 States pursuant to U.S. Public Law 108-188 for annual
8 appropriations through fiscal year 2023 for grants to affected
9 jurisdictions as a result of increased demands placed on health,
10 educational, social, or public safety services or infrastructure
11 due to residence in affected jurisdictions of qualified
12 nonimmigrants from the FSM, Republic of Marshall Islands or the
13 Republic of Palau; and

14 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fourth
15 Legislature of the State of Hawaii passed resolution HR No. 94 HD
16 1 on 12 April 2007 calling for the Department of the Attorney
17 General to convene a task force to investigate and coordinate the
18 provision of medical and social services to migrants from Freely
19 Associated States; and

1 WHEREAS, the Senate of Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State
2 of Hawaii passed resolution SR No. 142 SD1 on 13 April 2007
3 calling for the Department of the Attorney General to convene a
4 task force to investigate and coordinate the provision of medical
5 and social services to migrants from Freely Associated States; AND

6 WHEREAS the aforesaid resolutions recite that there are high
7 rates of tuberculosis, hepatitis B and syphilis reported among
8 migrants from Freely Associated States; and

9 WHEREAS, it is not the intent of the Federated States of
10 Micronesia that the Compact cause unanticipated adverse
11 consequences or an exceptional burden on the social and health
12 care systems of an affected jurisdiction; and

13 WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the Federated States of
14 Micronesia to be responsive to the concerns of the State of Hawaii
15 and other affected jurisdictions concerning the health status of
16 its migrants to those jurisdictions, and to combat any negative
17 attitudes or discrimination towards them while living and working
18 abroad; and

19 WHEREAS, an initial step toward improved delivery of health
20 care services within the Federated States of Micronesia was the
21 establishment of a separated Department of Health and Social
22 Affairs by FSM Public Law 15-09; and

23 WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the Federated States of
24 Micronesia to determine the incidence of preventable and/or
25 treatable communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, hepatitis B
26 and syphilis within its population, and take all reasonable steps

1 to eradicate such diseases from its citizens both at home and
2 abroad; now therefore

3 BE IT RESOLVED that the Fifteenth Congress of the FSM calls
4 upon the Department of Health and Social Affairs to dramatically
5 improve the delivery of health services to citizens of the FSM,
6 particularly with regard to the preventable and/or treatable
7 communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, hepatitis B and
8 syphilis.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
10 resolution be provided to the President of the Federated States of
11 Micronesia, the Secretary of the Department of Health and Social
12 Affairs, the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fourth
13 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, and the Senate of the Twenty-
14 fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii.

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16 Date: 11/20/07

Introduced by: /s/ Isaac V. Figir
Isaac V. Figir

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