

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 19-213

RE: C.A. NO. 19-149 (P.C. NO. 19-560)/W&M

SUBJECT: VETO OVERRIDE OF C.A. NO. 19-149

MARCH 27, 2017

The Honorable Wesley W. Simina
Speaker, Nineteenth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Eighth Special Session, 2017

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Ways & Means, to which was referred Presidential Communication 19-560, regarding the veto of Congressional Act 19-149, entitled:

"AN ACT TO FURTHER AMEND TITLE 52 OF THE CODE OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA (ANNOTATED), AS AMENDED, BY AMENDING SECTION 124 OF SUBCHAPTER II OF CHAPTER 1, TO REQUIRE PAYMENT OF THE FULL PER DAY STIPEND TO A TRAVELER TO AN OUTER ISLAND REGARDLESS OF WHETHER A TRAVELER IS RECEIVING ACCOMMODATION ON A VESSEL, TO ALLOW CERTAIN EXPENSE ALLOWANCES TO BE APPROVED BY THE PERSON APPROVING THE TA, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.",

begs leave to report as follows:

The intent and purpose of this act is expressed in its title.

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Your Committee has reviewed Congressional Act 19-149 and the accompanying veto message (P.C. No. 19-560). Your Committee did not find any legal impediments or drafting errors in the Act. Your Committee has determined that the veto is purely based on policy.

Your Committee wishes to note that it recommended passage of this Act only after your Committee made repeated efforts to address the issue of stipends for Outer Island travel through alternative channels, including informal conversations with the Executive and substantial discussion at Public Hearings. Efforts to resolve the issue without legislation were unsuccessful, leading to your Committee's decision to support the Congressional passage of this Act.

CONCLUSION

Your Committee has reviewed the veto of Congressional Act 19-149 and the veto message. Your Committee finds that the decision made by the Executive was made based on policy and not on a violation of the law. Your Committee disagrees with this policy decision and recommends overriding the veto of Congressional Act No. 19-149.

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Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Isaac V. Figir
Isaac V. Figir, chairman

/s/ Tiwiter Aritos
Tiwiter Aritos, member

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

/s/ Bonsiano F. Nethon
Bonsiano F. Nethon, member

/s/ David W. Panuelo
David W. Panuelo, member

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

/s/ Paliknoa K. Welly
Paliknoa K. Welly, member