

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 19-216

RE: C.B. NO. 19-256 (P.C. NO. 19-562)/J&GO

SUBJECT: VETO OF CONGRESSIONAL ACT NO. 19-158

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 Judiciary & Governmental Operations, to which was referred Presidential Communication No. 19-562 and Congressional Bill No. 19-256, regarding the veto of Congressional Act No. 19-158, begs leave to report as follows:

Congressional Act No. 19-158 was vetoed by the President and did not become Public Law. Congressional Act No. 19-158 sought to restrict any negotiations with the United States, contemplated or proposed by the Joint Committee on Compact Review and Planning (JCRP), to Title Two Economic Provisions of the Amended Compact of Free Association.

The vetoed Congressional Act was then referred back to your Committee on Judiciary & Governmental Operations.

Your Committee has reviewed Congressional Act No. 19-158 and Presidential Communication No. 19-562, which comprises the veto message. In essence, the reason given for the veto was that "attempts at prescribing specific approaches or strategies to the JCRP, such as through the present act, could be precipitous and perhaps even self-limiting."

Your Committee did not find any legal impediments or drafting errors in the Act. While your Committee understands and appreciates the concern expressed in the veto message, your Committee has determined that the veto is purely based on a policy decision.

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CONCLUSION

Your Committee has reviewed the vetoed legislation and the veto message. Your Committee finds that the decision to veto was made based on policy, not on a violation of law. Your Committee recommends overriding the veto of Congressional Act No. 19-158.

Your Committee on Judiciary & Governmental Operations is in accord with the intent and purpose of Congressional Bill No. 19-256, and recommends it be placed on the calendar for veto override.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Tiwiter Aritos  
Tiwiter Aritos, Chairman

Alik L. Alik, Vice Chairman

/s/ Isaac V. Figir  
Isaac V. Figir, Member

Berney Martin, Member

/s/ Wesley W. Simina  
Wesley W. Simina, Member

Robson U. Romolow, Member

/s/ Esmond Moses  
Esmond Moses, Member