

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 20-33

RE: C.R. NO. 20-50/H&SA

SUBJECT: ACCEPTING A GRANT FROM THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$106,175.

SEPTEMBER 28, 2018

The Honorable Wesley W. Simina
Speaker, Twentieth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Second Regular Session, 2017

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs, to which was
referred C.R. No. 20-50, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A GRANT IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$106,175 FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES, HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION (HRSA), TO SUPPORT AND FUND THE
UNIVERSAL NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING AND INTERVENTION
PROJECT, INCLUDING ALL THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE
ASSISTANCE.",

begs leave to report as follows:

The intent and purpose of the resolution are expressed in
its title.

Your Committee held a hearing in September 2017, the
witnesses present included the Department of Health and
Social Affairs, including the Secretary and key staff, and
representatives the Department of Justice. Your Committee
was also fortunate to have the Directors of the State

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Hospitals at this hearing, with the exception that Yap State was unable to attend. Your Committee values the input of the state leadership as they administer the programs.

The newborn hearing-screening program is well known to the Committee and has been very successful for the last several years. The program has screening rates for newborn hearing at approximately 90%. The Committee appreciates the hard work done by this program. It further appreciates that it utilizes the permanent staff of the state hospitals to do the necessary training and does not hire additional employees.

The budget proposed for the coming year is attached for member's review. Your Committee notes that the budget and activities remain substantially the same as in years past.

Your Committee is strongly supportive of the Department of Health and Social Affairs' efforts to ensure all our Nation's newborn infants are screened for hearing, and it is therefore, for the reasons set forth above, your Committee on Health and Social Affairs supports the grant activities proposed to be funded, it is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No.20-50, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto.

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Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Ferny S. Perman
Ferny S. Perman, chairman

/s/ Alik L. Alik
Alik L. Alik, vice chairman

/s/ Tiwiter Aritos
Tiwiter Aritos, member

Florencio S. Harper, member

David W. Panuelo, member

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

Derensio S. Konman, member