

EX APP

A BILL FOR AN ACT

To create and establish the Joint Committee on Compact Economic Negotiations (JCN) and its Secretariat, and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA:

1 Section 1. Purpose. In preparation for the Compact of Free
2 Association negotiations scheduled to commence in November 1999, the
3 Congress finds that there is a need to establish a joint committee
4 comprising of representatives of the four States and the National
5 Government to spearhead the process of preparing for the negotiations.

6 Section 2. Establishment of the Joint Committee on Compact
7 Economic Negotiations. There is hereby created and established a
8 joint committee to be known as the Joint Committee on Compact Economic
9 Negotiations (JCN), comprising of six members as follows: One
10 representative from each of the four States, as designated by each
11 State's leadership; one representative from the Congress of the
12 Federated States of Micronesia; and the Secretary of External Affairs
13 as Chairman.

14 Section 3. Meetings. The Joint Committee on Economic
15 Negotiations shall hold its first meeting at the call of the Chairman.
16 Subsequent meetings shall be held in accordance with a schedule set by
17 the Joint Committee covering the entire period between the first
18 meeting and the commencement of the Compact economic negotiations in
19 November 1999.

20 Section 4. Mandate. The Joint Committee on Economic
21 Negotiations shall carry out the following responsibilities and
22 obligations.

23 (a) Set goals and objectives for the Compact of Free
24 Association negotiations slated to commence in November 1999;

25 (b) Conduct a thorough analysis of all factors relating to

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1 the Compact of Free Association negotiations;

2 (c) Develop all necessary strategies and approach to enable
3 the Federated States of Micronesia to commence negotiating with the
4 United States in November 1999;

5 (d) Direct its Secretariat in preparing the documentation
6 necessary to accomplish its responsibilities hereunder;

7 (e) Analyze all economic information available on the
8 Federated States of Micronesia, with the aim of identifying the FSM's
9 minimum continuing requirement for financial assistance from the
10 United States of America from the year 2001 onward; PROVIDED, that
11 this information shall be developed into a rationale to make up
12 negotiating approach, including decisions concerning the time period
13 desired and the kinds of funding to be requested;

14 (f) Ensure that its work benefits from the information-
15 gathering efforts of the FSM Embassy in Washington D.C., the financial
16 analytical work of the Asian Development Bank's Economic Management
17 Policy Advisory Team (EMPAT) in Pohnpei, and other sources of relevant
18 information;

19 (g) Collaborate with the Department of External Affairs and
20 the Office of the President in identifying the members of the team of
21 negotiators that will represent the FSM in the bilateral Compact of
22 Free Association negotiations; and

23 (h) Select and hire the personnel needed to staff the
24 Secretariat, as specified in section 5 below.

25 Section 5. Establishment of the Secretariat. There is hereby

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1 created and established a full-time Secretariat for the Joint
2 Committee on Compact Economic Negotiations. The Secretariat shall
3 consist of an Executive Director, an Administrative Officer, a staff
4 Counsel, and a secretary, all based in Pohnpei. In addition to the
5 Secretariat, the work of the Joint Committee on Compact Economic
6 Negotiations shall also be supported by existing Washington D.C., -
7 based legal counsel. The Secretariat shall have the following
8 responsibilities:

9 (a) Provide all administrative and logistical support to
10 the Joint Committee on Compact Economic Negotiations;

11 (b) Carry out research on relevant Compact of Free
12 Association issues;

13 (c) Coordinate with the various departments, offices and
14 agencies of the FSM and State Governments to collect the technical
15 input necessary for establishing negotiating objectives as to
16 provisions of the Compact of Free Association and the Related
17 Agreements that bear upon their respective areas of responsibility;

18 (d) Coordinate with the Department of External Affairs and
19 the FSM Embassy in Washington D.C. to ensure that the Joint Committee
20 on Compact Economic Negotiations obtains all the information it needs
21 to carry out its responsibilities herein.

22 (e) As directed by the Joint Committee on Compact Economic
23 Negotiations, solicit the assistance of senior FSM statesmen who
24 participated in the original Compact negotiations, for the purpose of
25 advising and consulting with the Joint Committee when needed, on a

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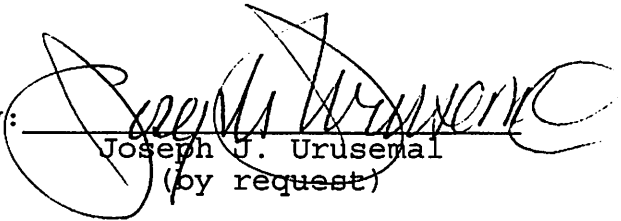
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1 voluntary basis; and

2 (f) As directed by the Joint Committee on Compact Economic
3 Negotiations, hire an outside developmental economist to assist the
4 Joint Committee with any aspect of its responsibilities, particularly
5 that provided under section 4(e) above.

6 Section 6. Effective date. This act shall become law upon
7 approval by the President of the Federated States of Micronesia or
8 upon its becoming law without such approval.

9
10 Date: 3/17/97

Introduced by: 

Joseph J. Urusemal
(by request)