

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 13-209

RE: C.B. 13-174/J&GO

SUBJECT: ACT TO EXEMPT CERTAIN CONGRESSIONAL  
STAFF POSITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC SERVICE SYSTEM

JANUARY 21, 2005

The Honorable Peter M. Christian  
Speaker, Thirteenth Congress  
Federated States of Micronesia  
Fifth Regular Session, 2005

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations, to which was referred C.B. No. 13-174, entitled:

"AN ACT TO FURTHER AMEND TITLE 52 OF THE CODE OF THE  
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA, AS AMENDED, BY AMENDING  
SECTION 117 THEREOF TO PROVIDE THAT THE DIRECTOR OF  
ADMINISTRATION AND BUDGET AND THE SECRETARY TO THE VICE-  
SPEAKER OF THE CONGRESS SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM THE NATIONAL  
PUBLIC SERVICE SYSTEM, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.",

begs leave to report as follows:

C.B. No. 13-174 is related to C.B. No. 13-175, which creates the Director of Administration and Budget position in the Congressional Office. C.B. No. 13-174 and C.B. No. 13-175 are substantially similar to C.A. No. 13-62 (C.B. No. 13-127) and C.A. No. 13-61 (C.B. 13-126), which Congress passed during the Fifth Special Session of the Thirteenth Congress. Through Presidential Communication Nos. 13-209 and 13-210, both dated October 5, 2004, the President advised Congress that he had vetoed these acts. During the Fourth Regular Session of Congress C.A. No. 13-62 and C.A. 13-61 were placed on the bill calendar for repassage but both were deferred indefinitely.

C.B. No. 13-174 differs from C.A. No. 13-62 in two respects: since Congress no longer intends to create an Economist position with C.B. No. 13-175, the subject bill does not exempt an Economist from the National Public Service System; but it does exempt the secretary to the Vice-Speaker from the National Public Service System. The intent and purpose of the subject bill remains the same as C.A. 13-62. Your committee's opinion on the President's veto message was expressed in SCR No. 13-183 and its opinion in regard to the need for the reorganization of Congress was expressed in SCR No. 13-158. We will not repeat what was said in those Reports.

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As reflected in SCR No. 13-208, Congress no longer intends to create an Economist position and therefore there is no need to exempt such a position from the National Public Service System. Your committee is also of the view that the secretary to the Vice-Speaker should be an exempt position. Currently, the secretary to the Speaker, the President and Vice-President are exempt positions and your committee believes that the secretary to the Vice-Speaker should be treated equally.

Accordingly, your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations agrees with the purpose and intent of C.B. No. 13-174 and recommends its passage on First Reading and that it be placed on the Calendar for Second and Final Reading.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Dohsis Halbert  
Dohsis Halbert, chairman

Roosevelt D. Kansou, vice  
chairman

/s/ Henry C. Asugar  
Henry C. Asugar, member

Peter M. Christian, member

/s/ Ramon Peyal  
Ramon Peyal, member

Manny Mori, member

/s/ Alik L. Alik  
Alik L. Alik, member