



THIRTEENTH KOSRAE STATE LEGISLATURE
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S.C.R. No. 13- 07
 March 9, 2023
 RE: L.B.13-11

Committee on Ways and Means
 (W&M)

The Honorable Semeon J. Phillip
 Speaker
 13th Kosrae State Legislature
 Tofol, Kosrae FM 96944

CHAIRMAN
 Alik S. Isaac

VICE CHAIRMAN
 Lyndon H. Jackson

MEMBERS
 Artson S. Talley
 Bob H. Skilling
 Moses M. Thomson
 Nena C. Ned
 Yamado A. Melander
 Salpasr E. Tilfas

Dear Speaker Phillip:

Your Joint Committee on Ways & Means (W&M) and Health & Social Affairs (H&SA), to which was assigned L.B. 13-11 entitled, ***“To appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 from the Revenue Fund of the Kosrae State Treasury to fund the 2023 International Women’s Day celebration by each community women association; and for other purposes”***, begs leave to report as follows:

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Your joint committee met in an Executive Meeting on March 6, 2023, following the 19th Day Session of the 1st Regular Session and decided to dispose its action on L.B. 13-11.

COMMITTEE FINDINGS:

The intent of the subject proposal is clearly stated in its title.

Prompted by Miscellaneous Communication No. 13-05, which was a formal request seeking financial assistance from the Kosrae Women Association’s President, Mrs. Kenye H. Livae, the joint committee felt obligated to respond to this request, hence the materialization of L.B. 13-11.

Given the timing and significance of this year’s Women’s International Day slated for March 8, 2023, the joint committee felt the need to address and weigh out all concerns relating to this funding assistance request.

During the committee’s deliberation, the members were informed that according to the most-recent State financial health report provided by DOFA, the State is currently operating at a loss (\$30,934 shortage), however, reassurances of forthcoming revenue collections were also shared. The members were also reminded of last year’s apportionment by community, which was \$1,500 per community, with a reporting requirement implanted in the bill. Furthermore, some members were concerned about the set ceiling for the current fiscal year, 2023, knowing well that any adjustments to the current budget would require raising the ceiling with justifiable basis for anticipated revenue collection. By this discussion,

the members were also reminded that the Executive Branch (EBRC, in particular) has already informed the Legislature of probable adjustments to their budget, which they have yet to transmit. Consequently, the members agreed to follow up on the issue, hoping to incorporate all the adjustments for both Executive and Legislative branches. Also, there was a suggestion to reduce the original amount of \$10,000 to \$8,000, to be apportioned equally among the four municipalities [Lelu, Tafunsak, Malem, and Utwe; Walung to be part of Tafunsak]. Another concern brought forth in the meeting was Other Known Funding Sources; Some members wondered on what other funding sources might have already been sought for by KWA and how much. For this, the committee agreed to have the committee staff obtain more info on this concern from KWA.

The members shared and made note that given the required procedures of bill passages (readings in two separate days), this issue may not be fulfilled right away in time for the activities. Nevertheless, as long as the funding assistance is addressed, the community women associations would be grateful, as attested by one member.

At the end of all the discussions, the committee collectively agreed to move forward with the bill, with the understanding that crucial relevant information be obtained to satisfy all concerns, before the final passage.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

With the aforementioned findings, Your Joint Committee on W&M and H&SA hereby recommends the fulfillment of the following, before its final passage:

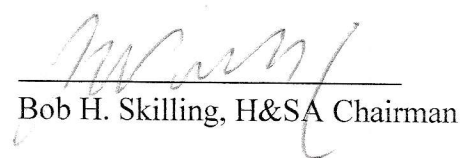
- Follow up with EBRC on Executive's FY2023 budget adjustments; [staff assigned]
- KWA to be contacted to provide more information on Other Known Funding Sources/ amount requested;
- Community women associations (Lelu and Malem, in particular) to be contacted to provide info on last year's reporting requirement and a breakdown of this year's activities (by municipality).

Your Joint Committee on W&M and H&SA further recommends the reporting out of this standing committee report.

Respectfully submitted,



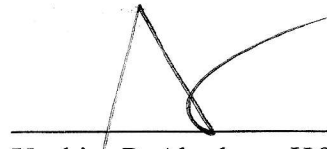
Alik S. Isaac, W&M Chairman



Bob H. Skilling, H&SA Chairman



Lyndon H. Jackson, W&M V/Chair



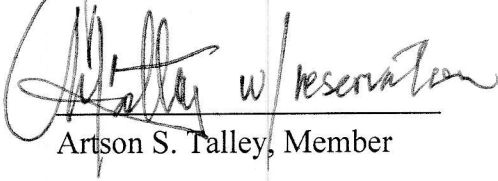
Yoshiro P. Abraham, H&SA
V/Chair



Moses M. Thomson, Member



Sasaki L. George, Member

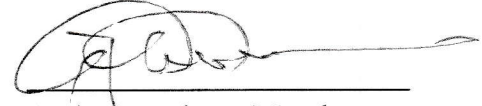


Artson S. Talley, Member

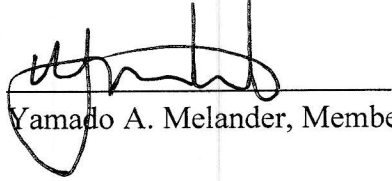


Ruthsina R. Jonah, Member

Nena C. Ned, Member



Andy J. Andrew, Member



Yamado A. Melander, Member



Salpasr E. Tilfas, Member