

## THIK FEENTH KOSRAE STATE LEGISLATURE P.O. BOX 187 TOFOL, KOSRAE STATE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA 96944

TELEPHONE: (691) 370-3019/3177 Web Page: www.kosraestatelegislature.com RE: L.R. No. 13-12

Committee on Health & Social Affairs (H&SA)

CHAIRMAN Bob H. Skilling

VICE CHAIRMAN Yoshiro P. Abraham

MEMBERS Andy J. Andrew Nena C. Ned

Ruthsina R. Jonah Salpasr E. Tilfas Sasaki L. George

The Honorable Semeon Phillip Speaker. 13<sup>th</sup> Kosrae State Legislature Tofol, Kosrae FM 96944

Dear Speaker Phillip

Your Standing Committee on Health & Social Affairs (H&SA) reports on L.R. No. 13-12 entitled,

"Consenting to and confirming the nomination of Dr. Tholman Alik to serve as the Director of the Department of Health Services."

## **COMMITTEE ACTIONS:**

Your Committees on Health & Social Affairs (H&SA) met on an executive meeting March 03, 2023 to discuss actions to be taken on the subject matter on L.R. No. 13-12

## COMMITTEE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

During the committee meeting on March 03, 2023, the members discussed the information retracted from the public hearing on Thursday, March 02 2023:

- 1. During the Public Hearing with Governor Palik, the committee learned that the nominee is selected based on the nominee's background and work history. Unfortunately, the nominee disapproved the request twice, but was convinced to accept the offer with the understanding that there will be a special contract with the Community Health Center (CHC) Program that will accept his performance on his current job as a doctor.
- 2. the committee learned from the nominee that the he accepted the position with the understanding that a special contract would be formed to maintain some of his responsibilities at the Community Health Center (CHC) Program to satisfy the need of the people as a doctor, as well as his salary. To help his scope as a director, the committee also recommended a deputy director.
- 3. The Community Health Center (CHC) Chief Executive also appeared for testimony the same day—March 02, 2023. It was hard at first for the Community Health Center (CHC) Program to accept the offer on the nominee due to the need of the community. Therefore, the three (3) parties

- came up with an understanding to maintain some of his responsibilities with the Community Health Center (CHC) Program with a shared cost.
- 4. On behalf of the Department of Health Services, the witnesses were Shiro Sigrah as the Acting Director, Kun Mongkeya as the Administrator, Dr. Lily Jonas as the Curative Division Chief of Staff, Solome Martin as the Preventive Division Administrator, and Kenye Kun Mongkeya as the Chief of Nurse. During the public hearing, the committee was made aware that the directorship of the department does not haveto be a "doctor" but someone who could manage. During the discussions, the following concerns were brought forth:
  - a. The nominee is highly needed as a doctor
  - b. The nominee left his position as a doctor at the health service to pursue a better salary rate
  - c. If the nominee accepts his position as a director, his patient's care will be demolished.

However, the division heads will have to work as a team to support the nominee.

Based on the aforementioned, the committee recommends the reporting out of the resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob H. Skilling, H&SA Chairman

Yoshiro L. Abraham Vice Chairman

Nena C. Ned, Member

Ruthsina R. Jonah, Member

Andy J. Martin, Member

Salpasr E. Tilfas, Member