

SLR (Schaefer)

April 26, 1960

Resources and Civil Works Division
(R.E. Austin)

State Department comment on S. Con. Res. 50

S. Con. Res. 50 would "Express the sense of Congress that the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands should be included in the State of Hawaii" if it is mutually agreeable to Hawaii and the Trust Territory. State is the only agency asked to comment. We have held the proposed letter for some time in anticipation of further developments on the political future of the Trust Territory in connection with Interior's proposal to greatly expand the level of services there. Such resolution of the political problem is not evident in the Interior proposal or in side discussions by Interior and State.

State's proposed report on S. Con. Res. 50 would temporize citing this as one of many possibilities and discussing "present studies."

We would recommend continuing to hold this proposed report while we proceed with clearance of Interior's draft bill on the Trust Territory. The State report mentions studies existence of which we doubt and would hope to check on further in connection with the Interior bill. If you believe this has been held too long and if there should be any pressure to submit a report, this report could be given a no objection clearance as Mr. Schaefer has recommended. We believe that it would be wise to hold this until we clear the Interior bill, however, and temporize on the basis of the need to proceed first with economic development and then to consider the political future of the Trust Territory.

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