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CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA

THIRD REGULAR SESSION, 1970

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 87, H.D. 1

A HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

Endorsing the four principles and legal rights which the Political Status Delegation of the Congress of Micronesia maintained must be recognized as an essential and non-negotiable component of any free association between the United States and Micronesia and declaring that any future association between the United States and Micronesia must be in accordance with those principles and legal rights.

WHEREAS, the Political Status Delegation of the Congress of Micronesia was directed to take part in preliminary discussions regarding the relations which shall in the future prevail between Micronesia and the United States, and to identify the major questions which will have to be decided in the event Micronesia chooses to enter into free association with the United States, or chooses to become an independent State; and

WHEREAS, during discussions in Saipan in May 1970, with representatives of the executive branch of the United States Government, the Political Status Delegation took the position that a proposal for free association between Micronesia and the United States must recognize and be in accordance with the following principles and legal rights:

- (1) That sovereignty in Micronesia resides in the people of Micronesia and their duly constituted government;
- (2) That the people of Micronesia possess the right of self-determination and may therefore choose independence or self-government in free association with any nation or organization of nations;
- (3) That the people of Micronesia have the right to adopt their own constitution and to amend, change or revise any constitution or governmental plan at any time; and
- (4) That free association should be in the form of a favorable compact, beneficial to both parties; and

WHEREAS, the Congress of Micronesia has considered these principles and legal rights, and declares that they are the basis for any future

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association between Micronesia and the United States, and as guidelines in any future negotiations with representatives of the United States Government on the future political status of Micronesia; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Third Congress of Micronesia, Third Regular Session, 1970, the Senate concurring, that this Congress hereby endorses the four principles and legal rights which the Political Status Delegation of the Congress of Micronesia maintained must be recognized as an essential and nonnegotiable component of any free association between the United States and Micronesia; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Congress of Micronesia hereby declares that any future association between the United States and Micronesia must be in accordance with those principles and legal rights; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this joint resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States; to the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress; and to the Secretary-General, the Security Council and the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations and to the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory.

Adopted 14 August 1970