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THIRD CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA
THIRD REGULAR SESSION, 1970

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 102, S.D. 1.

A HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

Providing for the establishment of a Joint Committee on Future Status
and prescribing its duties and responsibilities

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Third Congress of Micronesia, Third Regular Session, 1970, the Senate concurring, that there is hereby created a Joint Committee of the Congress of Micronesia, to be known as the Joint Committee on Future Status, hereinafter referred to in this resolution as the Committee, consisting of not more than twelve members of the Congress of Micronesia to be appointed jointly by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Committee shall remain in existence until dissolved by the Congress of Micronesia. Members shall serve for such terms as the Presiding Officers may prescribe, and the Presiding Officers shall make appointments to fill any vacancy which may occur on the Committee. At their first meeting, members of the Committee shall by majority vote elect a Chairman and such other officers as they deem necessary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the purpose of the Committee shall be to continue the work of the Future Political Status Commission and the Micronesian Political Status Delegation relating to the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement and Trusteeship Status and the obtaining of a new political status for Micronesia when Trusteeship ends; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee shall perform such acts as it deems necessary to carry out the duties and responsibilities assigned to it by the Congress of Micronesia, and shall exercise all the powers and authority of other standing committees of the Congress of Micronesia; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- (a) To conduct political education within Micronesia;
- (b) To conduct a study on the economic implications of Free Association and Independence. Such a study should include, but not be limited to the following:

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(1) an estimation of the public finance and technical assistance required to provide the current level of governmental services; (2) an investigation of possible sources of financial aid and technical assistance; (3) an analysis of ways and means to increase local revenue; (4) an analysis of labor and capital requirements, especially public investment, necessary for development in each economic sector; (5) an analysis of implications of the Government of Micronesia controlling such economic activities as outside investment, lease of land, trade agreements, tariffs, shipping, airline routes, and alien labor; and (6) an analysis of alternative means to provide the present level of government services at a lower cost;

(c) To conduct a study of the alternative forms of democratic internal government available, and prepare basic constitutional proposals for submission as working papers to the Micronesian Constitutional Convention; and study and make recommendations concerning the organization and timing of a Constitutional Convention;

(d) To establish contacts and discuss the status question with appropriate persons and organizations within the United States, and in the United Nations, and solicit understanding and support of the position of the Congress of Micronesia on the status question;

(e) To continue discussions and negotiations with the United States Government on the future political status of the Trust Territory. In carrying out such activities, the Committee and all its members shall to the best of their ability adhere to the desires and policies of the Congress of Micronesia as expressed by resolution or otherwise, and all actions of the Committee shall be subject to subsequent ratification by the Congress of Micronesia; and

(f) To perform such other functions or duties as the Congress of Micronesia may by law or resolution prescribe; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee shall submit reports of its activities, findings, and recommendations to the Congress of Micronesia at each regular session of the Congress of Micronesia. Unless otherwise provided by bill or resolution, the Committee shall keep the people of Micronesia informed as to its work; and