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FOURTH CONGRESS, 1971

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 5, S.D. 1

A SENATE RESOLUTION

Requesting the Special Committee of Twenty-Four of the United Nations to visit the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands to examine the present and future status of self-government for the Trust Territory, and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, Article 76 of Chapter XII of the Charter of the United Nations sets forth the basic objectives of the Trusteeship System to be the promotion of "the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the trust territories, and... progressive development towards self-government or independence as may be appropriate to the particular circumstances of each territory and its peoples and the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned..."; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America as a Member nation of the United Nations assumes these responsibilities and obligations with regards to the former Japanese Mandated Islands, namely the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; and

WHEREAS, the duly elected representatives of the people of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands in Congress of Micronesia assembled have sought the early resolution of the future political and constitutional status of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and established a Political Status Commission to examine reasonable and practical political alternatives open to the Micronesians and the most democratic way in which the wishes of the people may be ascertained with respect to this important matter; and

WHEREAS, after extensive study, travel and discussions with representatives of the United States as an Administering Authority on the future political status of Micronesia, the Future Political Status Delegation submitted a final report, recommending, among other things, the status alternative of "free association with the United States", and advising the Congress of the offer of the United States of a "Commonwealth" status for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; and

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WHEREAS, the Third Congress of Micronesia, Third Regular Session, adopted the report of its Political Status Delegation and rejected the offer of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, by Senate Joint Resolution No. 100, adopted in 1970, the Third Congress duly informed the United Nations of its action, and expressly solicited advice and any comments from the United Nations or any of its organs or instrumentalities as may be appropriate under the circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations Special Committee of Twenty-Four has demonstrated its unselfish and untiring efforts in seeking self-government for all developing countries of the world community and may be in a better position to assess and review the prevailing conditions and present stage of negotiations with the United States by the people of Micronesia regarding the political status question; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Fourth Congress of Micronesia, First Regular Session, 1971, that the United Nations Special Committee of Twenty-Four be and is hereby invited to visit the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands to examine and advise upon the present and future status of self-government for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Joint Committee on Future Status of the Congress of Micronesia is hereby requested to make arrangements for the details and timing of such visit; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Secretary-General, the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Trusteeship Council and the Special Committee of Twenty-Four of the United Nations; the President, and the Secretaries of State, Defense and the Interior of the United States; the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Chairman of the Senate and House Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs of the United States Congress; and the High Commissioner.

Adopted 17 February 1971