

TWENTY-SIXTH DAY

Friday, February 2, 1973

The House of Representatives of the Fifth Congress of Micronesia, First Regular Session, 1973, was called to order at 10:07 a.m., Friday, February 2, 1973.

Speaker Bethwel Henry presided.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Chief Clerk called the roll. Nineteen members were present; Representatives Balos and Heine were excused.

The Speaker suspended reading of the Journal.

COMMUNICATIONS

No High Commissioner Communications were reported.

No Departmental Communications were reported.

Senate Communication No. 17, transmitting S.B. No. 3, relating to certain public lands in the Sasanhaya area on Rota Island for agricultural and village homestead lands.

Senate Communication No. 18, transmitting S.B. No. 30, relating to certain public lands in the Teneto and Sinapaio area on Rota Island for village homestead lands.

Senate Communication No. 19, transmitting S.B. No. 21, SD1, regarding the sitting of justices of the high court.

Senate Communication No. 20, transmitting S.J.R. No. 31, inviting the U.N. Mission to address the Congress of Micronesia.

Miscellaneous Communication No. 23, report on the construction of a road on Babelthup Island in Palau District.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Standing Committee Report No. 7, submitted by the Committee on Resources and Development re H.J.R. No. 21, "Requesting the High Commissioner to submit annual reports on the activities of the Navy Civic Action and Air Force Prime Beef teams in the Trust Territory."

Chairman Haruo moved for adoption of the report; Floor Leader Silk seconded, and the motion carried by voice vote.

ASSIGNMENT OF MEASURES

The Speaker called attention to Referral Sheet No. 17 attached to the Order of the Day for the assignment of measures. The following Senate Communications were also assigned:

Senate Communication No. 13, transmitting S.B. No. 36, SD1, "To appropriate the sum of \$257,000 out of the General Fund of the Congress of Micronesia for the purpose of defraying the operation and contingent expenses of the administration of the Tax Offices, and for other purposes." (Assigned to Appropriations)

Senate Communication No. 14, transmitting S.B. No. 5, SD1, "To appropriate the sum of \$52,200 out of the General Fund of the Congress of Micronesia for the purpose of defraying the operation and contingent expenses of the Administration of the Trust Territory Personnel Board and for other purposes." (Assigned to Appropriations)

Senate Communication No. 15, transmitting S.B. No. 53, SDI, "To provide a supplemental appropriation of \$4,000 out of the General Fund of the Congress of Micronesia for the operating expenses of the Social Security Office for Fiscal Year 1973, and for other purposes." (Assigned to Appropriations)

Senate Communication No. 16, transmitting S.B. No. 70, SDI, "To appropriate the sum of \$122,462.00 out of the General Fund of the Congress of Micronesia for the operating expenses of the Social Security Office for Fiscal Year 1974 and for other purposes." (Assigned to Appropriations)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

BILL CALENDAR

None

RESOLUTION CALENDAR

Representative Haruo moved for adoption of H.J.R. No. 21; Representative Domnick seconded, and the Chief Clerk read the title, "Requesting the High Commissioner to submit annual reports on the activities of the Navy Civic Action and Air Force Prime Beef teams in the Trust Territory."

The Chair recognized Representative Tman.

Representative Tman: Mr. Speaker, my ignorance begs to be enlightened. What is a Prime Beef team in this sense?

Representative Haruo: Mr. Speaker, there is a team on Tinian; I suppose they are helping in the raising of cattle and the products derived from that would be prime beef. Therefore, the team is called the Prime Beef team.

H.J.R. No. 21 was adopted by voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

H.B. No. 123

Introduced by: Rep. Basilius
Assigned to: Resources and Development

To provide for the conservation and protection of lobsters, mangrove crabs, and coconut crabs; providing penalties; and for other purposes.

H.B. No. 124

Introduced by: Rep. Pedro
Assigned to: Resources and Development/Appropriations

To establish a price control system, to appropriate \$25,000 for the enforcement thereof, to provide penalties for violation thereof and for other purposes.

H.B. No. 125

Introduced by: Rep. Setik
Assigned to: Appropriations

To appropriate the sum of \$60,000 from the General Fund of the Congress of Micronesia to carry out the purposes of Public Law No. 4C-53 as enacted by the Second Regular Session of the Fourth Congress of Micronesia in 1972 and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

H.J.R. No. 29

Introduced by: Rep. Atalig
Assigned to: Education and Social Matters

Requesting the High Commissioner and the Chief of the Division of Labor to enforce the laws concerning nonresident workers, and for other purposes.

H.J.R. No. 30

Introduced by: Rep. Sigrav
Assigned to: Health Matters

Directing the High Commissioner and the Joint Committee on Program and Budget Planning of the Congress of Micronesia to make budgetary allowances for the recruitment and hiring of at least one nurse or public health representative to be stationed in the State of Hawaii for the purpose of assisting and caring for the medical referrals from the Trust Territory to hospitals in Hawaii.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Representative Atalig: Mr. Speaker, if I may on behalf of Representative Guerrero and Representative Tenorio, I would like the House to recognize the presence of the Mt. Carmel students who are here under the guidance of Sister Bertha.

Floor Leader Silk: Mr. Speaker, I would like the House to recognize the presence of one of our chiefs from the Marshall Islands who is in the gallery this morning, Iroij Tairik Ladrik.

Representative Pedro: Mr. Speaker, if I may, I would like to say a few words.

Speaker Henry: You may have the floor, Congressman Pedro.

Representative Pedro:

"Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring to your attention a petition which the members of our delegation recently received from about 1,000 students attending elementary schools in Koror.

"The petition asks the members of our delegation to acquire buses by which the students can go to and from school. There are five elementary schools located in Koror and altogether they have close to 1,500 pupils. In addition to the elementary schools, there are two high schools, Koror High and Mindszenty High School, whose students have to walk to and from home. The total number of students who pour out onto the streets in the morning and at noon during peak hours of traffic poses a real danger to the lives of these students.

"The petition submitted by Koror youngsters is eloquent enough to speak for itself. And, with your permission, I would like to submit it into the records.

"Legislation to meet the students' requests is being prepared and will accordingly be submitted for your consideration. I am sure the Koror students will be grateful to learn that the Congress came to their aid when it was asked.

"Thank you very much."

(The Chief Clerk received the petition, which follows:)

"MEMORANDUM

TO: All the Palauan Members of the Congress of Micronesia.
FROM: School Children of Belau.
SUBJECT: Petition--to have school buses."

"We the children of Palau who attend the elementary schools in Koror are coming to you all the Representatives of the People of Palau in the Congress of Micronesia for help.

The roads in Koror are getting crowded with cars and people and they are becoming unsafe for us to walk to and back from schools. More and more cars are running on the roads which are not getting bigger nor better. We see little care or concern on the part of those who operate cars on the roads and we are concerned because our lives are constantly at stake on the roads. We are afraid that one of us is going to be run over or hit by the cars one of these days. We do not want to lose our lives be (sic) before we have a chance to grow up like you so we can help our islands.

"Therefore, we ask you our Congressmen to get school buses for Koror to take us to and from school safely everyday. Not all of our parents can own cars and most of us have to walk to and from school everyday. And even if they can all own cars, the roads of Koror are already overcrowded--and adding more cars will not help the situation. We come to you for help because we believe in you as leaders of Palau, and we know above all that you want to help us, and we trust that you will try your very best to get this help to us, your Palauan boys and girls."

"Signed by: Edwel Ongnung and about 1,000 other children."

Representative Atalig: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to remind the members again about the invitation from the mayor and people of Tinian. There will be two boats leaving here tomorrow for the members of the Congress and they will depart here at 9:00 in the morning. They will return about 6:00 in the evening. We hope that the members and the staff can make the trip to Tinian tomorrow.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Haruo announced a public hearing of the House Committee on Resources and Development and the Senate Committee on Resources and Development at 7:00 p.m., February 2, 1973 in the House Chamber, and again at 9:00 a.m., February 3, 1973 in the House Chamber. Chairman Haruo urged all members of the committee to participate in this very important hearing.

Chairman Setik announced a meeting of the Committee on Appropriations at 1:30 p.m., February 2, 1973 in Committee Room No. 2 to consider H.B. Nos. 39, 88, 89, and 103.

Chairman Basilius announced a public hearing of the Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Relations at 1:30 p.m., February 2, 1973 in the House Chamber to consider H.B. Nos. 48, 67, and 68.

The Chair recognized Representative Tman.

Representative Tman: Mr. Speaker, according to the announcements and according to the notice of public hearings, your Committee on Appropriations and your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Relations are meeting from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. today and, unfortunately, I happen to be a member of both. Mr. Speaker, I am willing to work 24 1/2 hours, but I cannot divide myself in half. In view of the fact that the Yap delegation has a very limited membership in this House, I would appreciate some consideration.

Floor Leader Silk moved for a short recess; Vice-Speaker Dois seconded, and the Speaker declared the House recessed at 10:17 a.m., subject to the call of the Chair.

RECESS

The House reconvened at 10:22 a.m. and the Chair recognized Floor Leader Silk.

Floor Leader Silk: Mr. Speaker, we have just been informed that the Rates Review Board of TransPac was to have met at 10:00 a.m. in the High Commissioner's Conference Room, but, nevertheless, the members of the Congress of Micronesia are invited to submit their opinions and statements in connection with reviewing the rates.

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Speaker Henry: Are there any other announcements?

Chairman Haruo announced that the Joint Committee on Marine Resources would meet immediately following the session in the House Chamber.

There being no further announcements, Floor Leader Silk moved that the House stand in recess. Vice-Speaker Dois seconded and the motion carried. The Speaker declared the House recessed at 10:24 a.m. until 10:00 a.m., Monday, February 5, 1973.

Respectfully submitted,

Asterio R. Takesy, Chief Clerk
House of Representatives