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# Micronesia Senate Passes 2 Bills

SAIPAN (MNS) — The senate passed two bills Friday and a joint resolution was adopted in final floor action. All three measures produced considerable discussion and debate.

The floor action dealt with a bill relating to the definition of "non-citizen" in present laws dealing with foreign business permits (HG 3), and with a bill to establish duty-free stores in TT ports of entry (SB 189). Both were finally passed on second and final reading.

Sen. Amata Kabua of the Marshalls presented the report of the resources and Development Committee on the 'non-citizen' measure, to "bring a halt to the practice of non-citizens marrying or adopting Micronesian citizens in order to get around" the legal requirements for entering into business in Micronesia.

The bill sets forth such situations and provides that non-citizens in these circumstances must nevertheless submit applications and otherwise comply with foreign business regulations if they wish to go into business in the Trust Territory.

The second bill, to establish duty-free stores, is an amended version of a measure passed by the first regular session of the Fifth Congress last year, but vetoed by the High Commissioner. Sen. Kabua also reported on this bill, saying he hopes that this time it will pass and become law. The bill provides for two different methods by which companies wishing to obtain concessions to operate duty-free shops in Micronesia could be permitted to do so. The stores would sell

goods to departing passengers at a price that would not include import duties or other taxes.

The joint resolution adopted Friday was one commending Guam Helicopters Incorporated, Guam businessman Ricardo Bordallo, and the U.S. Navy on Guam for their coordinated rescue earlier this month of a number of people stranded on uninhabited Goat Island, south of Tinian, by a plane crash (HJR 82). A minor amendment made to the measure on the floor will send the resolution

back to the House for another vote before it can be considered officially adopted by the entire Congress.

The house Friday filed nine bills, sent one to the senate, and referred one other back to the committee. Passed and sent to the senate was a measure to amend certain sections of the TT code to provide that fines imposed by a court under the authority of district or municipal law shall be paid into the treasury of the jurisdiction which enacted the law.

## Self-Government Target: 1981

we continue to encounter at the negotiating table, we must not lose sight of our basic goal — that of nation-building — and this means getting on with building the foundations of a genuinely self-governing nation, even if it must be at the unfortunate expense of stopping our negotiations indefinitely. The Palau senator, who has headed the Micronesian status delegation since its creation in 1967, told the Senate that "progressive implementation of self-government in Micronesia

does not necessarily have to await the conclusion of the status negotiations," and proposed a seven-year timetable, based on the approval of legislation for a constitutional convention, to achieve self-government.

Despite the continuing efforts, Sali pointed out that no one can tell just how long it will take Micronesia to resolve the remaining differences with the United States on the issues of finance, termination, foreign affairs and defense.

Regardless of what problems