01
2

# THE SENATE
## CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA
## SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950

COMMITTEE on
JUDICIARY and
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

Andon Amaraich, Chairman

Lazarus E. Salii, Vice-Chairman
Olympio T. Borja
Ambilos Iehsi
Petrus Tun
Wilfred I. Kendall

STANDING COM. REPT. NO. 221

MARCH 1, 1974

RE: S. B. NO. 296

The Honorable Tosiwo Nakayama
President of the Senate
Fifth Congress of Micronesia
Second Regular Session, 1974

Dear Mr. President:

Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 296, entitled:

S.B. No. 296, "A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ALLOW THE TRANSFER AND CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN PUBLIC LAND FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS TO LEGAL ENTITIES IN EACH OF THE SIX DISTRICTS; TO EMPOWER THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO TRANSFER AND CONVEY SUCH LANDS; TO PRESCRIBE CERTAIN LIMITATIONS, RESERVATIONS, AND CONDITIONS TO SUCH TRANSFER AND CONVEYANCES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.",

begs leave to report as follows:

The intent and purpose of this bill is to provide for procedures for the return of so-called public lands to the people of Micronesia. This is a goal of long-standing of the people of Micronesia, and your Committee was pleased to learn that a change in United States policy announced November 2, 1973, stated the United States' willingness to live up to its responsibilities in this respect. We believe that the agreement reached between the Joint Committee on Future Status and the United States, as we interpret that agreement, is generally satisfactory to accomplish the desired return of public lands.

There are several points, however, which must be made clear. First, the actions of the Joint Committee are subject to review by the full Congress, and that to which they agree is binding only ad referendum

on the Congress. Second, and most important, is that the Congress of Micronesia is free to interpret the agreement, in a manner consistent with the record of the Agreement, which is thoroughly set forth in the Joint Committee's Report on the Seventh Round of Negotiations.

The bill, as presented to us, did not, we believe, represent the agreement which was reached between the two delegations at the Seventh Round of Status Talks. It is, at best, a partisan distortion of that agreement, one which is as distasteful as it is demeaning. We consider it our obligation, as well as our only real choice, to amend that bill accordingly. Upon passage of this bill, the Congress will have done its part. The rest will be up to the High Commissioner and the District Legislatures.

The provisions of the bill are discussed seriatim:

Section 1 is a short title. Your Committee has objections to the use of the word "transfer" except in its narrowest legal sense. We view this bill as providing for the return to the people of Micronesia of what is rightfully theirs but has been taken from them over the years by a succession of colonial powers. Insofar as the word "transfer" implies something other than "return", which is not a legal "word of art", we decline to utilize that word. Accordingly, the section has been amended with the result that the act is known as the Public Land Act of 1974.

Section 2 provides certain definitions, the most critical of which is that of "public land". The original draft excluded from the term of that definition the so-called "military retention lands", which are (public) lands under a lease or use agreement to an agency of the United States Department of Defense. In most cases, the land is not in present use. To prohibit the return of title to these lands would be a mockery of the act and of the good faith in which the November agreement was reached. There is adequate protection for United States interests as they may appear by virtue of a requirement that leaseholds and use agreements must be respected, which appears in Section 7(3) of the act; thus, although title will be transferred, it will be transferred subject to the lease or use agreement. We are unable to see how the interests of either Micronesia or the United States are disserved in this way; this cannot be said if military retention lands are excluded from the definition of public lands.

We must point out that the Joint Committee has discussed the cancellation of leases between the Trust Territory and the United Scates on several occasions. This is not a subject which is within the purview of this bill. Your Committee, however, wishes to go on record by stating that it sees very little difference between the

return of unused public lands and the return of unused military retention lands, and urges the Joint Committee to press for a further agreement concerning the same to this end. Since periodic review of this bill will be necessary, we will examine developments in this respect most carefully over the next year.

Section 4 empowers each district legislature to create a corporate or individual legal entity to take title to the public lands which are returned. Your Committee offers an amendment to make it clear that the primary obligation of the district entity is to return the land to its rightful owners. To this end, and pending such return, it may undertake the functions specifically listed in the bill.

Several of those specific powers and duties deserve our attention. With reference to paragraph (d) of Subsection (1), it is our intention and our understanding that a district entity can be sued at any time, and that this right may not be limited by the district legislature in any way. The doctrine of sovereign immunity has prevented the settlement of titles in Micronesia for far too long, and perhaps the greatest accomplishment of this bill will be that claims to title to lands claimed by the Government will finally see the light of day in our courts, if the parties so desire. This should be so regardless of whatever adjudicatory procedures the districts adopt. Parties would still be free to utilize the adjudicatory procedure, but should also be free to settle the matter in court if they so choose. We do not believe that this will be either a burden on the courts or an interference with the function of the adjudicatory bodies.

Paragraph (c) of the same subsection grants the district entities the power to alienate land. It is our intention that these lands should be returned to the rightful owners, which is the primary obligation of the district entity. Upon a determination that there is no rightful private owner, however, there is no objection to the alienation of land if the district entity so chooses; we read into this paragraph, however, the requirements of due process and equal protection of the laws so that the land may not be disposed of except in accord with procedures granting all persons eligible to own or lease land the opportunity to participate in offers therefor on an equal footing with all others similarly situated. We intend that the law require no less.

Amendments are also offered to paragraphs (c) and (e) to make it clear that no negotiations or leases for future United States limitary land requirements can take place except upon the approval of a draft agreement concerning Micronesia's future political status by the Congress of

Micronesia and a ratification of that agreement by the people of Micronesia. We believe that this is the understanding which has been reached at the most recent rounds of status negotiations. The commitment to negotiate in good faith, to which the Joint Committee has agreed, is present in Paragraph (e).

Subsection (2) of the section authorizes districts to establish adjudicatory bodies to determine title to lands. The original draft provided that prior determinations of title by a Land Title Officer, a Land Commission, or a Court would be res judicata, and therefore binding on the district adjudicatory body; this, in the opinion of your Committee, ignores the fact that prior to the Land Commissions, errors in title determinations were the rule, rather than the exception. All factors affording Micronesians their due process rights were absent or seriously deficient: notice was practically nonexistent; there were few opportunities for a hearing, and even those hearings did not afford due process; few Micronesians at that time could speak English and therefore could understand even the nature of the proceedings; the appeals process, if it existed at all, was certainly not understood or appreciated at all; the opportunity for counsel was nonexistent; and so on practically ad infinitum. We have no case against determinations made by a Land Commission or by a court on the merits of a claim, but those made on the basis of an earlier determination as described above, which are required to be res judicata as to the Land Commissions and the courts, ought to be given little weight. We have amended the bill accordingly.

Subsection (3) of this Section authorizes the district legislature to provide for rules for the adjudicatory body, and the district legislature may utilize traditional rules to the extent that they do not conflict with the requirements of due process of law.

Subsection (4) authorizes a district legislature to grant the power of eminent domain to an entity which it creates, if it chooses to do so. The subject of eminent domain is dealt with at greater length elsewhere in this report.

Subsection (5) authorizes the district legislature to provide for a homestead program if it so chooses.

Section 5 is the operative section of the bill. It authorizes and directs the High Commissioner to transfer and convey the public lands to the district entities, subject to the other provisions of the act.

It should be pointed out that the Government will only quitclaim whatever interest it has; it cannot, of course, give a greater interest than it has. Presumably, also, lands will be quitclaim subject to survey in a great number of cases; testimony offered to your Committee indicates that additional funds for the surveying of public lands is and will continue to be forthcoming from the United States Annual Grant on an accelerated basis, so that the surveying of these lands can be completed as rapidly as possible. This is a program with which we heartily agree.

Section 6 provides for reservation of title to some categories of public land, as defined in Section 3. Title to the following lands would remain in the Government:

(1) lands in active use by the Government, such as schools, hospitals, administration buildings, and airports;

(2) lands needed for CIP projects within the next five years. Your Committee has amended this subsection to provide for concurrence by the District Legislature as to such lands. In practice, the High Commissio... will make available to each district legislature prior to its enactment of legislation implementing this bill a list of all lands within that district falling within this category. If the District Legislature agrees that the lands should be used for the purposes for which the High Commissioner intends, then title will not be transferred, and the lands must be used within five years. If they do not agree, it can be presumed that they do not want the project, and that it should therefor... not be undertaken, and that therefore land should not be reserved for i... This is an extremely meaningful provision; control of lands means contr... of the use of lands, and if the people of the district do not have con... over what is at least in the absence of evidence to the contrary a siz... portion of public lands, it cannot meaningfully be said that their publ... lands have been returned to them.

(3) lands which are in the process of homesteading. The language of t... subsection has been clarified.

Section 7 requires the district legislature to provide for certain elements in its implementing legislation, prior to the conveyance of public lands by the High Commissioner to the district entity. The original draft provided for the requirement of High Commissioner approv... of all such legislation; this provision is inconsistent with the provisions of district charters and territorial law, and we have therefore amended it accordingly. In actual practice, the amendment makes no difference, since if the High Commissioner instructs a district administrator to approve or disapprove a measure, which he has the power to do, the district administrator will in fact follow

those instructions. Additionally, we see absolutely nothing in the November Agreement which justifies the original provision.

The conditions imposed are as follows:

(1) The original draft provided for the reservation of the power of eminent domain ultimately to the central government. We have dealt with the subject of eminent domain elsewhere in this report, and have therefore deleted this provision.

(2) The original draft would have reserved powers over navigation, conservation, and commerce to the central government. We believe that these are matters of district concern, and have amended the bill accordingly.

(3) Compliance with existing leases and use agreements. This includes, in the opinion of your Committee, military retention agreements, which we expect will be followed until further negotiations or legislation deals with the subject. Your Committee has, however, added a proviso to prevent a wholesale giveaway of public lands by lease between the effective date of the act and the date of the transfer to the district entity.

(4) Respect for tenancies at will and by sufferance.

(5) Disposition of revenues arising from the use of lands.

(6) Transfer of lands subject to all existing claims relating to the land.

(7) Holding the United States and Trust Territory Government harmless from claims arising after the transfer of lands, except those arising directly out of their actions. It is your Committee's opinion that this provision is excess verbiage, the only effect of which would be harmful to the prosecution of just claims. Obviously, neither the United States nor the Trust Territory are responsible for causes of action arising after the transfer, except where the cause of action arose out of their direct activity. It is our intention, however, that as to causes of action which arose against either prior to the transfer, the United States and the Trust Territory Governments should continue to be responsible to the extent that their respective liabilities appear. Such claim should be neither extinguished nor transferred to claims against the district entity, which should not succeed to liabilities which it did not create. In deleting this

provision, we intend to accomplish these purposes.

Section 8 originally provided that the High Commissioner could transfer the lands "at any time" after the other provisions of the act had been complied with by the District. We have seen too many abuses of discretion by the High Commissioner, and we have waited too long for the return of our lands, to permit this provision to remain. Sixty days after the effective date of district implementing legislation should be more than sufficient. The mechanics of transfer should be simple. In addition, by amending the word "may" to read "shall", we intend to make the High Commissioner's duty a mandatory, ministerial one, and not a discretionary one, in order that this provision might be enforceable.

Section 9 is new. Your Committee was extremely upset over the fact that data regarding public lands was not made available to it, even after a request at our hearing on this bill. In this regard, the Chief of the Division of Lands and Surveys has been grossly negligent in his responsibilities to the Committee, the Congress, and the people of Micronesia, who have a right and a necessity to know exactly what land is being affected by this bill. Accordingly, Section 9 provides for a reportorial function by the High Commissioner, who will be required to list, and periodically update such list, of all land affected by the act.

Section 10 makes amendments to existing law where necessary for the implementation of the act. Your Committee points out that there are a number of relevant sections of the Trust Territory Code which are not amended by this bill; we have agreed to the suggestion of the Division of Lands and Surveys that a re-examination of these sections will be necessary at the next regular session of the Congress, and we intend to do so.

The most important change is with respect to eminent domain. Under the original provisions of the bill, both the High Commissioner and the district entity can exercise the powers of eminent domain. We have added a proviso, in furtherance of a provision of the November Agreement which was not included in this bill, to provide that the High Commissioner can exercise his powers only when a district fails or refuses to do so. We have also combined the two definitions of eminent domain, which we believe simplifies the bill without detracting from it.

With reference to actual practice, it is anticipated by your Committee that district legislatures will want to retain some control over the use of eminent domain within the district. Typical legislation in furtherance of this provision, for example, might give the responsibility

to the district entity to determine whether a public purpose exists, with the concurrence of the district legislature. If a request for the exercise of the power -- which should be in and of itself only a last resort after amicable negotiations and traditional means have failed -- by the High Commissioner is not approved at the district level, or has not been acted upon within a reasonable length of time, the High Commissioner may act.

We do not believe that we can eliminate the power of eminent domain in the central government entirely. We do, however, desire to provide adequate safeguards against its use without the support of the people whom it affects most directly without their consent, and we believe that the amendments which we have offered accomplish this purpose in full consistency with the terms of the November Agreement and the statements of district position which have been presented to us.

Another provision of existing law amended by the bill would require courts and land commissioner to respect title determinations made by district adjudicatory authorities. Presumably, when a district adjudicatory authority made a determination of title, the district entity would transfer the title to the party in whose favor the determination was rendered. This determination could then be taken to the land commission, which would be obliged to issue a certificate of title based upon the determination. In any subsequent court proceeding, the court would be bound to honor the determination.

A new Section 11 provides that district entities shall be citizens, within the meaning of Section 11101 of Title 57 of the Trust Territory Code which prohibits noncitizens from owning certain interests in land. Without this section, serious problems could arise if a district chose to constitute an entity which includes expatriates for some reason.

Section 12 provides that the powers and duties of the Division of Lands and Surveys ceases as to such lands as are transferred as of the date of the transfer. It is not our intention to absolve the Division of any of its unfulfilled obligations which arose prior to the transfer, and we do not believe that the bill does this.

Section 13 provides for an immediate effective date.

All of the important substantive amendments offered by your Committee have been discussed. A great number of amendments are of a technical nature.

STANDING COM. REPT. NO. 221

MARCH 1, 1974

RE: S.B. NO. 296

The amendments are listed as follows:

1. In line 4 of the Title, the word "transfer" is amended to read "transfers".

2. On page 1, line 2, the word "Transfer" is deleted.

3. On page 1, lines 3 and 4, the words "implement the provisions of the Micronesian Public Land Policy of November 2, 1973" are deleted, and the words "provide for the return of public lands to the people of Micronesia, who are the traditional and rightful owners thereof" are inserted in lieu thereof.

4. On page 1, line 5, the word "six" is deleted.

5. On page 1, line 6, the word "each" is deleted, and the word "its" is inserted in lieu thereof.

6. On page 1, line 7, the word "peoples" is amended to read "people".

7. On page 1, line 11, the word "to" which follows the word "claims" is deleted, and the word "of" is inserted in lieu thereof.

8. On page 1, line 11, following the word "title", the word "to" is inserted.

9. On page 1, line 17, the word "six" is deleted.

10. On page 1, line 20, the word "six" is deleted.

11. On page 2, lines 4 and 5, the words "except those lands designated as military retention lands leased by the United States and not returned to the public domain," are deleted.

12. On page 2, lines 8 through 10, the words ", except those lands designated as military retention lands leased by the United States and not returned to the public domain" are deleted.

13. On page 2, line 12, the words "association, partnership," are deleted.

14. On page 2, line 16, following the word "have", the words "as its primary purpose to which all other powers and duties are subordinate the return of title to public lands transferred to it under the authority of this act to the rightful owners thereof, and to that

end shall have" are inserted.

15. On page 2, line 22, the comma is deleted, and the following is inserted in lieu thereof: "; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the laws of the Trust Territory regarding ownership of land shall apply in connection with any disposition of lands under this paragraph; and PROVIDED FURTHER, that no lands may be sold, leased, exchanged, or in any other way disposed of to the United States or any agency or political subdivison thereof except upon authority specifically granted by resolution of the Congress of Micronesia,"

16. On page 3, lines 3 and 4, the words "make formal agreements upon mutually satisfactory terms" are deleted, and the words "negotiate in good faith" are inserted in lieu thereof.

17. On page 3, line 5, the words "a future status agreement" are deleted, and the words "an agreement the Congress of Micronesia and the United States which has been ratified by the people of Micronesia" are inserted in lieu thereof.

18. On page 3, lines 10 and 11, the words "or is in the process of being finally determined either by a Land Title Officer," are deleted, and the word "by" is inserted in lieu thereof.

19. On page 3, line 12, following the word "jurisdiction", the words "on the merits of such claim, and not on the basis of a prior determination by a Land Title Officer or by any other agency or offical prior to the establishment of the Land Commission for the district" are inserted.

20. On page 3, line 13, following the word "judicata;", the word "and" is inserted.

21. On page 3, line 13, following the word "further", a comma is inserted.

22. On page 3, line 21, the word "or" is deleted, and the word "of" is inserted in lieu thereof.

23. On page 3, line 24, following the word "purposes", a comma is inserted.

24. On page 3, line 24, following the words "purposes, and", the words "to this end, the district legislature is authorized to" are inserted.

25. On page 4, line 5, following the words "directed to", the words "transfer and" are inserted.

26. On page 4, line 11, the word "central" is deleted.

27. On page 4, line 11, the word "government" is amended to read "Government".

28. On page 4, line 12, following the word "Islands", a comma is inserted.

29. On page 4, line 12, the word "or" which follow the word "agencies" is deleted, and a comma is inserted in lieu thereof.

30. On page 4, line 12, following the word "instrumentalities", the words ", or political subdivisions" are inserted.

31. On page 4, line 12, following the word "thereof", a comma is inserted.

32. On page 4, lines 14 through 16, the words "a determination by the High Commissioner that such lands are no longer needed for use" are deleted, and the words "the cessation of active use of such public lands" are inserted in lieu thereof.

33. On page 4, line 16, the word "central" is deleted.

34. On page 4, line 16, the word "government" is amended to read "Government".

35. On page 4, line 17, following the word "Commissioner", the words ", with the concurrence of the district legislature," are inserted.

36. On page 4, lines 20 and 21, the words "determination by the High Commissioner that the lands are no longer needed" are deleted, and the words "the expiration of such five-year period if at such time they are not in active use" are inserted in lieu thereof.

37. On page 4, line 21, the word "central" is deleted.

38. On page 4, line 22, the word "government" is amended to read "Government".

39. On page 4, lines 23 and 24, the words "on which there are valid and existing homestead claims" are deleted, and the words "as to which there are valid homestead entry permits, or certificates evidencing compliance with such permits, and as to which deeds have not been issued," are inserted in lieu thereof.

40. On page 5, line 3, the words "satisfactory to the High Commissioner" are deleted, and the word "providing" is inserted in lieu thereof.

41. On page 5, lines 4 through 6 are deleted.

42. On page 5, lines 7 and 8, the words "(2) reservation of the right of the central government of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands to regulate" are deleted, and the words "(1) regulation of" are inserted in lieu thereof.

43. On page 5, line 11, the figure "(3)" is deleted, and the figure "(2)" is inserted in lieu thereof.

44. On page 5, line 12, following the word "entered", the word "into" is inserted.

45. On page 5, line 12, the words "central or district" are deleted.

46. On page 5, line 12, the word "government" is amended to read "Government".

47. On page 5, line 13, the word "their" is deleted, and the words "or its" are inserted in lieu thereof.

48. On page 5, line 13, following the word "agencies", the words ", instrumentalities," is inserted.

49. On page 5, line 13, following the word "subdivision;" the words "PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the Government, its agencies, instrumentalities, and political subdivisions may not enter into any lease or use agreement as to public lands after the effective date of this act, except leases of such lands to Trust Territory citizens for residential purposes, without the approval of the district legislature of the district in which such land is located;" are inserted.

50. On page 5, line 14, the figure "(4)" is deleted, and the figure "(3)" is inserted in lieu thereof.

51. On page 5, line 18, the figure "(5)" is deleted, and the figure "(4)" is inserted in lieu thereof.

52. On page 5, line 19, the word "once" is deleted, and the words ", upon the transfer and conveyance of" are inserted in lieu thereof.

53. On page 5, line 20, the words "has been conveyed" are deleted.

54. On page 5, line 20, the word "to" which follows the word "entities" is deleted, and the words ", which revenues shall" are inserted in lieu thereof.

55. On page 5, line 22, the figure "(6)" is deleted, and the figure "(5)" is inserted in lieu thereof.

56. On page 5, lines 24 and 25 are deleted.

57. On page 6, lines 1 through 4, inclusive, are deleted.

58. On page 6, line 7, the word "may" is deleted, and the word "shall" is inserted in lieu thereof.

59. On page 6, line 7, the words ", at any time," are deleted, and the words "within sixty days" are inserted in lieu thereof.

60. On page 6, lines 8 and 9, the words "; provided, however, that such conveyance shall be made without unreasonable delay" are deleted.

61. On page 6, following line 9, a new Section is inserted to read as follows: "Section 9. Compilation of Information. Within thirty days of the effective date of this act, the High Commissioner shall compile and publish, as to each district of the Trust Territory, information as to the size and location of each parcel of public land which: (1) is retained by the Government pursuant to the provisions of Section 6 of this act; and (2) is the subject of a lease or land use agreement as set forth in Section 7(2) of this act, or of a tenancy at will or by sufferance as set forth in Section 7(3) of this act, together with the leasee, user, or tenant thereof, and together with a summary of the provisions of any agreement, whether written or unwritten, concerning such lease, land use, or tenancy; and (3) has been transferred and conveyed by the High Commissioner pursuant to the authority of Section 5 of this act, and (4) is subject to transfer and conveyance under Sections 5 and 6 of this act, but has not been transferred and conveyed.

The publication required by this Section shall be made available to the Congress of Micronesia, to each district legislature and legal entity, and to the general public, and shall be revised and updated not less frequently than once every three months."

62. On page 6, line 10, the figure "9" is deleted, and the figure "10" is inserted in lieu thereof.

63. On page 6, line 11, the first comma is deleted, and the word "of" is inserted in lieu thereof.

64. On page 6, line 11, the second comma is deleted, and the words "of the" are inserted in lieu thereof.

65. On page 6, line 11, the third comma is deleted.

66. On page 6, line 13, the words "Power denied private corporations" are underlined.

67. On page 6, line 15, the word "Transfer" is deleted.

68. On page 6, line 17, the first comma is deleted, and the word "of" is inserted in lieu thereof.

69. On page 6, line 18, the second comma is deleted and the words "of the" are inserted in lieu thereof.

70. On page 6, line 18, the third comma is deleted.

71. On page 6, line 19, the word "Definitions" is underlined.

72. On page 6, line 22, the figure "(a)" is deleted.

73. On page 6, line 22, the words "central" government" are deleted, and the words "Government of the Trust Territory, of a district government or a district legal entity as may be provided for by district law in accordance with the Public Land Act of 1974," are inserted in lieu thereof.

74. On page 6, following line 25, a new sentence is inserted to read as follows: "The right may be exercised by the Government of the Trust Territory only after a district government or a district legal entity has refused to exercise the power, or has failed to act upon a request by the High Commissioner to exercise the power within one year of the date of such request."

75. On page 7, lines 1 through 6, inclusive, are deleted.

76. On page 7, line 7, the word "Public" is underlined on the first occasion or which it appears in such line.

77. On page 7, line 10, the words "central government" are deleted, and the word "Government" is inserted in lieu thereof.

STANDING COM. REPT. NO. 221

MARCH 1, 1974

RE: S.B. NO. 296

78. On page 7, line 10, following the word "Islands", a comma is inserted

79. On page 7, line 14, the word "Transfer" is deleted.

80. On page 7, line 15, the first comma is deleted and the word "of" is inserted in lieu thereof.

81. On page 7, line 15, the second comma is deleted, and the words "of the" are inserted in lieu thereof.

82. On page 7, line 15, the third comma is deleted.

83. On page 7, line 17, the words "Conduct of hearings" are underlined.

84. On page 8, line 1, the word "Transfer" is deleted.

85. On page 8, following line 10, a new Section is inserted to read as follows:
Section 11. "Citizenship of district entity. A district entity shall be deemed to be a citizen of the Trust Territory for the purposes of Section 11101 of Title 67 of the Trust Territory Code."

86. On page 8, line 11, the figure "10" is deleted, and the figure "12" is inserted in lieu thereof.

87. On page 8, line 12, the word "Chief" is deleted, and the word "Division" is inserted in lieu thereof.

88. On page 8, line 14, the figure "11" is deleted, and the figure "13" is inserted in lieu thereof.

Your Committee is thus in complete accord with the intent and purposes of Senate Bill No. 296, as amended, and recommends its passage on Second and Final Reading in the amended form attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

Andon Amaraich, Chairman

Lazarus Salii, Vice-Chairman

Olympio T. Borja, Member

Ambilos Iehsi, Member

Petrus Tun, Member

Wilfred Kendall, Member