

SECOND DAY

Tuesday, January 14, 1975

The House of Representatives of the Sixth Congress of Micronesia, First Regular Session, 1975, was called to order at 10:15 a.m., Tuesday, January 14, 1975.

Speaker Bethwel Henry presided.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Chief Clerk called the roll. Seventeen members were present. Representative Domnick was absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chief Clerk: Mr. Speaker, we have oral reports to be made by the committee to wait on the High Commissioner and the committee to wait on the Senate advising them that the House is ready to transact business.

Vice Speaker Silk: Mr. Speaker, your committee to wait on the High Commissioner met with the High Commissioner this morning, and we gave him the message that the House is organized and ready to transact business. The High Commissioner conveys his greetings to the members and he expressed cooperation from his office during this session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Floor Leader Tman: Mr. Speaker, your committee to wait on the Senate unfortunately has not been able to accomplish its task. The Senators wish to get organized first before they receive the delegation from the House. When the committee accomplishes its mission, it will make its report.

ASSIGNMENT OF MEASURES

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

BILL CALENDAR

None

RESOLUTION CALENDAR

None

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

H.B. No. 6-1:

Introduced by: Rep. Setik
Assigned to: Judiciary and Governmental Relations

To increase Social Security benefits; to amend Subsections (1) and (2) of Section 105 of Title 73 of the Trust Territory Code as amended by Public Law No. 5-7, and for other purposes.

H.B. No. 6-2:

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

To provide for a comprehensive and balanced developmental policy for Micronesia; to prescribe the procedure in the formulation of such a policy; to appropriate funds to carry out the purposes of this act; and for other purposes.

H.B. No. 6-3:

Introduced by: Rep. Setik
Assigned to: Appropriations

To appropriate the sum of \$11,000 from the General Fund of the Congress of Micronesia as a supplemental appropriation for the operation and contingent expenses of the Revenue Division of the Department of Finance of the Trust Territory for Fiscal Year 1975 and for other purposes.

H.B. No. 6-4:

Introduced by: Rep. Setik
Assigned to: Appropriations

To appropriate the sum of \$174,641 from the General Fund of the Congress of Micronesia for the operating expenses of the Social Security Office for Fiscal Year 1976 and for other purposes.

H.B. No. 6-5:

Introduced by: Rep. Setik
Assigned to: Appropriations

To appropriate the sum of \$297,400 from the General Fund of the Congress of Micronesia for the purpose of defraying the operation and contingent expenses of the Revenue Division of the Department of Finance of the Trust Territory for Fiscal Year 1976 and for other purposes.

H.B. No. 6-6:

Introduced by: Rep. Henry
Assigned to: Appropriations

To appropriate the sum of \$30,000 from the General Fund of the Congress of Micronesia for the purpose of continuing and expanding programs which have been previously funded by the Congress of Micronesia under Public Laws 3C-7, 3C-52, 4C-25, 5-24 and 5-83.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

H.J.R. No. 6-1:

Introduced by: Rep. Tman

Resolving that the two Houses of the Congress of Micronesia meet in joint session for the purpose of having the Honorable Edward E. Johnston, High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, present the State of the Territory message.

H.J.R. No. 6-2:

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

Commending the Honorable J.B.P. Maramis, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific for his outstanding efforts in promoting programs which directly benefit ESCAP member developing island

states in the Pacific and inviting Mr. Maramis to visit the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Floor Leader Tman: Mr. Speaker, I wish to offer several amendments to our Official Rules of Procedure. I believe the copies of the proposed amendments have been distributed as our rule requires. Attached to the proposed amendments is the technical explanation as to the reason that we wish to amend our present rules. I ask that these amendments be reviewed by the members of the House, and we will take them up tomorrow.

Speaker Henry: Let me just repeat the request of the Floor Leader--that the members read the proposed amendments because the House will vote on them tomorrow.

Representative Haruc moved for a short recess; Floor Leader Tman seconded, and the Speaker declared the House recessed at 10:20 a.m.

The House reconvened at 10:25 a.m.

COMMITTEE FROM THE SENATE

Speaker Henry: I understand there is a committee from the Senate that is waiting on the House. Let me ask the Sergeant-at-Arms to escort the Senators to the rostrum.

The Sergeant-at-Arms escorted the committee consisting of Senators Mangefel, Kendall, and Tenorio to the rostrum.

Senator Mangefel: Mr. Speaker, distinguished members of the House: We feel sorry that it took us this long to organize ourselves; however, we are now (we believe) organized to transact any business--and maybe to fight you.

Speaker Henry: We hope we have a good fight.

Floor Leader Tman: Mr. Speaker, in order that your committee to wait on the Senate might be able to carry out its assignment, I move that the House recess.

Representative Setik seconded the motion, and the Speaker declared the House recessed at 10:28 a.m.

The House reconvened at 10:50 a.m.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Speaker Henry: There is a report from the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Tman: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee to wait on the Senate has accomplished its mission. We have brought greetings from the House to the Senate, and we also advised the Senate that the House was organized yesterday and now is ready to transact business. I also took the liberty, as the chairman of the committee to wait on the Senate, to introduce our first Congresswoman. The President of the Senate sends his warm greetings to all the members of the House, and he wishes us a fruitful session this year. Thank you very much.

APPOINTMENT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Speaker Henry: Yesterday the House established a Special Committee on Credentials. Let me announce the members of the committee. They are as follows: Congressman Sigrah, Congressman Haruo, Congressman Balos, Congressman Mafnas, Congressman Rudimch, and Congressman Haglegam. I request that the members of this committee meet immediately after the session to elect a chairman. Is there any more Miscellaneous Business?

REMARKS BY REPRESENTATIVE HARUO

Rep. Haruo: Mr. Speaker, I have short remarks to make.

Mr. Speaker and fellow colleagues: The Sixth Congress of Micronesia has before it the tremendous task and opportunity of developing the economic and social system here in the Trust Territory. It is hoped that all of the members in the House of Representatives and in the Senate will join together to meet this important goal. The future of Micronesia depends upon our ability to plan for our economic development. The following areas appear to be important for us to consider in this coming session: agriculture, fisheries development, shipping and transportation, and the formation of a Micronesia Development Bank. In these areas reports will be submitted to the House of Representatives. A special consultant working with the Joint Committee on Resources and Development has prepared a report on the development of fisheries in Micronesia. This report will be submitted in the near future. It contains suggestions for improving fisheries development as well as suggestions for legislation to be considered by the Congress of Micronesia. Likewise, a report will be submitted by a United Nations consultant in the development of a viable surface transportation system for Micronesia. The Micronesia Development Bank will be submitting its report and recommendations for capitalization requirements to this first session of the Sixth Congress.

I am happy to report that a new philosophy of economic development appears to have been reached with the Congress and the Trust Territory Government which will result in more effective economic program planning. This philosophy envisions a joint effort and total cooperation between the executive and legislative branches of the Trust Territory. Each side must sit down together and formulate constructive solutions for the needs and problems so apparent. Through joint effort and cooperation, the formulation process in the legislative branch and the implementation process through the executive branch will result in greater development for Micronesia. It is hoped that the Administration appreciates the importance of this concept and will continue to work closely with the Congress of Micronesia for the development of the Trust Territory.

I am also happy to report that international organizations throughout the world are understanding and sympathetic to the development needs of the Trust Territory. United Nations organizations, such as the United Nations Development Program and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and international organizations such as the South Pacific Commission and the Asian Development Bank, have been responsive to the needs of the Trust Territory. However, with regard to our prospective membership in the Asian Development Bank, the U.S. Congress has not taken the necessary initiative required for our membership. Sponsoring legislation has failed to pass the U.S. Congress.

In the Sixth Session of the Congress of Micronesia, it is hoped that the Joint Committee on Resources and Development will reevaluate the position and value of granting franchises to companies doing business in the Trust Territory. Likewise, these monopolistic companies should reevaluate their operations and actions to consider the adverse effects their commercial activities and price structures have on the Micronesian consumer. These companies should not automatically increase prices without first consulting the Congress of Micronesia and giving a full opportunity for the public to question and understand their activities through public hearings. Two examples of companies which have been granted a franchise to do business in the Trust Territory which have unilaterally increased their prices without consulting the people of Micronesia are Mobil Oil-Micronesia and Continental/Air Micronesia. The Joint Committee on Resources and Development will review this matter.

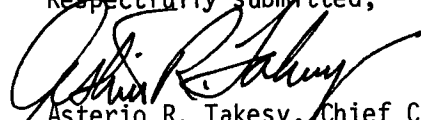
In the past session, the Joint Committee on Resources and Development has studied economic development schemes in countries through Asia and the Pacific. It is now time for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands to formulate its own economic development program. Legislation will be submitted in the Sixth Congress to formulate an economic development plan setting goals and objectives. The formation of an economic development plan is essential to the constructive and orderly progress of development in Micronesia.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Floor Leader Tman: Mr. Speaker, I wish just to remind all the delegations if they have not submitted their names of Representatives to serve on the various standing committees, I would suggest they do so by tomorrow.

There being no further announcements, Floor Leader Tman moved that the House stand in recess. Vice Speaker Silk seconded, and the motion carried. The Speaker declared the House recessed at 11:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 15, 1975.

Respectfully submitted,



Asterio R. Takesy, Chief Clerk
House of Representatives