

THIRTY-SEVENTH DAY

Tuesday, February 18, 1975

The House of Representatives of the Sixth Congress of Micronesia, First Regular Session, 1975, was called to order at 10:10 a.m., Tuesday, February 18, 1975.

Speaker Bethwel Henry presided.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Chief Clerk called the roll. Nineteen members were present; Representatives Domnick and Sigrah were excused.

COMMUNICATIONS

No High Commissioner Communications were reported.

No Departmental Communications were reported.

Senate Communication No. 6-34, returning H.B. No. 6-117, to lapse funds appropriated to the Revenue Division.

Senate Communication No. 6-35, returning H.J.R. No. 6-11, H.D.1, relating to future Micronesian income tax.

Senate Communication No. 6-36, transmitting S.B. No. 6-97, relating to High Commissioner's Special Order No. 9, establishing the Angaur Housing Authority.

Senate Communication No. 6-37, transmitting S.B. No. 6-107, amending Public Law 5-108, relating to Mariana Islands District appropriation.

Senate Communication No. 6-38, transmitting S.J.R. No. 6-24, requesting United States to provide training for Trust Territory citizens in Foreign Service.

No Miscellaneous Communications were reported.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Standing Committee Report No. 6-36, submitted by the Committee on Resources and Development, re S.J.R. No. 6-13, "Respectfully inviting the United Nations Asian Institute for Economic Development and Planning to locate a regional office on Saipan, Mariana Islands District, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and also inviting the Director of the Institute to visit Micronesia in the near future."

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

(Representative Sigrah took his seat.)

Standing Committee Report No. 6-37, submitted by the Committee on Resources and Development, re H.B. No. 6-131, "To appropriate the sum of \$240,000 from the General Fund of the Congress of Micronesia for use by the district fishing authorities in making loans to the fishing cooperative associations, and for other purposes."

Chairman Haruo moved for adoption of the report; Vice Speaker Silk seconded.

Vice Speaker Silk: Mr. Speaker, point of information: I believe the Chairman of the

Resources and Development Committee has requested information on the money that we appropriated last session. I wonder if the reports from the districts have been received?

Rep. Haruo: Mr. Speaker, we have received reports from three districts. We have not received reports from the other three districts.

Vice Speaker Silk: I believe that the committee recommends approval upon reporting out from the Committee on Appropriations. My point is that I wonder how soon the reports will be in for your Committee on Appropriations to give consideration to this program. How soon, Mr. Speaker, will the remaining reports be in?

Rep. Haruo: I cannot tell how soon the districts will submit their reports. The information went out about three or four weeks ago requesting reports from the districts, and so far only three districts have submitted their reports per our request.

The motion to adopt Standing Committee Report No. 6-37 carried by voice vote.

Standing Committee Report No. 6-38, submitted by the Committee on Resources and Development, re H.B. No. 6-167, "To appropriate the sum of \$5,000 from the General Fund of the Congress of Micronesia to purchase a freezer for the fishing vessel constructed under Public Law No. 4C-71, and for other purposes."

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

Standing Committee Report No. 6-39, submitted by the Committee on Resources and Development, re H.J.R. No. 6-39, "Requesting the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory to seek United States Federal airport money under the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 to upgrade and improve Goding Field in the Palau District."

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

Standing Committee Report No. 6-40, submitted by the Committee on Appropriations, re H.J.R. No. 6-50, "Requesting the High Commissioner to seek funds for the installation of runway lights and related facilities for Goding Field on Babelthaup Island, Palau District."

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

Standing Committee Report No. 6-41, submitted by the Committee on Appropriations, re H. B. No. 6-163, "To appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the purpose of clearing and rehabilitating public lands on Wotje, Mili, Jaluit and Maloelap Atolls, Marshall Islands District, and for other purposes."

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

Standing Committee Report No. 6-42, submitted by the Committee on Resources and Development, re H.J.R. No. 6-30, "Respectfully requesting the United States Government, through its Director of Federal Disaster Assistance, to provide for emergency assistance to the people of Ebeye Island, Marshall Islands District, who are in dire need of water to maintain life and ensure the public health."

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

Standing Committee Report No. 6-43, submitted by the Committee on Resources and Development, re H.B. No. 6-74, "To appropriate \$20,000 from the General Fund of the Congress of Micronesia in aid of an agriculture project on Arno Atoll, Marshall Islands District, and for other purposes."

Chairman Haruo moved for adoption of the report; Floor Leader Tman seconded.

Rep. Guerrero: Mr. Speaker, I have a question. (Are we on Standing Committee Report No. 6-43?)

Speaker Henry: Yes.

Rep. Guerrero: My question, Mr. Speaker, is what will happen to the budget priority that is requested of each delegation? What is the purpose of submitting that?

Speaker Henry: This report is from the Committee on Resources and Development. The priorities on budget will be in the Appropriations Committee. This is also assigned to the Committee on Appropriations, and it has not been reported out of that committee.

Rep. Guerrero: The reason that I ask is that last week sometime, if I am not mistaken, there was an appropriation for the boatbuilding project in Truk. Here again is another appropriation for \$20,000 for Arno in Majuro, Marshall Islands, and I was wondering if this could be considered a budget priority of that delegation.

Floor Leader Tman: I believe the Chair has already explained the budget priority for each district will be considered by the Appropriations Committee. The Committee on Resources and Development has studied the merits of the legislation and recommends its passage; however, the Appropriations Committee will coordinate the district's priorities.

Rep. Guerrero: Mr. Speaker, I am only raising this issue because we are faced with a budget limitation. I think that all district priorities should be granted on the basis of their merit. What I am trying to say is that if this is a district priority, then it should be considered as such.

Vice Speaker Silk: Mr. Speaker, on the report, the last paragraph of page two, as the Chair indicated the bill will go to your Committee on Appropriations, which will coordinate the priorities with the district delegation. As the Floor Leader has mentioned, the Committee on Resources and Development considered the merits of the bill, but did not consider the fiscal aspect of it, which will be coordinated according to priorities set by each district delegation.

Rep. Rasa: Mr. Speaker, I understand that the amendment calls for a tremendous cut from \$20,000 to \$5,000. Now my question is not concerned with the money, but I am concerned with the way the bill has been drafted. Starting with the second paragraph, we have some phrases in here which I want to quote: ". . . to avoid very negative social and economic consequences." (I quote again) ". . . can only be done by the infusion of capital and technical assistance." I am not trying to be academic, Mr. Speaker, and I think the wording is very beautiful, but I still cannot be convinced that if you infuse capital and provide technical assistance that it will reduce or eliminate negative consequences. I think this is a gross generalization being provided in order to seek the passage of the bill. If there is anything to substantiate this (which I think there is none), I suggest that the committee stop the usage of beautiful words. I think, Mr. Speaker, it is very important that when you say something like "negative social and economic consequences" you must have facts to support it. We see words--beautiful adjectives--here, but we have no facts whatsoever to show that when you infuse capital you can produce development.

Vice Speaker Silk: Point of information: Is my colleague referring to the wording in the bill itself, or to the wording in the report. Which one is he referring to?

Speaker Henry: The report.

Rep. Aafin: Mr. Speaker, in the last paragraph of the report it says that the Resources and Development Committee is recommending passage, "upon favorable recommendation of the House Committee on Appropriations to which it was also referred, recommends its passage on Second and Final Reading . . ." I don't quite understand this. If this is passed on Second and

Final Reading, the bill, as it is--will it not go to the Senate without the recommendation of the Appropriations Committee?

Speaker Henry: It will have to go to the Senate as it passed the House.

Rep. Aafin: So when is the Appropriations Committee's work? At what point?

Speaker Henry: I'm sorry, this bill was originally assigned to two committees. It was assigned to the Committee on Resources and Development and the Committee on Appropriations. The bill cannot pass the House until it is reported out of both committees favorably. If the Appropriations Committee doesn't report this bill out, then the bill cannot pass the House and it cannot go to the Senate.

Rep. Aafin: If we pass this one on Final Reading . . .

Speaker Henry: We cannot pass it on Final Reading unless the Appropriations Committee reports it out.

Rep. Haruo: If I may, Mr. Speaker, essentially the last portion of the report states that although your Committee on Resources and Development adopted the measure, it still would have to be coordinated with your Committee on Appropriations. If your Committee on Appropriations also adopts the recommendations and passes it, then it will have to be up for Second Reading.

Speaker Henry: The bill has gone through one test. It has been reported out favorably by one committee.

Rep. Setik: Point of privilege. I wish the House to recognize the presence of Mitaro Danis, Acting District Administrator of Truk District, who was a former member of the House of Representatives; also the Speaker of the Truk District Legislature, Koichy Sana; and Paulino Maipi, who is Manager of the Truk Fishing Authority.

Speaker Henry: Is there any more discussion on the report?

Rep. Rasa: Mr. Speaker, I am still disturbed with the wording of the bill and the fact that it has been reduced from \$20,000 to \$5,000. Just how much infusion of capital are we talking about in order to overcome or eliminate negative social and economic consequences? Five thousand dollars? Just what are we talking about? Maybe we cannot even buy seeds to plant taro or whatever we have to plant. I mean, is this a realistic bill, or is this something trying to pass the House for purposes of identification of what you have done in Congress? I mean, it is so unrealistic to change anything by infusing \$5,000. What can you do with \$5,000 nowadays, especially when the bill deals with agriculture.

Rep. Haruo: Mr. Speaker, your Committee on Resources and Development bought the idea of agricultural development. However, this was the position of your Committee, and this would of course be coordinated with your Committee on Appropriations. If your Committee on Appropriations feels that they should institute the original amount of money, then it will be up to the Committee on Appropriations.

Rep. Rudimch: Mr. Speaker, as a member of this Committee, we discussed deeply into the effect of \$5,000, which is a reduction from the \$20,000 figure. Even though the Committee felt that \$20,000 may be an ideal figure, they felt it could be accomplished, at minimum, with the \$5,000 appropriation.

Rep. Bigler: Let me explain some of the things in here because I think I am the author of this bill. We originally requested \$20,000, hoping that this money could be used for the entire Atoll of Arno. Since we feel that maybe \$20,000 at this moment is not realistic, we cut it down. Maybe the committee felt that they should cut it down to \$5,000 so we can start piece-by-piece in this Atoll. If you read the report, it also says that the program is under the sponsorship of the Catholic Mission.

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The motion to adopt Standing Committee Report No. 6-43 carried by voice vote.

ASSIGNMENT OF MEASURES

The Clerk called attention to Referral Sheet No. 23 attached to the Order of the Day for the assignment of measures introduced on Friday, February 14, 1975. The following Senate measure was assigned:

S.B. No. 6-40, SD1: Assigned to: Education and Social Matters

To amend subsection (3)(a) of Section 6 of Public Law 5-37, relating to interest rates on loans made from funds borrowed by the Territorial Housing Commission or District Housing Authority from commercial financial institutions.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

S.B. No. 6-76, SD1, HD1: Creating a Micronesian Delegation to the United Nations Law of the Sea Conference; prescribing its duties and functions; and for other purposes.

(Deferred on February 10, 1975.)

Representative Haruo moved for passage of S.B. No. 6-76, S.D.1, H.D.1, on Second Reading; Vice Speaker Silk seconded, and the Chief Clerk read the title.

Floor Leader Tman: Mr. Speaker, I believe the motion to defer action included also the proposed amendment; however, there was no motion to adopt the amendment.

Speaker Henry: That is correct. May we hear the proposed amendment that was offered by Representative Basilius.

The Chief Clerk read the following amendment which was proposed by Representative Basilius on February 10, 1975:

On page 1, line 19, after "be composed of" and before "persons" delete "four" and insert "six"

On page 1, line 20, after "Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands," delete "and at least three"

Representative Basilius moved for adoption of the amendment; Representative Guerrero seconded.

Floor Leader Tman moved for the suspension of the rules on duplication; Vice Speaker Silk seconded, and the motion carried by voice vote.

Floor Leader Tman moved for a short recess; Vice Speaker Silk seconded, and the Speaker declared the House recessed at 10:45 a.m., subject to the call of the Chair.

The House reconvened at 10:47 a.m.

Rep. Basilius: Mr. Speaker, the Floor Leader indicated some technical changes to the proposed amendment. I would like to have the record show the following changes to the proposed amendment: On page 1 of the bill, line 20, reinsert the word "and." Then on line 21, delete the words "of whom." These are only technical changes, and I would like to have the record indicate this on the proposed amendment.

Vice Speaker Silk: Point of information. What page is my colleague referring to?

Speaker Henry: Page one.

Vice Speaker Silk: Mr. Speaker, may I request that the Clerk read the amendment again, please.

The Chief Clerk read the amendment by Representative Basilius, including the technical changes, as follows:

On page 1, line 19, after "be composed of" and before "persons" delete "four" and insert "six"

On page 1, line 20, after "Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands," delete "at least three"

On page 1, line 21, delete the words "of whom"

(The sentence would then read as follows: "The Delegation shall be composed of six persons, all of whom shall be citizens of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, and shall be members of the Congress of Micronesia appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Congress of Micronesia.")

Vice Speaker Silk: Mr. Speaker, point of information: Maybe I get the wrong impression of the bill, but I have Senate Draft 1, and I don't see the figure "four" here.

Speaker Henry: This bill is attached to Standing Committee Report No. 6-20, as House Draft 1.

Floor Leader Tman moved for a short recess, and the Speaker declared the House recessed at 10:53, subject to the call of the Chair.

The House reconvened at 10:55 a.m.

Speaker Henry: Is there any further discussion on the proposed amendment?

Rep. Setik: Point of information: In the proposed amendment, does that mean that the six members will be members of the Congress only? (Or is it open to anyone?)

Rep. Basilius: Mr. Speaker, yes.

Rep. Setik: I would like to know the reason behind it, because I think we should give other Micronesians opportunities to deal with the matter.

Rep. Basilius: Mr. Speaker, I believe that your Committee on Resources and Development did study the bill, and they felt that the members of the Congress of Micronesia should be participating on this conference. If it is the wish of the Resources and Development Committee not to have the Congress of Micronesia to participate, then they should come up with a report to make it that any Micronesian can be a member of this Joint Committee. I cannot speak for the Resources and Development Committee, but I believe that since the committee recommended that the members of the Congress of Micronesia should participate, then I think it is fair that all districts be represented.

Floor Leader Tman: Mr. Speaker, I have reservations on the amendment before us. Speaking from the experience of last year when I attended the Caracas Conference on the Law of the Sea, I noted, from all nations that were in that conference, their people were representatives from various sectors. I feel that the importance of the Law of the Sea to Micronesia should also be recognized, and that all sectors--different people from different sectors--should be involved, such as people from Administration, people from fisheries, etc. I think if we have to choose only members of the Congress, that very few of us are qualified as experts on the Law of the Sea, or in fisheries, or in marine programs.

Rep. Aafin: Mr. Speaker, again I refer to the draft of the report by the present Joint Committee on Law of the Sea, which states and recommends to the Congress that the life of the present Joint Committee on Law of the Sea should be continued. It puzzles me at this time, Mr. Speaker, because there are specific members of the Joint Committee on the Law of the Sea. Their names are written in so many things in the Congress, and we know the past members, and we know that the committee exists now. It puzzles me why, at the last moment-- last year when the Conference was going to take place in Caracas, so many people went to that meeting. Why are we concerned now in limiting the number? Also, on the Future Political Status Joint Committee, we have only members of Congress, and we believe them to be capable to do the job. Why don't we believe the members of the Congress now are capable to do the job on the Law of the Sea?

Rep. Sigrah: Mr. Speaker, I am not in support of the amendment because of the fact that if the testimony given to the committee was correct, there are only three committees in the Conference. The reason for proposing three representatives is so that this Congress (or Micronesia) can be represented on these three committees. And I am sure in the committees that only one person is the spokesman. Now that we have the status of an observer, I think there is no need for sending a big group, since there are only three committees in the Conference. It will only be a waste of money if we send two men that will just be going around and won't have the chance to speak, although they might have the chance to advise whoever is chosen to participate in the discussions in the meetings.

Rep. Guerrero: Mr. Speaker, I want to ask a question about the participation in the Law of the Sea Conference. Are we there just as an observer, or do we fully participate in its deliberations as well?

Floor Leader Tman: Mr. Speaker, last year we were officially attached to the delegation of the United States at the Law of the Sea Conference. But in part, to reply, the large group that went there went primarily as lobbyists. I think we have accomplished that, and there is a very good possibility that Micronesia will obtain Observer Status this year, apart from the United States Delegation.

Rep. Moses: To answer the question a little further, in changing the status from being part of the American Delegation to Observers means participation without votes in the Conference, mainly because of the absence of separate sovereignty in Micronesia.

Rep. Basilius: I would just like to enlighten my colleague from Ponape that I think the bill originally was proposing that the number of members of this Joint Committee would be four instead of three. Now the proposed amendment is to increase it from four to six, so each district will have an opportunity to be present on this Joint Committee.

Rep. Setik: Mr. Speaker, in the proposed amendment itself, it also states that they shall be members of the Congress. It seems to me that the title of the bill states "Creating a Micronesian Delegation." It is not the creation of a joint committee. I am questioning that. Why should we limit it to only members of the Congress? Why don't we allow the district legislature to participate? Or at least get some specialists, or even anyone who is capable enough of representing Micronesia in these reports and meetings.

Rep. Basilius: I believe that the Resources and Development Committee made a thorough study of the bill. The reason we are talking about the members of the Congress to be in this delegation is that the committee recommended that the delegation should include the members of the Congress of Micronesia. If it was the wish of the committee to have the district legislatures participate on this delegation, then they should have come up with the recommendation that the district legislatures would be participating in this delegation.

Rep. Aafin: Mr. Speaker, it seems that we are worried about the number of people on the committee. I do think that it will be up to the chairman of that committee to select among the six members who will be going to the Conference. I think the chairman will be wise enough to make the trip economical, and not for everybody to go. It will be up to the

chairman's discretion and the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives to select out of the six members the ones to go to the conference. But in the meantime, the one representing each of the districts will have input into whatever the subcommittee will say at the Conference. So the question of cost is not really substantiated.

Floor Leader Tman: Mr. Speaker, please permit me to further clarify my reservation. Setting aside the question of budget constraints that we are facing in this Congress, which must be taken into account, I am not opposed to increasing the number of members of the Delegation. My reservation is based on the fact that having experience from the last year, that many nations that come to the Conference send experts from various areas--various fields of endeavors. I feel we should also open the door for our Administration people, our fisheries people, and (as my colleague suggested) even the district legislatures. I am not opposed to increasing the number. My reservation is that the proposed amendment will only require members from the Congress--exclusively--and not from all other sectors of the communities.

Vice Speaker Silk: Mr. Speaker, I note in the title of the bill it says "Creating a Micronesian Delegation" and not a committee. On lines 13 and 14 it says ". . . to supersede its policy-formulating predecessor, the Joint Committee on the Law of the Sea." Now if I understand the amendment correctly, it is a substantive amendment which will change entirely the intent of this bill. I am not opposed to raising the number of members of the Delegation. But we are changing the substance of the bill entirely.

Rep. Basilius: Mr. Speaker, I would like to address myself to the statement made by my colleague from the Marshalls. With the proposed amendment, I believe that there is no substantive change to the intention of the bill. It merely indicates that the number of members of the Delegation should be increased from four to six, and they should be selected from the members of the Congress of Micronesia. There is no change to the proposed bill.

Vice Speaker Silk: Mr. Speaker, my colleague from Palau just mentioned members of the Congress of Micronesia. The bill doesn't say "members of the Congress of Micronesia." It doesn't say that this is a joint committee of the members of Congress. He also misstated that your Committee on Resources and Development had made a thorough study. The committee in fact made a thorough study and never changed anything except technical changes. So if we buy the word "members of the Congress" we are making a substantive amendment to the original purpose of the bill.

Rep. Basilius: Mr. Speaker, I believe that the proposed bill does indicate that there is a section there that four members--three of whom are members of the Congress of Micronesia. So we just changed the number of three to make it six. There is no substantive change on the proposed bill.

Rep. Haruo: I tend to go along with the feeling of the Floor Leader. I do have some reservations on the proposed amendment, simply because I think what we have to have now, to serve on Micronesia's Delegation to attend this Law of the Sea Conference, are people knowledgeable in the various aspects of areas of discussion in the Law of the Sea Conference. If this door was open to other people aside from members of the Congress, I would tend to buy the amendment. But as it stands, confining ourselves or thinking to the members of the Congress, I do share the reservations of the Floor Leader.

Rep. Nakamura: Mr. Speaker, I don't seem to see any provision in this measure which tends to restrict any members of the executive or legislative branches from attending the Conference. I think these two bodies can always send members as consultants to the committee, and I think they can themselves bear the cost--the funding of sending such members. I don't think line 19--this proposed amendment increasing the number to six--necessarily prohibits any members from any of the three branches of our government from attending the Conference.

Rep. Haruo: Mr. Speaker, I think we are restricting ourselves. We are not expanding the membership to any other organization. If I read line 21 right, I think it confines it

to members of the Congress alone. It doesn't open the door to anybody from any other sector in Micronesia.

Speaker Henry: Representative Nakamura, are you finished?

Rep. Nakamura: Well I am not yet satisfied, and I still go along with the proposed amendments. The committee in addition to six (or four as originally written) will be staffed by consultants, staff attorneys, secretaries, etc. And I feel that a representative from the Administration or the executive branch, as well as from our district legislatures, can be accommodated through that means.

Rep. Rudimch: Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that the dispute is between who and what number is going to participate, to become a member of this Delegation. I think it doesn't matter who participates on this, and it doesn't matter also how many people participate. The question is, whether it will be more beneficial for the Congress of Micronesia, or for Micronesians, if we have more members in the Delegation, or a few knowledgeable--more knowledgeable in the Law of the Sea. It seems to me that we should discuss the merits of going to the Conference, since the position of Micronesia is inconsistent with the United States position. No matter how many members of the Delegation you send to the Conference, it doesn't mean anything. If you send 1,000 people there, you still have no benefits to Micronesians. So I don't see why we should dispute the numbers and who should be members, since it doesn't have any merits or advantages in improving the position of Micronesia in this Conference. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Floor Leader Tman: Mr. Speaker, I have a proposed amendment to the amendment.

Speaker Henry: Let me recognize the Representative from Yap.

Rep. Haglelgam: I think we have a great stake in the Law of the Sea Conference. At the present I learned from the committee hearing that the foreign fishing vessels are taking millions of dollars worth of fish out of our waters. If we participate in the Law of the Sea Conference, we can at least influence the members and present our views.

Speaker Henry: There is a proposed amendment on the floor.

Representative Basilius moved to stop debate; Representative Rudimch seconded.

Rep. Sigrah: Point of privilege. May we hear the proposed amendment?

Floor Leader Tman: I have a proposed amendment to the amendment.

Speaker Henry: Will the Chief Clerk read the proposed amendment.

The Chief Clerk read the following amendment by Floor Leader Tman to the amendment by Representative Basilius:

On page 1, lines 20 and 21, insert after the word "and" on line 20, "at least four of whom"

Floor Leader Tman: I believe the rules on duplication are still suspended. I move for adoption of the proposed amendment to the amendment.

Vice Speaker Silk seconded the motion.

The Speaker declared the House recessed at 11:15 a.m., subject to the call of the Chair.

The House reconvened at 11:25 a.m.

Speaker Henry: There is a proposed amendment from the Representative from Yap.

Representative Basilius moved to defer action. Representative Nakamura seconded the motion.

Speaker Henry: What was the motion? What are you deferring?

Rep. Basilius: The whole thing. The bill and the amendment and the amendment to the amendment.

Speaker Henry: The Chair will ask the House to vote on the motion to defer action on the bill, including the amendments.

Rep. Setik: Mr. Speaker, may I say a few words before we defer action? Mr. Speaker, this bill before the House is very important. If we defer action on this bill, it means it will be very difficult for the committee to further negotiate--to participate--in the Law of the Sea Conference. I don't see any merit in deferring action on this bill (since it is very important) just because of this disagreement on the number of people to participate in this Conference. I wish that the House would recognize the importance of the bill and have it passed during this session.

Rep. Rudimch: I think all of us here recognize the importance of this, except there is nothing we can do. I would like to know if this is a priority of the Congress of Micronesia.

Rep. Haruo: Mr. Speaker, since this measure has a great impact on the financial impact, I move that this particular measure be referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Floor Leader Tman: Mr. Speaker, the point raised by Chairman Haruo is well taken. I believe there is an appropriation bill in support of this measure that is coming from the Senate.

Rep. Setik: Yes, House Bill 6-110, appropriating approximately \$140,000 is pending in your Committee on Appropriations. If we don't pass this bill, perhaps we may be able to act on something else to get the function of the Law of the Sea Conference going.

Rep. Aafin: Mr. Speaker, I think there is merit for the passage of the bill. And perhaps we should work to pass the bill. But the contents of the bill is the one thing that is holding everything up.

Rep. Rudimch: Mr. Speaker, I would like to repeat that in spite of the fact that we recognize the importance of this bill, we also should recognize just how much we can do, or recognize the cold facts of life of this Congress--that there is nothing you can do, even if you appropriate one million dollars.

Rep. Haruo: I think that while participation in the Law of the Sea Conference is very vital, we have been threatened as a result of our marine resources being exploited by foreigners. I think our representation in the Law of the Sea Conference probably may have worth for other nations to consider our problems and by our participation in the Law of the Sea Conference, maybe other nations will have sympathy towards our problems and maybe less exploitation of our marine resources would be pursued by other nations. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I feel that the passage of this particular measure is very vital.

Rep. Guerrero: I want to ask, Mr. Speaker, what has the previous Law of the Sea Committee done? What have they accomplished in their meeting in Geneva?

Floor Leader Tman: Mr. Speaker, the report of the committee will be forthcoming, hopefully before the adjournment of this session. One thing the committee has accomplished is that we have been able to persuade the United States to accept some of our positions. On some, we have not been able to persuade the United States. We have also established a coalition with the Pacific Island nations. We also have some friends in the developing nations--Africa and Latin America--who are very sympathetic with our cause. We have also been

able to persuade the United States to allow us the Observer Status, so that we may be able to effectively participate in the three committees of the Conference and the general session of the Conference.

Rep. Guerrero: I think, Mr. Speaker, that it is very important that we wait for the report made by that committee so that we can have factual information as to the merits and demerits of this new committee that we are creating now. In the absence of that report, I personally don't think that this measure should be entertained at this time. I would also like to find out what has happened to that committee--whether that committee has in fact gone out of existence, and if it has gone out of existence then I would favor creation of a new Law of the Sea Conference Committee. But if that previous committee is still in existence, then I see no reason why we should go ahead and create another committee.

Speaker Henry: There is no committee that is in existence, and there is no member of the committee that has been appointed. The Chair has not appointed anyone, so there is no one on any committee on the Law of the Sea.

Rep. Aafin: Why is it that up to now that Joint Committee on the Law of the Sea is not organized and no members appointed?

Speaker Henry: Because the law has not passed.

Rep. Aafin: No sir, I am referring to the present Joint Committee of the Law of the Sea Conference.

Speaker Henry: This Congress has not created any Law of the Sea Committee.

Representative Setik moved to stop debate; Representative Haruo seconded, and the motion carried by voice vote.

Rep. Basilius: Mr. Speaker, would you please recognize my motion?

Speaker Henry: Yes, the motion is to defer action.

Vice Speaker Silk: Point of information: The motion was to include the proposed amendment?

Speaker Henry: Yes, to defer action on the bill.

Vice Speaker Silk: Mr. Speaker, point of order: I believe the motion is out of order because it includes the amendment and the bill. If we can separate the two, I will go along.

Floor Leader Tman: Mr. Speaker, if I may, I think the motion now before us is to defer action on the bill and the proposed amendments.

Speaker Henry: The motion is to defer action on the bill and the proposed amendments. There was no date set on deferring action. The motion to defer takes precedence over the main motion, and the motion to amend, and the motion to amend the amendment. Therefore, the Chair will call the House to vote on the motion to defer action.

The voice vote on the motion to defer action resulted in a request for a division of the House.

The motion to defer action on S.B. No. 6-76, S.D.1, H.D.1, carried on a division of the House.

BILL CALENDAR

H.B. No. 6-131, HD1: To appropriate the sum of ~~\$240,000~~ \$450,000 from the General Fund of the Congress of Micronesia for use by the district

fishing authorities in making loans to the fishing cooperative associations, and for other purposes.

Representative Haruo moved for a short recess, and the Speaker declared the House recessed at 11:40 a.m., subject to the call of the Chair.

The House reconvened at 11:41 a.m.

Representative Haruo moved for passage of H.B. No. 6-131, H.D.1, on First Reading; Representative Basilius seconded, and the Chief Clerk read the title.

Rep. Nakamura: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a couple of questions of the committee. This is relating to the committee's action of increasing the amount of \$240,000 to \$450,000. First, how did they arrive at that amount of \$450,000? Aren't there funds which are already in existence, such as the Marine Resources Fund of your executive branch, from which our various cooperative associations can make loans? Why do we have to commit Congress with such a big amount of money of \$450,000?

Rep. Haruo: Mr. Speaker, I will attempt to answer the question of my colleague. The fishing authorities in the districts were created by this Congress. Therefore, it is our obligation to continue to support these programs. The other funds available in the Marine Resources Development Fund are to be expended only by the EDLF Board. Therefore, it is appropriate, Mr. Speaker, that this Congress continue to support those programs which this Congress has already established.

Rep. Nakamura: Perhaps I should paraphrase my question and put it in simpler terms. Aren't cooperative associations qualified to borrow funds from the EDLF? Can they borrow, just like any other business? And, if so, why do we have to commit Congress with close to a half million dollars--money that we can spend on other developmental projects?

Rep. Haruo: Mr. Speaker, there is no restriction for the cooperatives to borrow the money from this Marine Development Fund. However, like I said earlier, I would like to re-emphasize that it was this Congress that had established these authorities in the districts. I feel it is only appropriate that we continue to support these programs, because they were established by us.

Rep. Guerrero: I think there is no question in our minds that the fishing authorities especially established by this Congress should be aided as much as possible, but my concern here, Mr. Speaker, is that we are always faced with severe budget limitations, and each district should be considered also. My question is that the bill called for \$240,000 originally, and where does the committee come up with this additional money to pump into this? My other question is what about the other programs--the other priorities that are being submitted by the various members of the Congress? Where do we get X-amount of money to pump into these funds, Mr. Speaker?

Rep. Rasa: I just want to make a point of clarification that the fact that this Congress appropriated money to establish any cooperative agency does not make it mandatory for Congress to continue authorizing or appropriating money in order to see that they keep on perpetuating.

Rep. Haruo: Although it is not mandatory for this Congress to continue to support these programs, these programs were committed by this Congress. I think this Congress has gone on record by saying that the area of emphasis today would be economic development. Since this is a Territory-wide program in terms of economic development, I ask that everyone of us support this measure.

Rep. Aafin: Mr. Speaker, I would submit that there have been hearings on this bill, and therefore supporting documents to support the breakdown of what the \$450,000 would be used for. For that reason, I would ask that the supporting documents be presented to study, and to look at before Second Reading, and in the meantime I would ask the House to pass the bill on First Reading.

Rep. Rudimch: Mr. Speaker, also the amount of \$450,000 is not that much since it is going to be divided equally among the six districts. Actually the amount comes to \$75,000 for the purpose of loans in the cooperatives. This is not a big amount, actually.

Rep. Mafnas: Two of the major reasons for requesting this amount, Mr. Speaker (and your Committee on Resources and Development considered the merits of this amount) were that the number of cooperatives in the districts has increased, and the number of members in the cooperatives has increased as well.

Rep. Aafin: Mr. Speaker, also the bill will still have to go to the Appropriations Committee, and it will be up to them to really come out with the amount. But still, I think the Congress needs to put on record the breakdown of this money. I would again ask that we pass it now on First Reading.

Rep. Rudimch: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the House to recognize the presence of our Deputy District Administrator, Mr. Haruo Remelik, who is in the gallery.

Rep. Guerrero: Mr. Speaker, in the Resources and Development Committee's evaluation of this measure, I wonder if they have taken into consideration each district fishing authority's report. As far as my information goes for the Marianas, our program in the Marianas is not really functioning the way it should be functioning. I wonder if the Marianas has had similar progress as the other district fishing authorities. I wonder if the committee did consider each district fishing authority's report before considering this measure.

Speaker Henry: Are you asking a question?

Rep. Guerrero: Yes, I am asking a question.

Rep. Mafnas: Again, one of the major reasons that the authority is lending assistance to the cooperatives in the Marianas--one of the problems that they encountered with the membership of the cooperatives was that the loan from the government--the applications that they submitted were long overdue. Since this authority is a creature of this Congress, I share the feeling of my Chairman that it should pass, and the Congress should support it.

Rep. Bigler: I have a question to anyone signing this bill. If I am not mistaken, I think it was stated earlier on the floor that three of the districts have submitted their reports on this measure. My question is how did the committee come up with such an amount of money since the other districts haven't come up with their reports yet?

Rep. Haruo: Mr. Speaker, I will attempt to answer my colleague. The report I was referring to was the general report of activities of those fishing authorities in the districts. It is not their report or comments as refers to this particular measure.

Rep. Bigler: Mr. Speaker, I still want to know how did they come up with this amount?

Rep. Haruo: Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield the floor to the Vice Chairman of the Committee.

Rep. Mafnas: Mr. Speaker, because of the inflation, and because of the increased number of cooperatives in the districts, and because of the increase in membership in the cooperatives, we considered this amount as appropriate and workable and that it should be supported by this Congress.

Rep. Bigler: Mr. Speaker, and how did you come up with the way you would divide the money, since it is divided equally among the six districts? Did you take into consideration the activities of these fishing authorities in the different districts, and how many are participating in each district?

Rep. Mafnas: I submit, Mr. Speaker, that you Committee believes in equal shares. This is why we came out with the equal division of the shares.

Rep. Bigler: I yield the floor.

Rep. Aafin: I wish to answer her.

Speaker Henry: The committee is answering.

Floor Leader Tman moved for the previous question; Vice Speaker Silk seconded, and the motion carried.

The motion to pass H.B. No. 6-131, H.D.1, on First Reading carried by voice vote.

H.B. No. 6-167: To appropriate the sum of \$5,000 from the General Fund of the Congress of Micronesia to purchase a freezer for the fishing vessel constructed under Public Law No. 4C-71, and for other purposes.

Representative Haruo moved for passage of H.B. No. 6-167 on First Reading; Floor Leader Tman seconded, and the Chief Clerk read the title. The motion carried by voice vote.

H.B. No. 6-163: To appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the purpose of clearing and rehabilitating public lands on Wotje, Mili, Jaluit and Maloelap Atolls, Marshall Islands District, and for other purposes.

Representative Setik moved for passage of H.B. No. 6-163 on First Reading; Floor Leader Tman seconded, and the Chief Clerk read the title.

Speaker Henry: Is there any discussion?

Rep. Edwards: Point of information. I wonder if there is anyone in this Chamber that can give us the size of the atolls.

Rep. Setik: I recommend that he make a trip and study the size of the atolls himself.

Speaker Henry: Can you appropriate money for that purpose?

The motion to pass H.B. No. 6-163 on First Reading carried by voice vote.

H.B. No. 6-74, HD1: To appropriate ~~\$20,000~~ \$5,000 from the General Fund of the Congress of Micronesia in aid of an agriculture project on Arno Atoll, Marshall Islands District, and for other purposes.

Representative Haruo moved for passage of H.B. No. 6-74, H.D.1, on First Reading; Vice Speaker Silk seconded, and the Chief Clerk read the title. The motion carried by voice vote.

RESOLUTION CALENDAR

S.J.R. No. 6-13, HD1: Respectfully inviting the United Nations Asian Institute for Economic Development and Planning to locate a ~~regional~~ sub-regional office on Saipan, Mariana Islands District, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and also inviting the Director of the Institute to visit Micronesia in the near future.

Representative Haruo moved for adoption of S.J.R. No. 6-13, H.D.1; Vice Speaker Silk seconded, and the Chief Clerk read the title. The motion carried by voice vote.

H.J.R. No. 6-39, HD1: Requesting the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory to seek United States Federal airport money under the Federal Aviation Acts of 1958 to upgrade and improve Goding Field in the Palau District.

Representative Haruo moved for adoption of H.J.R. No. 6-39, H.D.1; Vice Speaker Silk seconded, and the Chief Clerk read the title.

Rep. Rudimch: Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to offer an amendment to the resolution, and I would ask the Chief Clerk to read the amendment.

Speaker Henry: May we hear the proposed amendment.

The Chief Clerk read the following amendment by Representative Rudimch:

On page 1, line 19, after the word "Territory;" insert the word "and" and delete the words "now, therefore" and insert the following two clauses:

"WHEREAS, should the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands make application for planning grant program funds from the Federal Aviation Administration to develop an airport system plan and environmental impact statement for the Babelthuap/Koror Airport, Palau District, the High Commissioner is authorized by this resolution to accept a grant offer of funds for said planning effort; and

"WHEREAS, should the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands make applications for/or receive airport grant-in-aid funds for design, construction and improvement of the Babelthuap/Koror Airport, Palau District, the High Commissioner is authorized by this resolution to accept a grant offer from the Federal Aviation Administration for such improvements as are necessary and as incorporated in the current airport system plan for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, either in part or as a whole by description thereof; now, therefore,"

Floor Leader Tman moved for adoption of the amendment; Vice Speaker Silk seconded the motion.

Floor Leader Tman moved for suspension of the rule on duplication of amendments; Vice Speaker Silk seconded, and the motion carried by voice vote.

The motion to adopt the amendment by Representative Rudimch carried by voice vote.

Speaker Henry: We now have H.J.R. No. 6-39, H.D.1, H.D.2. Is there any discussion?

Rep. Setik: Point of information: In certain places in the resolution it says "Goding Field." The question is--is there a Goding Field in Palau?

Rep. Basilius: Yes.

The motion to adopt H.J.R. No. 6-39, H.D.1, H.D.2, carried by voice vote.

H.J.R. No. 6-50: Requesting the High Commissioner to seek funds for the installation of runway lights and related facilities for Goding Field on Babelthaup Island, Palau District.

Representative Setik requested a short recess, and the Speaker declared the House recessed at 12:01 p.m., subject to the call of the Chair.

The House reconvened at 12:02 p.m.

Representative Setik moved for adoption of H.J.R. No. 6-50; Floor Leader Tman seconded, and the Chief Clerk read the title. The motion carried by voice vote.

H.J.R. No. 6-30: Respectfully requesting the United States Government, through its Director of Federal Disaster Assistance, to provide for emergency assistance to the people of Ebeye Island, Marshall Islands District, who are in dire need of water to maintain life and ensure the public health.

Representative Haruo moved for adoption of H.J.R. No. 6-30; Vice Speaker Silk seconded, and the Chief Clerk read the title.

Representative Setik moved for a short recess; Vice Speaker Silk seconded, and the motion was lost by voice vote.

The motion to adopt H.J.R. No. 6-30 carried by voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

H.B. No. 6-234: Introduced by: Rep. Balos (and two others)
Assigned to: Health Matters/Appropriations

To appropriate the sum of \$138,000 from the General Fund of the Congress of Micronesia for the purpose of providing needed health facilities and instituting health programs to maintain the public health in the Marshall Islands District, and for other purposes.

H.B. No. 6-235: Introduced by: Rep. Moses
Assigned to: Ways and Means

To amend Section 53 of Title 77 of the Trust Territory Code relating to import taxes.

H.B. No. 6-236: Introduced by: Rep. Mafnas
Assigned to: Appropriations

To appropriate the sum of \$41,900 from the General Fund of the Congress of Micronesia to purchase public safety vehicles for the Mariana Islands District, and for other purposes.

H.B. No. 6-237: Introduced by: Rep. Haruo
Assigned to: Resources and Development/Appropriations

To appropriate the sum of \$300,000 from the General Fund of the Congress of Micronesia to supplement the funds appropriated under Public Law No. 5-72, and for other purposes.

H.B. No. 6-238: Introduced by: Rep. Haruo
Assigned to: Resources and Development

Prohibiting the Board of Directors of the Economic Development Loan Fund from granting loans to noncitizens, and for other purposes.

H.B. No. 6-239: Introduced by: Rep. Haruo
Assigned to: Appropriations

To appropriate the sum of \$30,000 from the General Fund of the Congress of Micronesia for Micronesian employee positions at the Micronesian Mariculture Demonstration Center in the Palau District, and for other purposes.

H.B. No. 6-240:

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

To amend Sections 4 and 5 and to repeal Section 14 of Public Law No. 5-88 relating to the Bank of Micronesia.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

H.J.R. No. 6-66:

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

Requesting the High Commissioner, the Director of the Department of Public Works and the District Administrator of the Truk District to remove the public works facilities from the dock area on Moen Island to some more suitable site.

H.J.R. No. 6-67:

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

Respectfully requesting the government of the United States to sponsor the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands for membership in the Asian Development Bank.

H.J.R. No. 6-68:

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

Requesting the United States Congress to amend certain public laws to extend programs of federal assistance with respect to fisheries to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

H.J.R. No. 6-69:

Introduced by: Rep. Rasa

Respectfully requesting the Judicial Branch of the Trust Territory Government to expedite the processing of criminal cases on the dockets of the Trust Territory Courts.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Rep. Balos: Mr. Speaker, I have a very important communication which was received in the form of a letter from the Speaker of the Marshall Islands Nitijela on behalf of the iroijs of the Marshall Islands, and I would like to have it inserted in today's Journal. But before I do that, Mr. Speaker, with your permission I would like to give a brief statement in support of the letter.

STATEMENT BY REPRESENTATIVE BALOS

Rep. Balos: Mr. Speaker and members of the House: Several issues have been brought before this House for many years now, not only by the members of the Marshalls Delegation, but also by several district legislatures and also by the traditional chiefs of Micronesia.

These issues, as all of us here today are well aware, include revenue sharing and certain changes regarding our upcoming Constitutional Convention.

This morning it is my intention to inform this Congress that a meeting of all the iroijs and district Congressmen took place January 31, 1975. It was decided then that four iroijs, two from the Ratak and two from the Ralik Chains, would travel to Saipan to present the views of the Chiefs of the Marshall Islands and Congressmen directly to the Congress of Micronesia. Mr. Speaker, that delegation has now arrived here on Saipan and wishes to meet with this Congress.

For your convenience, I will summarize their views, which I must add reflect the unanimous decision of the participants:

(1) It is imperative that the Congress of Micronesia agrees to return half of the wage and salary tax receipts and the business gross revenue tax to the Marshalls for local appropriation for urgent projects in my district.

(2) All the traditional chiefs of Micronesia, because of their unique and important position in our society, must be given full and equal voting rights at the Constitutional Convention. This is, in our opinion, an absolute necessity.

Related to this issue, for a variety of reasons (political reasons Mr. Speaker) the results of the convention election held in my district last summer do not represent the will of the majority of my people. Consequently, that election must be invalidated and a new election must be called.

Related to this, Mr. Speaker, and related to the organization of the Marshalls Delegation to the Constitutional Convention, is a matter that can be resolved only by the Marshalls Delegation itself, once a legitimate delegation has been selected through new elections and a conference of all the Marshalls iroijs. This selection is a matter that cannot be left for anyone else to decide.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I trust that you and the other members of the Congress will see to it that this delegation of iroijs will be given an opportunity to be heard. We do not have to be reminded that these are not new issues. This Congress has had more than ample time to make decisions. These choices, let me repeat, are not difficult choices to make. If fairness is our guide, then our choices in these matters become very obvious. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

LETTER FROM THE MARSHALL ISLANDS LEGISLATURE, DATED FEBRUARY 14, 1975, TO THE HONORABLE ATAJI BALOS, CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, RE DELEGATION OF LEROIJ:

"Dear Ataji:

"I am directing this letter to you because you are the chairman of the Marshalls delegation to the Congress of Micronesia, though the information is intended for the entire delegation.

"A meeting of all iroij and district congressmen present on Majuro was held on January 31, 1975. Several of the issues now facing the Congress of Micronesia were discussed and it was decided that two iroij each from the Ratak and Ralik chains would travel to Saipan to represent the views of the iroij and congressmen to the Congress of Micronesia.

"For your convenience, I am summarizing here the views expressed at the Majuro meeting on several matters of pending legislation, and I would note that in each instance the view set forth reflects the unanimous decision of the participants.

"1. Revenue Sharing. It is imperative that the Congress of Micronesia agree to return immediately to the Marshall Islands District at least one-half of the wage and salary tax receipts and the business gross revenue tax receipts attributable to this district for appropriation by the Nitijela for projects urgently needed here.

"2. Constitutional Convention.

"a. Iroij Representation. The iroij, like the traditional leaders from the other districts, hold unique and important positions in Micronesia society. Their participation and consent is absolutely necessary to the success of any

Constitutional Convention. Therefore, iroiij representatives must be given full and equal voting rights at the Convention. At the same time, only the iroiij themselves are competent to decide who among them is best suited to represent the iroiij at the Constitutional Convention, and to permit the High Commissioner or any other person or group to select iroiij representatives would be fraudulent and unacceptable.

"b. Election. For a variety of reasons the Convention election held last summer in this district does not represent the will of the Marshallese people, but only the will of a small minority. That election must be invalidated and a new election held.

"c. Organization of the District Delegation. The selection of a chairman and of a Marshallese member of the Pre-Convention Committee, and the organization of the Marshall Islands District delegation to the Convention is a matter that can only be decided by the delegation itself, once a legitimate delegation has been selected through new elections and a conference of Marshallese iroiij. The selection and organization of the Marshallese delegation is a matter for Marshallese to decide, and it cannot be left to anyone else.

"Leroiij Chiyaya Anmonta, Neilan Loek, Neimata Nakamura and Toej Jamodre expect to arrive in Saipan on February 17, 1975 to represent these views to the Congress. I trust that you and the other members of the Marshallese delegation to the Congress will help insure that they are received by the Congress and are given an opportunity to be heard.

"Thank you very much.

(Signed by Atlan Anian, Speaker.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Floor Leader Tman: Point of privilege. May I ask the House to recognize the presence in the gallery of Senator Bailey Olter, Senate Ways and Means Committee Chairman.

May I also ask the House to recognize the presence of Mrs. Asterio Takesy in the gallery.

Rep. Mafnas: Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege and honor to ask the House to recognize the presence of Mr. Manny Sablan, the Superintendent of Public Safety.

Rep. Aafin: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the House to recognize everybody in the gallery.

Rep. Moses: Mr. Speaker, on the schedule today there is a public hearing scheduled for Ways and Means Committee on revenue sharing. However, Congresswoman Bigler has suggested that this be postponed 24 hours. Thus your committee requests the schedule to be adjusted accordingly. In the meantime we are announcing an executive meeting of your committee at 3:00 p.m. today. Thank you very much.

Vice Speaker Silk: Mr. Speaker, your Committee on Future Status will meet again at 1:00 tomorrow afternoon in the Senate Chamber. I would urge the members to please attend the meeting.

Rep. Nakamura: Your Committee on Health Matters will hold public hearings on H.J.R. No. 6-19 at 5:00 p.m. today, and at 7:00 p.m. tonight on two resolutions. Then also, at 4:30 p.m., just before this public hearing, there will be an executive meeting in the Library.

Rep. Setik: Mr. Speaker, your Committee on Appropriations, which was scheduled to meet at 11:00 this morning will meet instead at 1:00 p.m. in the same place, Conference Room

2, to work on House Bills No. 6-154, No. 6-177, and No. 6-178. Also, I would like to make an announcement that the schedule for the meeting on House Bill No. 6-197 has been changed. The hearing has been postponed until Friday, the 21st, at the request of the Director of the Micronesian Constitutional Convention. This is because the chairmen of the district delegations from every district were not able to arrive yesterday because of the plane scheduling.

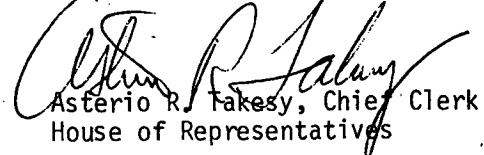
Rep. Basilius: Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Relations will have an executive meeting at 2:00 this afternoon. Also, there is a public hearing scheduled for 7:00 tonight. I would like to request that the members be present.

Rep. Mafnas: Your Committee on Resources and Development will meet at 1:00 today for a public hearing on House Bill No. 6-165; at 2:30 p.m. on House Bill No. 6-161, and at 4:00 p.m. on House Bill No. 6-37, in this Chamber.

Rep. Sigrah: Your Committee on Education and Social Matters will meet at 1:00 p.m. in the Library. And may I further announce that we are scheduling a meeting with the Committee on Appropriations Thursday at 1:00, to discuss the bill on housing.

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 12:20 p.m., until 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, February 19, 1975.

Respectfully submitted,


Asterio R. Tokesy, Chief Clerk
House of Representatives