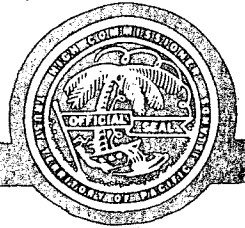


PRESS RELEASE



TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

Office of the High Commissioner

Saipan, Mariana Islands

96950

RELEASE: 98-67

Marianas

THE HOUSE AND SENATE OF U.S. CONGRESS REACH A COMPROMISE ON SENATE BILL NO. 303

Saipan, Mariana Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, May 3 . . . Even though the House and Senate versions of Senate Bill No. 303 are in agreement on the major objective--to increase the authorized annual fiscal year appropriations for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands from its present ceiling of \$17½ million to one not exceeding \$25,000,000 for fiscal year 1967 and \$35,000,000 for the fiscal years of 1968 and 1969--there appears to have been one area of disagreement with respect to Section 2 of the bill.

Truk

Ponape

The Senate version proposed a change in the titles of the High Commissioner and the Deputy High Commissioner to Governor and Lieutenant Governor, respectively, and provided that the President should make future appointments with the advice and consent of the Senate. The House version omitted these provisions.

Marshalls

Yap

The differences were ironed out in the following manner. The Senate agreed to continue the use of the designation, High Commissioner, while the House agreed that in the future this position shall be a Presidential appointment requiring confirmation from the Senate. The Deputy High Commissioner will still be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior. (The Section of Secretarial Order No. 207, January 30, 1964, which provided that the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory

Palau

MORE

THE HOUSE AND SENATE OF U.S. CONGRESS REACH
A COMPROMISE ON SENATE BILL NO. 303 - Page 2

of the Pacific Islands be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, will be rescinded with the passage of this compromise legislation).

The Congress left open the possibility of changing the High Commissioner's title, however. In the event that the citizens of the Trust Territory, represented by the Congress of Micronesia, ask for a change in the title, then the U.S. Congress will consider such a motion.

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