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S.C.R. No. 13-23
March __, 2023
RE: L.R. 13-24

Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations
(J&GO)

The Honorable Semeon J. Phillip
Speaker
13th Kosrae State Legislature

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Nena C. Ned

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Artson S. Talley

MEMBERS
Moses M. Thomson
Ramsey S. George
Lyndon H. Jackson
Andy J. Andrew
Salpasr E. Tiffas

Dear Speaker Phillip:

Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations reports on L.R. 13- 24 entitled:

“Consenting and confirming to the re-nomination of Mr. Rinson J. Phillip to serve as the Chief of Police for Kosrae State.”

COMMITTEE ACTIONS:

Your committee met in an Executive Meeting on Tuesday, March 14th, 2023 around 1:00 p.m. to deliberate on this nomination.

In this meeting, your committee decided to hold public hearings and to solicit public comments through radio broadcasting regarding this nomination.

During the committee meeting, members of J&GO were concerned mostly on why nominating one that has been currently serving the people as a Chief of Police? The committee so decided to take all concerns to the public hearing in order to acquire answers from both witnesses.

On March 15, 2023, your committee held public hearings with the following witnesses: T.H. Governor Tulensa W. Palik at 1:00 p.m., Nominee Rinson J. Phillip at 1:43 p.m., and Appropriate Public Safety Heads: Captain Billy Palik, Sergeant Aliksa Alik, and Lieutenant Likiaksa Benjamin.

COMMITTEE FINDINGS:

The intent of the subject resolution is clearly stated in its title.

During the public hearing, took place on March 15, 2023, which you will find below the testimonies from each witness listed as follows:

- 1) Session 1: Governor Palik stated in his opening remark that there is no specific reason why the nomination came late to the Legislature when the session period is three days away from closing, but perhaps a misunderstanding from his staff. The Governor further stated in his testimony the following:
 - a. When asked if the Governor remember under Section 5.203(1) and (3) that one cannot be appointed for management position if that person is still providing the duty at that capacity; the Governor replied stating that hewas given advice by the Attorney General to proceed with the nomination.. He

even mentioned that the nominee was about to submit his resignation, but was given the same advice by the Attorney General, not to resign.

2) Session 2: Nominee with the committee at 1:43 p.m.

- a. The nominee took the opportunity to address the Committee of the J&GO that he is still willing to continue his service for the people and our home as the Chief of Police. The nominee, with no hesitation to continue his service for Kosrae, stated in his testimonies that he has plans for the Division of Public Safety, if his re-nomination is approved by the Legislature. He even pointed-out that during the past two weeks, he left Kosrae to seek assistance in Pohnpei mostly on how to certify some of his officers for Fire Arms. Along with the certification process, he mentioned that he had been thinking of ways to motivate the performances of his officers and the recurring thought would be to raise the salary of the Public Safety personnel, which he hopes to pursue, if his nomination is confirmed.
- b. In addition to his way of developing, improving, and achievement goals, he also shared a story when he was attending an academy program in Guam with Captain Billy Palik. At the end of the program, he was recognized as 2nd best amongst many who had attended, which the Program Coordinator offered a job for him in Guam and he declined; He instead chose to come back to Kosrae not only to work as a Police Officer but to help Kosrae and its people. The nominee sacrificed his work on the force and hopes to be retired on the force.

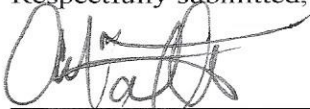
3) Session 3: Unit Heads / Appropriate Heads (Capt. Palik, Sgt. Alik, and Lt. Benjamin) at 2:22 pm

- a. When asked about their level of willingness to continue serving under the nominee and why (should the nominee be confirmed), the witnesses all responded that they will continue to work with him not only because he is or will be our Chief but also, he is determined to do his job as Chief, he sacrificed his time to be with his staff even though he is off-duty, and also because his managing style is unique which has given the officers a working environment where everyone is treated equally and fairly.
- b. In general, the witnesses had shown the committee that they are in full support for the nomination, which Capt. Palik offered in his closing remark requesting the legislative support for the nomination, stating that "With his determination and fairness, we fully hope for your consideration to approve the nomination of the nominee."


COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

With the aforementioned findings, Your Committee on Judiciary & Governmental Operations (J&GO) hereby recommends the plenary's further discussion and adoption.

Respectfully submitted,



Artson S. Talley, Acting Chairman



Moses M. Thomson, Member

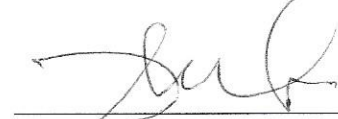


Lyndon H. Jackson, Member




Salpasr E. Tilfas, Member

Nena C. Ned, Chairman



Ramsey S. George, Member



Andy J. Andrew, Member