



THIRTEENTH KOSRAE STATE LEGISLATURE
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 FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA 96944
 TELEPHONE: (691) 370-3019/3177

COWR. No. 13-05
 Aug. 2, 2023
 RE: L.B. 13-48

Semeon J. Phillip
 SPEAKER

Salpasr E. Tilfas
 VICE SPEAKER

Andy J. Andrew
 FLOOR LEADER

LELU:
 Alik S. Isaac
 Bob H. Skilling
 Moses M. Thomson
 Salpasr E. Tilfas
 Yoshiro P. Abraham

TAFUNSAK:
 Lyndon H. Jackson
 Nena C. Ned
 Ramsey S. George
 Ruthsina R. Jonah

MALEM:
 Artson S. Talley
 Sasaki L. George
 Semeon J. Phillip

UTWE:
 Andy J. Andrew
 Yamado A. Melander

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

Dear Speaker Phillip:

Your Committee of the Whole (COW) reports on L.B. No. 13-48 entitled:

“To appropriate the sum of 96,735.00 from the Foreign Assistance Fund of the Kosrae State Treasury for the purpose of funding the implementation of a Memorandum of Agreement between the Kosrae State and National Institute of Biological Resources of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea; and for other purposes.”

COMMITTEE ACTIONS:

Your committee met in an Executive Meeting on Thursday, July 27, 2023 around 10:30 am to deliberate on their pending measures, among which is L.B. No. 13-48.

As a result of this meeting, your committee decided to hold public hearings.

On July 31, 2023, your committee held its public hearing with two separate sessions with the following witnesses: (1) T.H. Governor Tulensa W. Palik, and (2) KIRMA Acting Director Maxson Nithan and KIRMA Board Chairman Ilai D. Abraham

COMMITTEE FINDINGS:

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

During the first session of the public hearings, T.H. Governor Palik emphasized in his opening remark the history of the project where a research group from Korea came to Kosrae to do studies on Kosrae, back in July, 2017. With relevance to this research, the study team had set two goals to achieve here in Kosrae, which included: (1) To publish an Illustration of Kosrae’s Floor, which was accomplished and dedicated last month in Korea, and (2) To Establish a Storage Room under the supervision of Kosrae Island Resources Management Authority. Subsequently, this bill is needed in order to achieve the second goal, which is to fund all implementation requirements of this Agreement. The Honorable Governor mentioned also that this Agreement was easily signed back then to complement the Access Benefit Sharing Law (ABS Law).

During the second session, there were not many inquiries but high hopes and recommendations. The Legislative body was hoping for the best in this project. Furthermore, KIRMA has expressed their readiness to work alongside with the project and sustain the best care possible for everyone. They have also mentioned that their staff have already received trainings for the project, hoping to enrich their skills through more trainings.

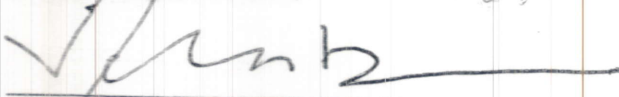
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Following the public hearing, your committee agreed to move forward with the bill by reporting out.

RECOMMENDATION:

With the aforementioned findings, Your Committee of the Whole (COW) hereby recommends the reporting out and further passage in its first and final readings.


Respectfully submitted,



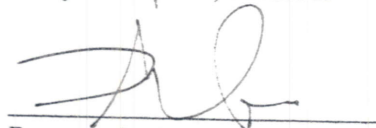
Salpasr E. Tilfas, Chairman



Andy J. Andrew, Member



Moses M. Thomson, Member



Ramsey S. George, Member



Lyndon H. Jackson, Member

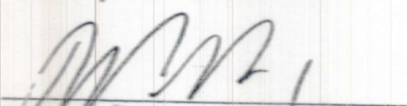


Nena C. Ned, Member



Artson S. Talley, Member

Sasaki L. George, Member



Bob H. Skilling, Member



Alik S. Isaac, Member



Yamado A. Melander, Member



Ruthsina R. Jonah, Member

Yoshiro L. Abraham, Member