

THIRTEENTH KOSRAE STATE LEGISLATURE P.O. BOX 187

S.C.R. No. 13-<u>01</u> February <u>15</u>, 2023

TOFOL, KOSRAE STATE RE: Misc. Concern on Price Control FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA 96944

TELEPHONE: (691) 370-3019/3177 Website: kosraestatelegislature.com

Committee on Ways and Means (W&M)

CHAIRMAN Alik S. Isaac

VICE CHAIRMAN Lyndon H. Jackson

MEMBERS
Artson S. Talley
Bob Las Skilling
Moses M. Thomson
Nena C. Ned
Yamado A. Melander
Salpasr E. Tilfas

The Honorable Semeon J. Phillip Speaker 13th Kosrae State Legislature Tofol, Kosrae FM 96944

Dear Speaker Phillip:

Your Standing Committee on Ways & Means (W&M) reports on a miscellaneous concern brought forth during the First Regular Session in regards to price control.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Your committee met in an Executive Meeting on February 14, 2023, and began their deliberations on this miscellaneous concern.

COMMITTEE FINDINGS:

During the committee's deliberation, the members were given the opportunity to share and express their concerns in relation to the ever-increasing pricing of store commodities, fuel, and others. The following were noted to be significant factors impacting the escalating pricing of goods today:

- Flaws on enforcement (AG/ Executive Branch) of recommendations given by the Price Control Commission/ failure to follow through;
- Flaws on current statutory provisions for pricing;
- Business community claims on indirect cost (i.e. hauling of goods after landing) not factored into shelf prices;
- Global impact/ inflation of pricing on all goods (post COV-19).

The members were also reminded that price control has been highlighted in the Transition Committee's final report and that there was a recommendation provided in the report.

At the meeting's closing, given the numerous loopholes already known and also yet to be found, the majority of the members agreed to hold off on any further action, pending each individual member's research and fact finding on this particular concern.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

With the aforementioned findings, Your Committee on Ways & Means hereby recommends the following:

- a. Hold off its further action, to give ample time for each member to do research and fact findings;
 - Staff to provide relevant info on price control statutes/ regulation.
- b. Members to individually prepare themselves (equipped with sufficient info on price control) prior to the upcoming State Leadership Conference, to share/exchange info on this particular concern.

Your Committee on Ways & Means (W&M) further recommends the reporting out of this standing committee report.

Alik S. Isaac, Chairman

Lyndon H. Jackson, Vice
Chairman

Artson S. Talley, Member

Bob H. Skilling, Member

Nena C. Ned, Member

Yamado A. Melander, Member

Salpasr E. Tilfas, Member