

Proposal No.: CC-PR-4-28

Assigned to: Committee on Public Finance & Revenue

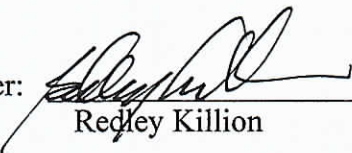
PROPOSAL TO AMEND CONSTITUTION

To amend Article V, Section 3 of the Constitution of the Federated States of Micronesia to require Congress to appropriate funds to support the teaching of Micronesia customs and traditions in all school curriculum in the Federated States of Micronesia.

Section 3. The Congress may establish, when needed, a Chamber of Chiefs consisting of traditional leaders from each state having such leaders, and of elected representatives from states having no traditional leaders. The constitution of a state having traditional leaders may provide for an active, functional role for them. Congress shall appropriate funds for the promotion and teaching of Micronesian customs and traditions in all elementary and secondary school curriculum in the Federated States of Micronesia. The funds appropriated by Congress for this purpose shall be equitably divided among the States.

PURPOSE AND INTENT OF AMENDMENT:

Our FSM Constitution recognizes the importance of custom and tradition by providing a role for traditional leaders within the State governments, by allowing custom and tradition to be protected by statute, and by requiring that court decisions be “consistent with” Micronesian customs and traditions. These provisions were placed in our Constitution in order to help preserve our culture. As our world becomes more globalized and communications with other cultures easier and faster, preserving Micronesian culture will require education of our youth. This proposal requires Congress to fund the education of Micronesian custom and tradition in all schools throughout the FSM.

Introducer: 
Redley Killion

Date: January 14, 2020