

Proposal No. CC-PR-4-47

Assigned to Committee on Civil Liberties
and Traditions

A PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE FSM CONSTITUTION

To amend Section 3 of Article III of the FSM Constitution to allow dual citizenship for a person born of parents one or both of whom are citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia and who is also recognized as a citizen of another nation.

Section 3 of Article III of the FSM Constitution is hereby proposed to be amended to read as follows:

Section 1. A person who is a citizen of the Trust Territory immediately prior to the effective date of this Constitution and a domiciliary of a District ratifying this Constitution is a citizen and national of the Federated States of Micronesia.

Section 2. A person born of parents one or both of whom are citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia is a citizen and national of the Federated States by birth.

Section 3. A citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia who is recognized as a citizen of another nation shall, ~~within 3 years of his 18th birthday, or within 3 years of the effective date of this Constitution, whichever is later, register his intent to remain a citizen of the Federated States and renounce his citizenship of another nation. If he fails to comply with this Section, he becomes a national of the Federated States of Micronesia~~ is a dual citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia.

Section 4. A citizen of the Trust Territory who becomes a national of the United States of America under the terms of the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands may become a citizen and national of the Federated States of Micronesia by applying to a court of competent jurisdiction in the Federated States within 6 months of the date he became a United States national.

Section 5. A domiciliary of a District not ratifying this Constitution who was a citizen of the Trust Territory immediately prior to the effective date of this Constitution, may become a citizen and national of the Federated States of Micronesia by applying to a court of competent jurisdiction in the Federated States within 6 months after the effective date of this Constitution or within 6 months after his 18th birthday, whichever is later.

Section 6. This Article may be applied retroactively.”

Purpose and Intent of the Proposal


Section 3 of Article III requires a citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia who is recognized as a citizen of another nation to register his intent to remain as a citizen of the FSM and renounce the other citizenship. This registry of intent must be done within 3 years of his or her birthday (18-21) or within 3 years of the effectivity of the FSM Constitution. Failure to act within the time frame would cause one to become a national not a citizen. Many have failed to comply to their detriment simply by ignorance or being oblivious of the requisites of Section 3. There is little or no effort by appropriate authority to inform the people of the effect of Section 3 resulting in the inadvertent status of national of FSM and loss of FSM citizenship.

CC-PR-4-47


Civil liberties of Tradition

This proposed amendment will clear and pave the way for those who were deprived of their birth right for FSM citizenship. The proposed amendment will allow dual citizenship.

Introduce by:



Kosrae Delegation Chairman
Canney L. Palsis



Johnson A. Asher
Delegate



Yoslyn G. Sigrah
Delegate

Date:

01/18/20