

Proposal No.: CC-PR-4-12

Assigned to: Committee on Government Structure and Functions

PROPOSAL TO AMEND CONSTITUTION


To amend Article IX, section 16 of the Constitution of the Federated States of Micronesia to limit the power of the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia to appropriate public funds during a special session.

Section 16. The Congress shall meet in regular, public session as prescribed by statute. A special session may be convened at the call of the President of the Federated States of Micronesia, or by the presiding officer on the written request of 2/3 of the members, provided, however, that Congress shall not appropriate public funds during a special session except at the request of the President.

PURPOSE AND INTENT OF AMENDMENT:

This proposal is intended to limit the power of the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia to appropriate public funds during any of its special sessions, so that such appropriations shall only be upon the request of the President of the Federated States of Micronesia. Congress will still have general appropriations power during its regular sessions regardless of whether a particular appropriation is requested by the President. This proposal aims to minimize unnecessary and/or wasteful appropriations by Congress during special sessions. Special sessions should be reserved for pressing matters to be considered by and reflecting the interests of both the Executive and Legislative branches of the National Government of the Federated States of Micronesia.

This proposal is appropriately targeted at section 16 of Article IX of the Constitution of the Federated States of Micronesia, as this existing provision deals with the convening of special sessions, and the proposal is not intended to undermine Congress's general power of the purse.

Introducer: 
Victor Nabeyan
By request of the Delegation

Date: 1/10/20