

Proposal No: CC-PR-04-72

Assigned to: Government Structure and Function

PROPOSAL TO AMEND CONSTITUTION

To amend Article IX, Section 14 of the Constitution of the Federated States of Micronesia to limit the combined annual salary and allowance for members of Congress.

Section 14. The Congress may prescribe an annual salary and allowance for members. The annual aggregate salary and annual aggregate allowance for members shall not exceed 150 percent of the combined aggregate annual salary and annual allowance of the President. All salaries and allowances shall be subject to the requirements of financial management laws. An increase in salary or allowance may shall not apply to the Congress enacting it.

PURPOSE AND INTENT OF AMENDMENT

The percentage can be worked out in committee but the current \$150,000 allowance for each senator sees no limit and Congress has proven that it may continue to increase this despite public outcry. The current allowances of the 14 senators total up to \$2,100,000.00. This money, when saved and if some are passed to the four states, it can actually increase perhaps at \$1 for all government employees of the states and national government, including Sector Grant payees, injecting a spur in the economy of the Nation. Local businesses will get more cash and in turn pay more taxes. Many other uses can be realized.

The current language says "may" which is permissive and gives Congress right to swallow up the policy of not reward a sitting Congress. The amendment uses the word "shall" which is mandatory and explicitly applies to both salary and allowance.

Introducer: _____


Delegate Salomon Saimon

Date: _____

