



ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF YAP

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Speaker
Nicholas Figirlaarwon

Vice Speaker
Theodore (Ted) Rutun

Floor Leader
Terrence R. Fong

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DEVELOPMENT**

Chairman
John Mafel

Vice Chairman
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Member
John Taweryan

February 4, 2026

Standing Comm. Report No. 11-193

Re: Resolution No. 11-140

The Honorable Nicholas Figirlaarwon
Speaker
Eleventh Legislature of the State of Yap
Fourth Regular Session, 2026

*Adopted
2/5/26
[Signature]*

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Resources, Education and Development, to which was referred Resolution No. 11-140, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING ALEXANDER YOW TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE YAP VISITORS BUREAU BOARD.”,

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of the resolution is expressed in its title.

On December 9, 2025 Governor Francis Itimai transmitted his two nominations for the Board of Directors for Yap Visitors Bureau, Mr. Alexander Yow and Mr. Kyle Ingram. The letter was designated as Governor’s Communication No. 11-494, and on December 11, 2025, Floor Leader Terrence R. Fong, by request, introduced Resolutions Nos. 11-140 and 11-141, respectively. Both nominations are new appointments to the Board. The communication and resolutions are assigned to your Committee for consideration.

Your Committee conducted a public hearing on January 28, 2026 at 11:00 am with the nominee, Mr. Alex Yow and Governor Itimai, along with Speaker Figirlaarwon, Vice Speaker Rutun and Senator Ramoloiug, present during the hearing.

The nominee is currently the Deputy Director of the Department of Resources and Development. He is not a member of any other boards, and thus is qualified to serve on the YVB Board. The Yap Visitors Bureau Board of Directors has the authority to approve the YVB Budget and Expenditures. Recently, they have been authorized to process their own payments for timely action, especially given their area of work. However, this also calls for very close scrutiny and reporting on their finances and performance, which the Board is also responsible for such review and reporting to the Governor and Legislature. Moreover, YVB and its Board, is entrusted with one of the three priority areas of Yap, Tourism. They are tasked to oversee, develop plans, and issue policy to improve the industry in Yap.


The nominee's particular circumstances as deputy in the R&D Department should allow for better coordination regarding with other priority areas of Agriculture and Fisheries. The discussion also included developing product in Yap and in the community and the role of YVB.

In looking at the introduced Resolution No. 11-140, your Committee noted its introduction in the last regular session and would make technical amendments to ensure its adoption in the Fourth Regular Session. Further, your Committee is aware that the nominee's full name is Alexander Yowbalaw, and would change his name to reflect his full name. We are offering amendments for this reason.

1. Header, line 2 - Delete "Third" and replace with "Fourth".
2. Header, line 3 - Delete "2025" and replace with "2026".
3. Title, line 1 - at the end of "Yow", include "balaw".
4. Page 1, line 2 - Delete "Third" and replace with "Fourth"; Delete "2025" and replace with "2026"; at the end of "Yow", include "balaw".
5. Page 1, line 6 - at the end of "Yow", include "balaw".
6. Page 1, lines 7 through 8 - Delete "the Director of the Department of Health Services;".

Your Committee, after reviewing the nomination, is in accord with the purpose and intent of Resolution No. 11-140 and recommends its adoption, as amended, in the form attached hereto as Resolution No. 11-140, D1.

Respectfully submitted,




John Mafel - Chairman

2/5/26
Date



Liyon Sulog - Vice Chairman

2/5/26
Date



John Taweryan - Member

2-5-26
Date

ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF YAP
~~Third~~Fourth Regular Session
~~2025~~2026

Resolution No. 11-140¹, D1

A RESOLUTION

Confirming Alexander Yowbalaw to serve as a member of the Yap Visitors Bureau Board.

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Eleventh Legislature of the State
2 of Yap, ~~Third~~Fourth Regular Session, ~~2025~~2026, that Alexander
3 Yowbalaw is hereby confirmed to serve as a member of the Yap
4 Visitors Bureau Board; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
6 Resolution be transmitted to Alexander Yowbalaw; Governor of
7 the State of Yap; ~~the Director of the Department of Health~~
8 ~~Services~~; the Chairman of the Council of Pilung; and the
9 Chairman of the Council of Tamol.

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Date: 12/11/25

Introduced by: /s/Terrence R. Fong
Terrence R. Fong
(by request)

¹ Governor's Communication No. 11-494