



ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF YAP

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February 4, 2026

Standing Comm. Report No. 11-200
Re: Resolution No. 11-149

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

*adopted
2/5/26
MS*

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committees on Government, Health and Welfare, to which was referred Resolution No. 11-149, entitled,

“A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING IVAN B. E. KADANNGED TO SERVE AS THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF YAP.”,

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of the resolution are expressed in its title.

On January 21, 2026, Governor Francis Itimai transmitted his nomination for the position of Lt. Governor of the State of Yap. The letter was designated as Governor’s Communication No. 11-512 and was referred to this Committee for deliberation. Floor Leader Terrence R. Fong, by request, introduced Resolution No. 11-149 on January 22, 2026, and it was assigned to your Committee for recommendation.

In his letter, the Governor cited his experience in working with the nominee, Mr. Ivan En, during the initial part of the Administration, as a Director of the Office of Planning and Budget. According to Governor Itimai, “...I came to know him as a very humble gentleman, very proactive on his assigned tasks, get along very well with his fellow cabinet members and well respected by his colleagues and office employees. He is a very talented young man and I believe that with him on board, we can move some of our projects forward during these few months left in this administration.” (Gov. Comm. No. 11-512). A copy of the nominee’s resume was attached and filed for information.

The provision in Yap State Constitution, Article VI, Section 4 clearly mandated that “Succession to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor shall be prescribed by law.” Therefore, it is really the purview of the Legislature, as Yap State’s lawmaking body, to enact a law for that purpose. Due to the sudden recent passing of the Governor in May 2025, and even with the Constitution allowing for the Lt. Governor to assume the powers and duties of the Governor, the Legislature then enacted a law to provide for a succession to the Office, as clearly laid out constitutionally. With the Administration

only halfway into it's term, it is important to have an official Head of State and his Lieutenant in place. Yap State Law No. 11-149 (Bill No. 11-160 and SCR No. 11-168) was passed to address this intent. In Section 1 of YSL No. 11-149, an amendment was made to Title 3, Section 158 to specify that upon a vacancy for the Governor, "the Lieutenant Governor shall be sworn in immediately as the Governor." In Section 2 of Yap State Law No. 11-149, a new Section 159 is added to Title 3 to specify how a vacancy for Lt. Governor is filled. The nomination was thus made in compliance with this newly enacted law.


Your Committees held a virtual public hearing with Mr. Ivan B. E. Kadanged on January 29, 2026 at 9:00 am Yap time. The nominee is currently in Pohnpei State, which your Committee took into account for scheduling purposes. Present in the Chamber for the hearing were Governor Itimai, Chairman Falngin from the Council of Pilung, all members of your Committee on Resources, Education and Development, and the Chairman of your Committee on Finance.

Having posed a few questions to the nominee, he testified frankly on his response to assist the State at this time, despite his current excellent employment with the Bank of the FSM and also despite the job will only last until the second Monday in January 2027. His willingness to return to Yap and forgo the benefits of his current job for this appointment has been noted by your Committee and taken into account during our discussion. Further, he has stated his willingness to work with the existing challenges in the limited time left in this Administration. The issues with infrastructure projects and their confusing procedures, communication breakdowns, limited resources and overall inefficiency were briefly discussed during the hearing.

Your Committee in having reviewed the nomination, is satisfied that he is qualified and has the energy and experience to assist the Governor for the few months left in the Administration, and the State of Yap is in dire need to have the leadership roles filled for the Office of the Governor.

Therefore, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of Resolution No. 11-149 and recommend its adoption in its original form.


Respectfully submitted,



Victor Bamog - Chairman

2/5/26

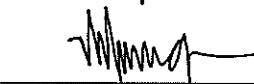
Date



Gabriel Ramololug - Vice Chairman

2-5-26

Date



Terrence R. Fong - Member

2-5-26

Date