



ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF YAP

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February 25, 2026

Standing Comm. Report No. 11-204

Re: Bill No. 11-199

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

*adopted
2/25/26*

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Finance, to which was referred Bill No. 11-199, entitled,

“A BILL FOR AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE \$17,700 FROM THE GENERAL FUND OF THE STATE OF YAP FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FUNDING TO FUND THE MICRONESIAN SEMINAR LIBRARY (MICSEM) DURING FISCAL YEAR 2026, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”,

beg leave to report as follows:

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

On November 14, 2025, Governor Francis Itimai transmitted his request for Legislative appropriation under the General Fund. The request, totaling \$264,952, is for supplemental funding to certain Government Departments and program operations during Fiscal Year 2026. The amounts are as follows:

- (1) Environmental Protection Agency - \$50,000: Fixed Assets for a field vehicle.
- (2) Department of R&D - \$138,512: All categories for certain divisions. Personnel for WED, Travel for C&I and MRMD; Contractual for Administration, C&I, MRMD and WED; Consumable goods for C&I and WED; and Fixed Assets for MRMD and Land Resources.
- (3) Yap Investment Trust - \$58,740: Personnel shifted to Contractual new request.
- (4) Micronesian Seminar - \$17,700: Grant for operations.

It was designated as Governor’s Communication No. 11-486 and assigned to your Committee. Bill No. 11-187 was introduced on December 11, 2025, by request by Floor Leader Terrence R. Fong and also assigned to the Committee on Finance. Your Committee reported out recommending Items 1 through 3 above, and held the funding request for Micronesian Seminar pending more information. [see YSL 11-157, Bill No. 11-187, SCR No. 11-184]

After a number of inquiries with the Administration and discussions, we have determined to recommend granting funds to the Micronesian Seminar in the amount requested - \$17,700. The only restriction, which we have requested be reflected in the language of the bill, is to prohibit using the funds for anything related to worship in any religion or faith. The bill, Bill No. 11-199, is being introduced as a single item bill in today's session, by request, by Floor Leader Terrence R. Fong and assigned to this Committee.

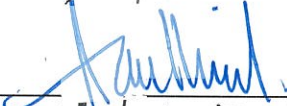
We have reviewed the requests and the response from Micronesian Seminar, and have placed copies of such responses in the main bill file for information. We are recommending the funds, with Governor as allottee, be issued as a grant to the organization. As this is a grant, the allottee is also responsible for a one time report on the use and balance of the funds by July 9, 2026. We are expecting that such a report will be comprehensive in the expenditures and use of the remaining funding from the grant. The Seminar has had a long, reliable and prestigious history as an archive with an extensive Micronesian social and cultural collection, most of which is unbound anywhere else. Not only will it enhance student education, especially for our students in Yap at all levels of their schooling, but it will provide an attraction for visitors in pursuit of research and knowledge.

Therefore, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of Bill No. 11-199 and recommends passage on first and final reading in its original form.


Respectfully submitted,



Pius Talimeisei - Chairman



Anne-Marie Laamar - Vice Chairman



Ted Rutun - Member

2/25/26
Date

2/25/26
Date

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Date