



## Consulate General of the Federated States of Micronesia

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#### FSM Consul General Joe Silem Enlet Meets Idaho State Governor Brad Little and DMV Administrator Alberto Gonzalez

On March 6, 2019, FSM Consul General, Mr. Joe Silem Enlet, had his first courtesy visit, as Consul General, to the State of Idaho and met with Governor Brad Little and members of his Administration. During the historic courtesy visit with Governor Brad Little of Idaho State, Consul General Enlet gave a brief overview of the role of his new office, the FSM Consulate General in Portland, Oregon, which includes providing consular services to Micronesians residing in Idaho and exploring potential business and investment opportunities between Idaho and Micronesia.



(Photo: L-R: FSM citizen, CG Joe Enlet, Governor Brad Little, FSM citizen, and Staff Dominic Maluchmai)

Consul General Enlet also emphasized a key part of his outreach mission and that is, to make the necessary connections with Idaho Government as well as introducing leaders and members of Micronesian communities across Idaho to state and local government leaders. He did just

that as he invited two members of the Micronesian community in Boise, Idaho to join him and his staff to meet with the Governor.

After the meeting with Governor Little, Consul General Enlet participated in a meeting with Idaho DMV Administrator, Mr. Alberto Gonzalez, and members of his team to discuss Driver License and ID card requirements in light of the recent law amending the Real ID Act of 2005. Mr. Gonzalez and his team were very supportive in assisting Consul General with useful information and materials, particularly on Idaho's Real ID, to share with Micronesians across Idaho.



(Photo: CG Joe Enlet(4<sup>th</sup> from left) and Mr. Alberto Gonzalez, Idaho DMV Administrator,(3<sup>rd</sup> from left)

And, as part of his Outreach and Engagement program, Consul General Enlet met with FSM citizens in the Boise area including a few who came from the City of Twin Falls and provided a briefing following his meetings with Governor Little and DMV officials. Consul General informed the group about the Idaho's Real ID card and importance of having an Idaho Real ID card by October 1, 2020 deadline. Additionally, Consul General Enlet provided an important introduction highlighting services that the new Consulate General is currently providing, which includes passport application and notary assistance, to FSM citizens in the eight states(Oregon, Washington, Idaho, California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico) under its consular responsibility. Equally important as well, the Consul General devoted the last part of the meeting as a "listening and Q&A session" to hear about their concerns, experiences, stories and responded to their questions.



(Photo: Consul General and FSM citizens took a group photo after their meeting in Boise, Idaho)

Consul General Enlet encouraged the group to get organized as a Community of FSM Citizens and take further steps to become more visible and connected to the City and State governments. He further shared his experiences about establishing advocacy group and network and how the value of the return on the invested time and resources is beginning to bear fruits for FSM citizens in Oregon and elsewhere in the US. It was quite fitting to conclude his meeting on a hopeful note!

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