



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
Division of Financial Institutions

DCCA News Release

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DCCA APPROVES APPLICATION TO OPEN AN INTRA-PACIFIC BANK BRANCH IN HAWAII

HONOLULU -- The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' (DCCA) Division of Financial Institutions (DFI) has granted Bank of the Federated States of Micronesia, Kolonia, Pohnpei (BoFSM) approval to open an intra-Pacific branch of the bank in Hawaii bank pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 412.

Approval to open the branch has also been granted by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, D.C., which regulates foreign banks operating in the United States. The Banking Board of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), which is the chartering authority and primary regulator for the BoFSM, has approved the application as well. The BoFSM's deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

The intra-Pacific bank branch will not be open to the public or accept any deposits in Hawaii, but will support the BoFSM's activities related to check clearing, investment services, wire transfers and other operational functions.

"The opening of this new intra-Pacific bank branch is consistent with Hawaii's historic role as a base of support for our Pacific island neighbors' business activities," said Commissioner Nick Griffin.

Before granting approval to open the branch, DFI conducted a detailed review of the application including the background and capacity of the applicant's managers and directors, its financial condition, and its business operations. The BoFSM was chartered under the laws of the FSM in 1986 and has branches in each of the four States of the FSM – Kosrae, Pohnpei, Chuuk and Yap.

The decision and order is posted in its entirety on DCCA's website at www.hawaii.gov/dcca/areas/dfi/main/press_releases/.

A copy of the application is available for review at DFI during normal business hours (7:45 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.).

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