

A RESOLUTION

To respectfully request the members of the United States Congress to support the reinstatement of the eligibility for Medicaid benefits to the citizens of the Freely Associated States.

1 WHEREAS, the Compact of Free Association is a treaty between
2 the Federated States of Micronesia and the United States of
3 America; and

4 WHEREAS, under the Compacts of Free Association, the
5 citizens of Freely Associated States, including the Federated
6 States of Micronesia, are allowed to travel, reside, attend school
7 and work in the United States or any of its territories or
8 possessions; and

9 WHEREAS, since the inception of the original Compacts,
10 citizens of Freely Associated States have enjoyed the privileges
11 and assistance relating to Medicaid and student financial
12 assistance, among others; and

13 WHEREAS, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity
14 Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) was enacted by the United States in
15 1996, making citizens of Freely Associated States ineligible for
16 certain federally funded programs, including Medicaid; and

17 WHEREAS, the ineligibility of citizens of Freely Associated
18 States for Medicaid benefits has contributed to enormous financial
19 constraints for the state and local governments in the areas of
20 the United States where huge numbers of citizens of Freely
21 Associated States live; and

1 WHEREAS, the areas in the states, territories, and
2 commonwealths that are most impacted are in the social service,
3 public health, and education systems; now, therefore,

4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Sixteenth Congress of the Federated
5 States of Micronesia, Fifth Regular Session, 2010, that Congress
6 respectfully requests the members of the United States Congress to
7 support the reinstatement of the eligibility of citizens of Freely
8 Associated States for Medicaid benefits; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
10 resolution be transmitted to the Honorable President Barack
11 Obama, the presiding officers of each house of the United States
12 Congress, the members from the State of Hawaii in the United
13 States Congress, the Congressmen from Guam, American Samoa, the
14 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Commonwealth
15 of Puerto Rico, the Governors of the States of Hawaii, Arkansas,
16 and New Mexico, the Governor of Guam, and to the presiding
17 officers of the state legislatures of Hawaii, Arkansas, New
18 Mexico, and Guam.

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20 Date: 10/21/10

Introduced by: /s/ Setiro Paul
Setiro Paul

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