

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1930

To amend the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996 to clarify that citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau who are lawfully residing in the United States are eligible for certain Federal public benefits.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 27, 2021

Ms. HIRONO introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996 to clarify that citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau who are lawfully residing in the United States are eligible for certain Federal public benefits.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Compact Impact Fair-
5 ness Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF FEDERAL PUBLIC BENEFIT ELIGI-**
 2 **BILITY FOR CITIZENS OF FREELY ASSOCI-**
 3 **ATED STATES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 402 of the Personal Re-
 5 sponsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of
 6 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1612) is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a)(2), by adding at the end
 8 the following:

9 “(N) EXCEPTION FOR CITIZENS OF FREE-
 10 LY ASSOCIATED STATES.—With respect to eligi-
 11 bility for benefits for any specified Federal pro-
 12 gram, paragraph (1) shall not apply to any in-
 13 dividual who lawfully resides in the United
 14 States in accordance with the Compacts of Free
 15 Association between the Government of the
 16 United States and the Governments of the Fed-
 17 erated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the
 18 Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.”;
 19 and

20 (2) in subsection (b)(2)(G)—

21 (A) in the subparagraph heading, by strik-
 22 ing “MEDICAID EXCEPTION FOR” and inserting
 23 “EXCEPTION FOR”; and

24 (B) by striking “the designated Federal
 25 program defined in paragraph (3)(C) (relating

1 to the Medicaid program)” and inserting “any
2 designated Federal program”.

3 (b) EXCEPTION TO 5-YEAR WAIT REQUIREMENT.—
4 Section 403(b)(3) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1613(b)(3)) is
5 amended by striking “, but only with respect to the des-
6 ignated Federal program defined in section
7 402(b)(3)(C)”.

8 (c) DEFINITION OF QUALIFIED ALIEN.—Section
9 431(b)(8) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1641(b)(8)) is amended
10 by striking “, but only with respect to the designated Fed-
11 eral program defined in section 402(b)(3)(C) (relating to
12 the Medicaid program)”.

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