

Union Calendar No. 775

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. J. RES. 96

[Report No. 118–785, Part I]

To approve the 2023 Agreement to Amend the U.S.-FSM Compact, and related agreements, between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia, the 2023 Agreement to Amend the U.S.-RMI Compact, and certain related agreements between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Palau, to appropriate funds to carry out the agreements, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 2, 2023

Mr. WESTERMAN (for himself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MEEKS, and Mr. McCAUL) introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Education and the Workforce, Veterans' Affairs, Oversight and Accountability, Agriculture, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

DECEMBER 3, 2024

Reported from the Committee on Natural Resources

DECEMBER 3, 2024

Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Education and the Workforce discharged

DECEMBER 3, 2024

Referral to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs, Oversight and Accountability, Agriculture, and Ways and Means extended for a period ending not later than December 19, 2024

DECEMBER 19, 2024

Additional sponsors: Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. BERA, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. CASE, Ms. HAGEMAN, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. BARR, Ms. PORTER, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. WOMACK, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mr. SHERMAN, Mrs. BICE, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Ms. TITUS, Mrs. HINSON, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. CISCOMANI, Mr. LIEU, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. STANSBURY and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ

DECEMBER 19, 2024

Committees on Veterans' Affairs, Oversight and Accountability, Agriculture, and Ways and Means discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

JOINT RESOLUTION

To approve the 2023 Agreement to Amend the U.S.-FSM Compact, and related agreements, between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia, the 2023 Agreement to Amend the U.S.-RMI Compact, and certain related agreements between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Palau, to appropriate funds to carry out the agreements, and for other purposes.

Whereas the United States (in accordance with the Trusteeship Agreement for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the United Nations Charter, and the objectives of the international trusteeship system of the United Nations) fulfilled its obligations to promote the development

of the people of the Trust Territory toward self-government or independence, as appropriate, to the particular circumstances of the Trust Territory and the people of the Trust Territory and the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned;

Whereas the United States, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands entered into the Compact of Free Association set forth in section 201 of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (48 U.S.C. 1901 note; Public Law 99–239) and the United States and the Republic of Palau entered into the Compact of Free Association set forth in section 201 of Public Law 99–658 (48 U.S.C. 1931 note) to create and maintain a close and mutually beneficial relationship;

Whereas the “Compact of Free Association, as amended, between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia”, the “Compact of Free Association, as amended, between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands”, and related agreements were signed by the Government of the United States and the Governments of the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands and approved, as applicable, by section 201 of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921 note; Public Law 108–188);

Whereas the “Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Palau Following the Compact of Free Association Section 432 Review”, was signed by the Government of the United States and the Government of the Republic

of Palau on September 3, 2010, and amended on September 19, 2018;

Whereas, on May 22, 2023, the United States signed the “Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Palau Resulting From the 2023 Compact of Free Association Section 432 Review”;

Whereas, on May 23, 2023, the United States signed 3 agreements related to the U.S.-FSM Compact of Free Association, including an Agreement to Amend the Compact, as amended, a new fiscal procedures agreement, and a new trust fund agreement and on September 28, 2023, the United States signed a Federal Programs and Services agreement related to the U.S.-FSM Compact of Free Association; and

Whereas, on October 16, 2023, the United States signed 3 agreements relating to the U.S.-RMI Compact of Free Association, including an Agreement to Amend the Compact, as amended, a new fiscal procedures agreement, and a new trust fund agreement: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This joint resolution may be cited as the “Compact
5 of Free Association Amendments Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this joint resolution:

8 (1) 1986 COMPACT.—The term “1986 Com-
9 pact” means the Compact of Free Association be-

1 tween the Government of the United States and the
2 Governments of the Marshall Islands and the Fed-
3 erated States of Micronesia set forth in section 201
4 of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (48
5 U.S.C. 1901 note; Public Law 99–239).

6 (2) 2003 AMENDED U.S.-FSM COMPACT.—The
7 term “2003 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact” means
8 the Compact of Free Association amending the 1986
9 Compact entitled the “Compact of Free Association,
10 as amended, between the Government of the United
11 States of America and the Government of the Fed-
12 erated States of Micronesia” set forth in section
13 201(a) of the Compact of Free Association Amend-
14 ments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921 note; Public
15 Law 108–188).

16 (3) 2003 AMENDED U.S.-RMI COMPACT.—The
17 term “2003 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact” means
18 the Compact of Free Association amending the 1986
19 Compact entitled “Compact of Free Association, as
20 amended, between the Government of the United
21 States of America and the Government of the Re-
22 public of the Marshall Islands” set forth in section
23 201(b) of the Compact of Free Association Amend-
24 ments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921 note; Public
25 Law 108–188).

1 (4) 2023 AGREEMENT TO AMEND THE U.S.-FSM
2 COMPACT.—The term “2023 Agreement to Amend
3 the U.S.-FSM Compact” means the Agreement be-
4 tween the Government of the United States of
5 America and the Government of the Federated
6 States of Micronesia to Amend the Compact of Free
7 Association, as Amended, done at Palikir May 23,
8 2023.

9 (5) 2023 AGREEMENT TO AMEND THE U.S.-RMI
10 COMPACT.—The term “2023 Agreement to Amend
11 the U.S.-RMI Compact” means the Agreement be-
12 tween the Government of the United States of
13 America and the Government of the Republic of the
14 Marshall Islands to Amend the Compact of Free As-
15 sociation, as Amended, done at Honolulu October
16 16, 2023.

17 (6) 2023 AMENDED U.S.-FSM COMPACT.—The
18 term “2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact” means
19 the 2003 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact, as amended
20 by the 2023 Agreement to Amend the U.S.-FSM
21 Compact.

22 (7) 2023 AMENDED U.S.-RMI COMPACT.—The
23 term “2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact” means
24 the 2003 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact, as amended

1 by the 2023 Agreement to Amend the U.S.-RMI
2 Compact.

3 (8) 2023 U.S.-FSM FEDERAL PROGRAMS AND
4 SERVICES AGREEMENT.—The term “2023 U.S.-FSM
5 Federal Programs and Services Agreement” means
6 the 2023 Federal Programs and Services Agreement
7 between the Government of the United States of
8 America and the Government of the Federated
9 States of Micronesia, done at Washington September
10 28, 2023.

11 (9) 2023 U.S.-FSM FISCAL PROCEDURES AGREE-
12 MENT.—The term “2023 U.S.-FSM Fiscal Proce-
13 dures Agreement” means the Agreement Concerning
14 Procedures for the Implementation of United States
15 Economic Assistance provided in the 2023 Amended
16 U.S.-FSM Compact between the Government of the
17 United States of America and the Government of
18 the Federated States of Micronesia, done at Palikir
19 May 23, 2023.

20 (10) 2023 U.S.-FSM TRUST FUND AGREE-
21 MENT.—The term “2023 U.S.-FSM Trust Fund
22 Agreement” means the Agreement between the Gov-
23 ernment of the United States of America and the
24 Government of the Federated States of Micronesia

1 Regarding the Compact Trust Fund, done at Palikir
2 May 23, 2023.

3 (11) 2023 U.S.-PALAU COMPACT REVIEW
4 AGREEMENT.—The term “2023 U.S.-Palau Compact
5 Review Agreement” means the Agreement between
6 the Government of the United States of America
7 and the Government of the Republic of Palau Re-
8 sulting From the 2023 Compact of Free Association
9 Section 432 Review, done at Port Moresby May 22,
10 2023.

11 (12) 2023 U.S.-RMI FISCAL PROCEDURES
12 AGREEMENT.—The term “2023 U.S.-RMI Fiscal
13 Procedures Agreement” means the Agreement Con-
14 cerning Procedures for the Implementation of
15 United States Economic Assistance Provided in the
16 2023 Amended Compact Between the Government of
17 the United States of America and the Government
18 of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, done at
19 Honolulu October 16, 2023.

20 (13) 2023 U.S.-RMI TRUST FUND AGREE-
21 MENT.—The term “2023 U.S.-RMI Trust Fund
22 Agreement” means the Agreement between the Gov-
23 ernment of the United States of America and the
24 Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands

1 Regarding the Compact Trust Fund, done at Hono-
2 lulu October 16, 2023.

3 (14) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
4 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-
5 gress” means—

6 (A) the Committee on Energy and Natural
7 Resources of the Senate;

8 (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations of
9 the Senate;

10 (C) the Committee on Natural Resources
11 of the House of Representatives; and

12 (D) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of
13 the House of Representatives.

14 (15) FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES.—The term
15 “Freely Associated States” means—

16 (A) the Federated States of Micronesia;

17 (B) the Republic of the Marshall Islands;

18 and

19 (C) the Republic of Palau.

20 (16) SUBSIDIARY AGREEMENT.—The term
21 “subsidiary agreement” means any of the following:

22 (A) The 2023 U.S.-FSM Federal Pro-
23 grams and Services Agreement.

24 (B) The 2023 U.S.-FSM Fiscal Proce-
25 dures Agreement.

1 (C) The 2023 U.S.-FSM Trust Fund
2 Agreement.

3 (D) The 2023 U.S.-RMI Fiscal Procedures
4 Agreement.

5 (E) The 2023 U.S.-RMI Trust Fund
6 Agreement.

7 (F) Any Federal Programs and Services
8 Agreement in force between the United States
9 and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

10 (G) Any Federal Programs and Services
11 Agreement in force between the United States
12 and the Republic of Palau.

13 (H) Any other agreements that the United
14 States may from time-to-time enter into with
15 the Government of the Federated States of Mi-
16 cronesia, the Government of the Republic of
17 Palau, or the Government of the Republic of
18 the Marshall Islands, in accordance with—

19 (i) the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM
20 Compact;

21 (ii) the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Re-
22 view Agreement; or

23 (iii) the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI
24 Compact.

1 (17) U.S.-PALAU COMPACT.—The term “U.S.-
 2 Palau Compact” means the Compact of Free Asso-
 3 ciation between the United States and the Govern-
 4 ment of Palau set forth in section 201 of Public
 5 Law 99–658 (48 U.S.C. 1931 note).

6 **SEC. 3. APPROVAL OF 2023 AGREEMENT TO AMEND THE**
 7 **U.S.-FSM COMPACT, 2023 AGREEMENT TO**
 8 **AMEND THE U.S.-RMI COMPACT, 2023 U.S.-**
 9 **PALAU COMPACT REVIEW AGREEMENT, AND**
 10 **SUBSIDIARY AGREEMENTS.**

11 (a) FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA.—

12 (1) APPROVAL.—The 2023 Agreement to
 13 Amend the U.S.-FSM Compact and the 2023 U.S.-
 14 FSM Trust Fund Agreement, as submitted to Con-
 15 gress on June 15, 2023, are approved and incor-
 16 porated by reference.

17 (2) CONSENT OF CONGRESS.—Congress con-
 18 sents to—

19 (A) the 2023 U.S.-FSM Fiscal Procedures
 20 Agreement, as submitted to Congress on June
 21 15, 2023; and

22 (B) the 2023 U.S.-FSM Federal Programs
 23 and Services Agreement.

24 (3) AUTHORITY OF PRESIDENT.—Notwith-
 25 standing section 101(f) of the Compact of Free As-

1 society Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C.
2 1921(f)), the President is authorized to bring into
3 force and implement the agreements described in
4 paragraphs (1) and (2).

5 (b) REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS.—

6 (1) APPROVAL.—The 2023 Agreement to
7 Amend the U.S.-RMI Compact and the 2023 U.S.-
8 RMI Trust Fund Agreement, as submitted to Con-
9 gress on October 17, 2023, are approved and incor-
10 porated by reference.

11 (2) CONSENT OF CONGRESS.—Congress con-
12 sents to the 2023 U.S.-RMI Fiscal Procedures
13 Agreement as submitted to Congress on October 17,
14 2023.

15 (3) AUTHORITY OF PRESIDENT.—Notwith-
16 standing section 101(f) of the Compact of Free As-
17 sociation Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C.
18 1921(f)), the President is authorized to bring into
19 force and implement the agreements described in
20 paragraphs (1) and (2).

21 (c) REPUBLIC OF PALAU.—

22 (1) APPROVAL.—The 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact
23 Review Agreement, as submitted to Congress on
24 June 15, 2023, is approved.

1 (2) AUTHORITY OF PRESIDENT.—The President
2 is authorized to bring into force and implement the
3 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement.

4 (d) AMENDMENTS, CHANGES, OR TERMINATION TO
5 COMPACTS AND CERTAIN AGREEMENTS.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Any amendment to, change
7 to, or termination of all or any part of the 2023
8 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact, 2023 Amended U.S.-
9 RMI Compact, or the U.S.-Palau Compact, by mu-
10 tual agreement or unilateral action of the Govern-
11 ment of the United States, shall not enter into force
12 until the date on which Congress has incorporated
13 the applicable amendment, change, or termination
14 into an Act of Congress.

15 (2) ADDITIONAL ACTIONS AND AGREEMENTS.—
16 In addition to the Compacts described in paragraph
17 (1), the requirements of that paragraph shall apply
18 to—

19 (A) any action of the Government of the
20 United States under the 2023 Amended U.S.-
21 FSM Compact, 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Com-
22 pact, or U.S.-Palau Compact, including an ac-
23 tion taken pursuant to section 431, 441, or 442
24 of the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact,

1 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact, or U.S.-
2 Palau Compact;

3 (B) any amendment to, change to, or ter-
4 mination of—

5 (i) the agreement described in section
6 462(a)(2) of the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM
7 Compact;

8 (ii) the agreement described in section
9 462(a)(5) of the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI
10 Compact;

11 (iii) an agreement concluded pursuant
12 to section 265 of the 2023 Amended U.S.-
13 FSM Compact;

14 (iv) an agreement concluded pursuant
15 to section 265 of the 2023 Amended U.S.-
16 RMI Compact;

17 (v) an agreement concluded pursuant
18 to section 177 of the 2023 Amended U.S.-
19 RMI Compact;

20 (vi) Articles III and IV of the agree-
21 ment described in section 462(b)(6) of the
22 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact;

23 (vii) Articles III, IV, and X of the
24 agreement described in section 462(b)(6)
25 of the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact;

1 (viii) the agreement described in sec-
2 tion 462(h) of the U.S.-Palau Compact;
3 and
4 (ix) Articles VI, XV, and XVII of the
5 agreement described in section 462(b)(7)
6 of the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact
7 and 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact
8 and section 462(i) of the U.S.-Palau Com-
9 pact.

10 (e) ENTRY INTO FORCE OF FUTURE AMENDMENTS
11 TO SUBSIDIARY AGREEMENTS.—An agreement between
12 the United States and the Government of the Federated
13 States of Micronesia, the Government of the Republic of
14 the Marshall Islands, or the Government of the Republic
15 of Palau that would amend, change, or terminate any sub-
16 sidiary agreement or portion of a subsidiary agreement
17 (other than an amendment to, change to, or termination
18 of an agreement described in subsection (d)) shall not
19 enter into force until the date that is 90 days after the
20 date on which the President has transmitted to the Presi-
21 dent of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Rep-
22 resentatives—

23 (1) the agreement to amend, change, or termi-
24 nate the subsidiary agreement;

1 (2) an explanation of the amendment, change,
2 or termination;

3 (3) a description of the reasons for the amend-
4 ment, change, or termination; and

5 (4) in the case of an agreement that would
6 amend, change, or terminate any agreement de-
7 scribed in section 462(b)(3) of the 2023 Amended
8 U.S.-FSM Compact or the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI
9 Compact, a statement by the Secretary of Labor
10 that describes—

11 (A) the necessity of the amendment,
12 change, or termination; and

13 (B) any impacts of the amendment,
14 change, or termination.

15 **SEC. 4. AGREEMENTS WITH FEDERATED STATES OF MICRO-**
16 **NESIA.**

17 (a) LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to sections 222
19 and 224 of the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact,
20 the United States shall provide nonreimbursable
21 technical and training assistance, as appropriate, in-
22 cluding training and equipment for postal inspection
23 of illicit drugs and other contraband, to enable the
24 Government of the Federated States of Micronesia—

1 (A) to develop and adequately enforce laws
2 of the Federated States of Micronesia; and

3 (B) to cooperate with the United States in
4 the enforcement of criminal laws of the United
5 States.

6 (2) USE OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS.—Funds ap-
7 propriated pursuant to subsection (j) of section 105
8 of the Compact of Free Association Amendments
9 Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921d) (as amended by sec-
10 tion 8(j)) may be used in accordance with section
11 102(a) of the Compact of Free Association Amend-
12 ments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921a(a)).

13 (b) UNITED STATES APPOINTEES TO JOINT ECO-
14 NOMIC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—The 3 United States ap-
16 pointees (which are composed of the United States
17 chair and 2 other members from the Government of
18 the United States) to the Joint Economic Manage-
19 ment Committee established under section 213 of
20 the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact (referred to
21 in this subsection as the “Committee”) shall—

22 (A) be voting members of the Committee;
23 and

24 (B) continue to be officers or employees of
25 the Federal Government.

1 (2) TERM; APPOINTMENT.—The 3 United
2 States members of the Committee described in para-
3 graph (1) shall be appointed for a term of 2 years
4 as follows:

5 (A) 1 member shall be appointed by the
6 Secretary of State, in consultation with the Sec-
7 retary of the Treasury.

8 (B) 1 member shall be appointed by the
9 Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with
10 the Secretary of the Treasury.

11 (C) 1 member shall be appointed by the
12 Interagency Group on Freely Associated States
13 established under section 7(d)(1).

14 (3) REAPPOINTMENT.—A United States mem-
15 ber of the Committee appointed under paragraph (2)
16 may be reappointed for not more than 2 additional
17 2-year terms.

18 (4) QUALIFICATIONS.—Not fewer than 2
19 United States members of the Committee appointed
20 under paragraph (2) shall be individuals who—

21 (A) by reason of knowledge, experience, or
22 training, are especially qualified in accounting,
23 auditing, budget analysis, compliance, grant ad-
24 ministration, program management, or inter-
25 national economics; and

1 (B) possess not less than 5 years of full-
2 time experience in accounting, auditing, budget
3 analysis, compliance, grant administration, pro-
4 gram management, or international economics.

5 (5) NOTICE.—

6 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days
7 after the date of appointment of a United
8 States member of the Committee under para-
9 graph (2), the Secretary of the Interior shall
10 notify the appropriate committees of Congress
11 that an individual has been appointed as a vot-
12 ing member of the Committee under that para-
13 graph, including a statement prepared by the
14 Secretary of the Interior attesting to the quali-
15 fications of the member described in paragraph
16 (4), subject to subparagraph (B).

17 (B) REQUIREMENT.—For purposes of a
18 statement required under subparagraph (A)—

19 (i) in the case of a member appointed
20 under paragraph (2)(A), the Secretary of
21 the Interior shall compile information on
22 the member provided to the Secretary of
23 the Interior by the Secretary of State on
24 request of the Secretary of the Interior;
25 and

1 (ii) in the case of a member appointed
2 under paragraph (2)(C), the Secretary of
3 the Interior shall compile information on
4 the member provided to the Secretary of
5 the Interior by the Interagency Group on
6 Freely Associated States established under
7 section 7(d)(1) on request of the Secretary
8 of the Interior.

9 (6) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
10 90 days after the date on which the Committee re-
11 ceives or completes any report required under the
12 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact, or any related
13 subsidiary agreement, the Secretary of the Interior
14 shall submit the report to the appropriate commit-
15 tees of Congress.

16 (7) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90
17 days after the date on which the Government of the
18 Federated States of Micronesia submits to the Com-
19 mittee a report required under the 2023 Amended
20 U.S.-FSM Compact, or any related subsidiary agree-
21 ment, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit to
22 the appropriate committees of Congress—

23 (A) if the report is submitted by the appli-
24 cable deadline, written notice attesting that the
25 report is complete and accurate; or

1 (B) if the report is not submitted by the
2 applicable deadline, written notice that the re-
3 port has not been timely submitted.

4 (c) UNITED STATES APPOINTEES TO JOINT TRUST
5 FUND COMMITTEE.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—The 3 United States voting
7 members (which are composed of the United States
8 chair and 2 other members from the Government of
9 the United States) to the Joint Trust Fund Com-
10 mittee established pursuant to the agreement de-
11 scribed in section 462(b)(5) of the 2023 Amended
12 U.S.-FSM Compact (referred to in this subsection as
13 the “Committee”) shall continue to be officers or
14 employees of the Federal Government.

15 (2) TERM; APPOINTMENT.—The 3 United
16 States members of the Committee described in para-
17 graph (1) shall be appointed for a term not more
18 than 2 years as follows:

19 (A) 1 member shall be appointed by the
20 Secretary of State.

21 (B) 1 member shall be appointed by the
22 Secretary of the Interior.

23 (C) 1 member shall be appointed by the
24 Secretary of the Treasury.

1 (3) REAPPOINTMENT.—A United States mem-
2 ber of the Committee appointed under paragraph (2)
3 may be reappointed for not more than 2 additional
4 2-year terms.

5 (4) QUALIFICATIONS.—Not fewer than 2 mem-
6 bers of the Committee appointed under paragraph
7 (2) shall be individuals who—

8 (A) by reason of knowledge, experience, or
9 training, are especially qualified in accounting,
10 auditing, budget analysis, compliance, financial
11 investment, grant administration, program
12 management, or international economics; and

13 (B) possess not less than 5 years of full-
14 time experience in accounting, auditing, budget
15 analysis, compliance, financial investment,
16 grant administration, program management, or
17 international economics.

18 (5) NOTICE.—

19 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days
20 after the date of appointment of a United
21 States member to the Committee under para-
22 graph (2), the Secretary of the Interior shall
23 notify the appropriate committees of Congress
24 that an individual has been appointed as a vot-
25 ing member of the Committee under that para-

graph, including a statement attesting to the qualifications of the member described in paragraph (4), subject to subparagraph (B).

(B) REQUIREMENT.—For purposes of a statement required under subparagraph (A)—

(i) in the case of a member appointed under paragraph (2)(A), the Secretary of the Interior shall compile information on the member provided to the Secretary of the Interior by the Secretary of State on request of the Secretary of the Interior; and

(ii) in the case of a member appointed under paragraph (2)(C), the Secretary of the Interior shall compile information on the member provided to the Secretary of the Interior by the Secretary of the Treasury on request of the Secretary of the Interior.

(6) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Committee receives or completes any report required under the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact, or any related subsidiary agreement, the Secretary of the Interior

1 shall submit the report to the appropriate commit-
2 tees of Congress.

3 (7) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90
4 days after the date on which the Government of the
5 Federated States of Micronesia submits to the Com-
6 mittee a report required under the 2023 Amended
7 U.S.-FSM Compact, or any related subsidiary agree-
8 ment, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit to
9 the appropriate committees of Congress—

10 (A) if the report is submitted by the appli-
11 cable deadline, written notice attesting that the
12 report is complete and accurate; or

13 (B) if the report is not submitted by the
14 applicable deadline, written notice that the re-
15 port has not been timely submitted.

16 **SEC. 5. AGREEMENTS WITH AND OTHER PROVISIONS RE-**
17 **LATED TO THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL**
18 **ISLANDS.**

19 (a) LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to sections 222
21 and 224 of the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact,
22 the United States shall provide nonreimbursable
23 technical and training assistance, as appropriate, in-
24 cluding training and equipment for postal inspection
25 of illicit drugs and other contraband, to enable the

1 Government of the Republic of the Marshall Is-
2 lands—

3 (A) to develop and adequately enforce laws
4 of the Marshall Islands; and

5 (B) to cooperate with the United States in
6 the enforcement of criminal laws of the United
7 States.

8 (2) USE OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS.—Funds ap-
9 propriated pursuant to subsection (j) of section 105
10 of the Compact of Free Association Amendments
11 Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921d) (as amended by sec-
12 tion 8(j)) may be used in accordance with section
13 103(a) of the Compact of Free Association Amend-
14 ments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921b(a)).

15 (b) ESPOUSAL PROVISIONS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Congress reaffirms that—

17 (A) section 103(g)(1) of the Compact of
18 Free Association Act of 1985 (48 U.S.C.
19 1903(g)(1)) and section 103(e)(1) of the Com-
20 pact of Free Association Amendments Act of
21 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921b(e)(1)) provided that “It
22 is the intention of the Congress of the United
23 States that the provisions of section 177 of the
24 Compact of Free Association and the Agree-
25 ment between the Government of the United

1 States and the Government of the Marshall Is-
2 lands for the Implementation of Section 177 of
3 the Compact (hereafter in this subsection re-
4 ferred to as the ‘Section 177 Agreement’) con-
5 stitute a full and final settlement of all claims
6 described in Articles X and XI of the Section
7 177 Agreement, and that any such claims be
8 terminated and barred except insofar as pro-
9 vided for in the Section 177 Agreement.”; and

10 (B) section 103(g)(2) of the Compact of
11 Free Association Act of 1985 (48 U.S.C.
12 1903(g)(2)) and section 103(e)(2) of the Com-
13 pact of Free Association Amendments Act of
14 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921b(e)(2)) provided that
15 “In furtherance of the intention of Congress as
16 stated in paragraph (1) of this subsection, the
17 Section 177 Agreement is hereby ratified and
18 approved. It is the explicit understanding and
19 intent of Congress that the jurisdictional limita-
20 tions set forth in Article XII of such Agreement
21 are enacted solely and exclusively to accomplish
22 the objective of Article X of such Agreement
23 and only as a clarification of the effect of Arti-
24 cle X, and are not to be construed or imple-
25 mented separately from Article X.”.

1 (2) EFFECT.—Nothing in the 2023 Agreement
2 to Amend the U.S.-RMI Compact affects the appli-
3 cation of the provisions of law reaffirmed by para-
4 graph (1).

5 (c) CERTAIN SECTION 177 AGREEMENT PROVI-
6 SIONS.—Congress reaffirms that—

7 (1) Article IX of the Agreement Between the
8 Government of the United States and the Govern-
9 ment of the Marshall Islands for the Implementation
10 of Section 177 of the Compact of Free Association,
11 done at Majuro June 25, 1983, provided that “If
12 loss or damage to property and person of the citi-
13 zens of the Marshall Islands, resulting from the Nu-
14 clear Testing Program, arises or is discovered after
15 the effective date of this Agreement, and such inju-
16 ries were not and could not reasonably have been
17 identified as of the effective date of this Agreement,
18 and if such injuries render the provisions of this
19 Agreement manifestly inadequate, the Government
20 of the Marshall Islands may request that the Gov-
21 ernment of the United States provide for such inju-
22 ries by submitting such a request to the Congress of
23 the United States for its consideration. It is under-
24 stood that this Article does not commit the Congress

1 of the United States to authorize and appropriate
2 funds.”; and

3 (2) section 3(a) of Article XIII of the agree-
4 ment described in paragraph (1) provided that “The
5 Government of the United States and the Govern-
6 ment of the Marshall Islands shall consult at the re-
7 quest of either of them on matters relating to the
8 provisions of this Agreement.”.

9 (d) UNITED STATES APPOINTEES TO JOINT ECO-
10 NOMIC MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY
11 COMMITTEE.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—The 2 United States ap-
13 pointees (which are composed of the United States
14 chair and 1 other member from the Government of
15 the United States) to the Joint Economic Manage-
16 ment and Financial Accountability Committee estab-
17 lished under section 214 of the 2003 Amended U.S.-
18 RMI Compact (referred to in this subsection as the
19 “Committee”) shall—

20 (A) be voting members of the Committee;
21 and

22 (B) continue to be officers or employees of
23 the Federal Government.

24 (2) TERM; APPOINTMENT.—The 2 United
25 States members of the Committee described in para-

graph (1) shall be appointed for a term of 2 years
as follows:

(A) 1 member shall be appointed by the
Secretary of State, in consultation with the Sec-
retary of the Treasury.

(B) 1 member shall be appointed by the
Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with
the Secretary of the Treasury.

(3) REAPPOINTMENT.—A United States mem-
ber of the Committee appointed under paragraph (2)
may be reappointed for not more than 2 additional
2-year terms.

(4) QUALIFICATIONS.—At least 1 United States
member of the Committee appointed under para-
graph (2) shall be an individual who—

(A) by reason of knowledge, experience, or
training, is especially qualified in accounting,
auditing, budget analysis, compliance, grant ad-
ministration, program management, or inter-
national economics; and

(B) possesses not less than 5 years of full-
time experience in accounting, auditing, budget
analysis, compliance, grant administration, pro-
gram management, or international economics.

(5) NOTICE.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days
2 after the date of appointment of a United
3 States member under paragraph (2), the Sec-
4 retary of the Interior shall notify the appro-
5 priate committees of Congress that an indi-
6 vidual has been appointed as a voting member
7 of the Committee under that paragraph, includ-
8 ing a statement attesting to the qualifications
9 of the member described in paragraph (4), sub-
10 ject to subparagraph (B).

11 (B) REQUIREMENT.—For purposes of a
12 statement required under subparagraph (A), in
13 the case of a member appointed under para-
14 graph (2)(A), the Secretary of the Interior shall
15 compile information on the member provided to
16 the Secretary of the Interior by the Secretary of
17 State on request of the Secretary of the Inte-
18 rior.

19 (6) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
20 90 days after the date on which the Committee re-
21 ceives or completes any report required under the
22 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact, or any related
23 subsidiary agreement, the Secretary of the Interior
24 shall submit the report to the appropriate commit-
25 tees of Congress.

1 (7) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90
2 days after the date on which the Government of the
3 Republic of the Marshall Islands submits to the
4 Committee a report required under the 2023
5 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact, or any related sub-
6 sidiary agreement, the Secretary of the Interior shall
7 submit to the appropriate committees of Congress—

8 (A) if the report is submitted by the appli-
9 cable deadline, written notice attesting that the
10 report is complete and accurate; or

11 (B) if the report is not submitted by the
12 applicable deadline, written notice that the re-
13 port has not been timely submitted.

14 (e) UNITED STATES APPOINTEES TO TRUST FUND
15 COMMITTEE.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—The 3 United States voting
17 members (which are composed of the United States
18 chair and 2 other members from the Government of
19 the United States) to the Trust Fund Committee es-
20 tablished pursuant to the agreement described in
21 section 462(b)(5) of the 2003 Amended U.S.-RMI
22 Compact (referred to in this subsection as the
23 “Committee”) shall continue to be officers or em-
24 ployees of the Federal Government.

1 (2) TERM; APPOINTMENT.—The 3 United
2 States members of the Committee described in para-
3 graph (1) shall be appointed for a term not more
4 than 5 years as follows:

5 (A) 1 member shall be appointed by the
6 Secretary of State.

7 (B) 1 member shall be appointed by the
8 Secretary of the Interior.

9 (C) 1 member shall be appointed by the
10 Secretary of the Treasury.

11 (3) REAPPOINTMENT.—A United States mem-
12 ber of the Committee appointed under paragraph (2)
13 may be reappointed for not more than 2 additional
14 2-year terms.

15 (4) QUALIFICATIONS.—Not fewer than 2 mem-
16 bers of the Committee appointed under paragraph
17 (2) shall be individuals who—

18 (A) by reason of knowledge, experience, or
19 training, are especially qualified in accounting,
20 auditing, budget analysis, compliance, financial
21 investment, grant administration, program
22 management, or international economics; and

23 (B) possess not less than 5 years of full-
24 time experience in accounting, auditing, budget
25 analysis, compliance, financial investment,

1 grant administration, program management, or
2 international economics.

3 (5) NOTICE.—

4 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days
5 after the date of appointment of a United
6 States Member under paragraph (2), the Sec-
7 retary of the Interior shall notify the appro-
8 priate committees of Congress that an indi-
9 vidual has been appointed as a voting member
10 of the Committee under that paragraph, includ-
11 ing a statement attesting to the qualifications
12 of the appointee described in paragraph (4),
13 subject to subparagraph (B).

14 (B) REQUIREMENT.—For purposes of a
15 statement required under subparagraph (A)—

16 (i) in the case of a member appointed
17 under paragraph (2)(A), the Secretary of
18 the Interior shall compile information on
19 the member provided to the Secretary of
20 the Interior by the Secretary of State on
21 request of the Secretary of the Interior;
22 and

23 (ii) in the case of a member appointed
24 under paragraph (2)(C), the Secretary of
25 the Interior shall compile information on

1 the member provided to the Secretary of
2 the Interior by the Secretary of the Treas-
3 ury on request of the Secretary of the Inte-
4 rior.

5 (6) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
6 90 days after the date on which the Committee re-
7 ceives or completes any report required under the
8 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact, or any related
9 subsidiary agreement, the Secretary of the Interior
10 shall submit the report to the appropriate commit-
11 tees of Congress.

12 (7) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90
13 days after the date on which the Government of the
14 Republic of the Marshall Islands submits to the
15 Committee a report required under the 2023
16 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact, or any related sub-
17 sidiary agreement, the Secretary of the Interior shall
18 submit to the appropriate committees of Congress—

19 (A) if the report is submitted by the appli-
20 cable deadline, written notice attesting that the
21 report is complete and accurate; or

22 (B) if the report is not submitted by the
23 applicable deadline, written notice that the re-
24 port has not been timely submitted.

1 (f) FOUR ATOLL HEALTH CARE PROGRAM.—Con-
2 gress reaffirms that—

3 (1) section 103(j)(1) of the Compact of Free
4 Association Act of 1985 (48 U.S.C. 1903(j)(1)) and
5 section 103(h)(1) of the Compact of Free Associa-
6 tion Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C.
7 1921b(h)(1)) provided that services “provided by the
8 United States Public Health Service or any other
9 United States agency pursuant to section 1(a) of Ar-
10 ticle II of the Agreement for the Implementation of
11 Section 177 of the Compact (hereafter in this sub-
12 section referred to as the ‘Section 177 Agreement’)
13 shall be only for services to the people of the Atolls
14 of Bikini, Enewetak, Rongelap, and Utrik who were
15 affected by the consequences of the United States
16 nuclear testing program, pursuant to the program
17 described in Public Law 95–134 and Public Law
18 96–205 and their descendants (and any other per-
19 sons identified as having been so affected if such
20 identification occurs in the manner described in such
21 public laws). Nothing in this subsection shall be con-
22 strued as prejudicial to the views or policies of the
23 Government of the Marshall Islands as to the per-
24 sons affected by the consequences of the United
25 States nuclear testing program.”;

1 (2) section 103(j)(2) of the Compact of Free
2 Association Act of 1985 (48 U.S.C. 1903(j)(2)) and
3 section 103(h)(2) of the Compact of Free Associa-
4 tion Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C.
5 1921b(h)(2)) provided that “at the end of the first
6 year after the effective date of the Compact and at
7 the end of each year thereafter, the providing agency
8 or agencies shall return to the Government of the
9 Marshall Islands any unexpended funds to be re-
10 turned to the Fund Manager (as described in Article
11 I of the Section 177 Agreement) to be covered into
12 the Fund to be available for future use.”; and

13 (3) section 103(j)(3) of the Compact of Free
14 Association Act of 1985 (48 U.S.C. 1903(j)(3)) and
15 section 103(h)(3) of the Compact of Free Associa-
16 tion Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C.
17 1921b(h)(3)) provided that “the Fund Manager
18 shall retain the funds returned by the Government
19 of the Marshall Islands pursuant to paragraph (2)
20 of this subsection, shall invest and manage such
21 funds, and at the end of 15 years after the effective
22 date of the Compact, shall make from the total
23 amount so retained and the proceeds thereof annual
24 disbursements sufficient to continue to make pay-
25 ments for the provision of health services as speci-

1 fied in paragraph (1) of this subsection to such ex-
2 tent as may be provided in contracts between the
3 Government of the Marshall Islands and appropriate
4 United States providers of such health services.”.

5 (g) RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH CARE PROGRAM.—Not-
6 withstanding any other provision of law, on the request
7 of the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands,
8 the President (through an appropriate department or
9 agency of the United States) shall continue to provide spe-
10 cial medical care and logistical support for the remaining
11 members of the population of Rongelap and Utrik who
12 were exposed to radiation resulting from the 1954 United
13 States thermonuclear “Bravo” test, pursuant to Public
14 Law 95–134 (91 Stat. 1159) and Public Law 96–205 (94
15 Stat. 84).

16 (h) AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD PROGRAMS.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Congress reaffirms that—

18 (A) section 103(h)(2) of the Compact of
19 Free Association Act of 1985 (48 U.S.C.
20 1903(h)(2)) and section 103(f)(2)(A) of the
21 Compact of Free Association Amendments Act
22 of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921b(f)(2)(A)) provided
23 that notwithstanding “any other provision of
24 law, upon the request of the Government of the
25 Marshall Islands, for the first fifteen years

1 after the effective date of the Compact, the
2 President (either through an appropriate de-
3 partment or agency of the United States or by
4 contract with a United States firm or by a
5 grant to the Government of the Republic of the
6 Marshall Islands which may further contract
7 only with a United States firm or a Republic of
8 the Marshall Islands firm, the owners, officers
9 and majority of the employees of which are citi-
10 zens of the United States or the Republic of the
11 Marshall Islands) shall provide technical and
12 other assistance without reimbursement, to con-
13 tinue the planting and agricultural maintenance
14 program on Enewetak; without reimbursement,
15 to continue the food programs of the Bikini,
16 Rongelap, Utrik, and Enewetak people de-
17 scribed in section 1(d) of Article II of the Sub-
18 sidiary Agreement for the Implementation of
19 Section 177 of the Compact and for continued
20 waterborne transportation of agricultural prod-
21 ucts to Enewetak including operations and
22 maintenance of the vessel used for such pur-
23 poses.”;

24 (B) section 103(h)(2) of the Compact of
25 Free Association Act of 1985 (48 U.S.C.

1 1903(h)(2)) and section 103(f)(2)(B) of the
2 Compact of Free Association Amendments Act
3 of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921b(f)(2)(B)) provided
4 that “The President shall ensure the assistance
5 provided under these programs reflects the
6 changes in the population since the inception of
7 such programs.”; and

8 (C) section 103(h)(3) of the Compact of
9 Free Association Act of 1985 (48 U.S.C.
10 1903(h)(3)) and section 103(f)(3) of the Com-
11 pact of Free Association Amendments Act of
12 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921b(f)(3)) provided that
13 “payments under this subsection shall be pro-
14 vided to such extent or in such amounts as are
15 necessary for services and other assistance pro-
16 vided pursuant to this subsection. It is the
17 sense of Congress that after the periods of time
18 specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this sub-
19 section, consideration will be given to such addi-
20 tional funding for these programs as may be
21 necessary.”.

22 (2) PLANTING AND AGRICULTURAL MAINTEN-
23 NANCE PROGRAM.—The Secretary of the Interior
24 may provide grants to the Government of the Re-
25 public of the Marshall Islands to carry out a plant-

1 ing and agricultural maintenance program on Bikini,
2 Enewetak, Rongelap, and Utrik.

3 (3) FOOD PROGRAMS.—The Secretary of Agri-
4 culture may provide, without reimbursement, food
5 programs to the people of the Republic of the Mar-
6 shall Islands.

7 **SEC. 6. AGREEMENTS WITH AND OTHER PROVISIONS RE-**
8 **LATED TO THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU.**

9 (a) BILATERAL ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS.—
10 United States participation in the annual economic con-
11 sultations referred to in Article 8 of the 2023 U.S.-Palau
12 Compact Review Agreement shall be by officers or employ-
13 ees of the Federal Government.

14 (b) ECONOMIC ADVISORY GROUP.—

15 (1) QUALIFICATIONS.—A member of the Eco-
16 nomic Advisory Group described in Article 7 of the
17 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement (re-
18 ferred to in this subsection as the “Advisory
19 Group”) who is appointed by the Secretary of the
20 Interior shall be an individual who, by reason of
21 knowledge, experience, or training, is especially
22 qualified in private sector business development, eco-
23 nomic development, or national development.

1 (2) FUNDS.—With respect to the Advisory
2 Group, the Secretary of the Interior may use avail-
3 able funds for—

4 (A) the costs of the 2 members of the Ad-
5 visory Group designated by the United States
6 in accordance with Article 7 of the 2023 U.S.-
7 Palau Compact Review Agreement;

8 (B) 50 percent of the costs of the 5th
9 member of the Advisory Group designated by
10 the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with
11 the Article described in subparagraph (A); and

12 (C) the costs of—

13 (i) technical and administrative assist-
14 ance for the Advisory Group; and

15 (ii) other support necessary for the
16 Advisory Group to accomplish the purpose
17 of the Advisory Group.

18 (3) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
19 90 days after the date on which the Advisory Group
20 receives or completes any report required under the
21 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement, or
22 any related subsidiary agreement, the Secretary of
23 the Interior shall submit the report to the appro-
24 priate committees of Congress.

25 (c) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
2 the date on which the Government of the Republic
3 of Palau completes any report required under the
4 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement, or
5 any related subsidiary agreement, the Secretary of
6 the Interior shall submit the report to the appro-
7 priate committees of Congress.

8 (2) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90
9 days after the date on which the Government of the
10 Republic of Palau submits a report required under
11 the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement, or
12 any related subsidiary agreement, the Secretary of
13 the Interior shall submit to the appropriate commit-
14 tees of Congress—

15 (A) if the report is submitted by the appli-
16 cable deadline, written notice attesting that the
17 report is complete and accurate; or

18 (B) if the report is not submitted by the
19 applicable deadline, written notice that the re-
20 port has not been timely submitted.

21 **SEC. 7. OVERSIGHT PROVISIONS.**

22 (a) AUTHORITIES AND DUTIES OF THE COMP-
23 TROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of
25 the United States (including any duly authorized

1 representative of the Comptroller General of the
2 United States) shall have the authorities necessary
3 to carry out the responsibilities of the Comptroller
4 General of the United States under—

5 (A) the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Com-
6 pact and related subsidiary agreements, includ-
7 ing the authorities and privileges described in
8 section 102(b) of the Compact of Free Associa-
9 tion Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C.
10 1921a(b));

11 (B) the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact
12 and related subsidiary agreements, including
13 the authorities and privileges described in sec-
14 tion 103(k) of the Compact of Free Association
15 Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C.
16 1921b(k)); and

17 (C) the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review
18 Agreement, related subsidiary agreements, and
19 the authorities described in appendix D of the
20 “Agreement between the Government of the
21 United States of America and the Government
22 of the Republic of Palau Following the Compact
23 of Free Association Section 432 Review” signed
24 by the United States and the Republic of Palau
25 on September 3, 2010.

1 (2) REPORTS.—Not later than 18 months after
 2 the date of enactment of this Act, and every 4 years
 3 thereafter, the Comptroller General of the United
 4 States shall submit to the appropriate committees of
 5 Congress a report with respect to the Freely Associ-
 6 ated States, including addressing—

7 (A) the topics described in subparagraphs
 8 (A) through (E) of section 104(h)(1) of the
 9 Compact of Free Association Amendments Act
 10 of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921c(h)(1)), except that
 11 for purposes of a report submitted under this
 12 paragraph, the report shall address those topics
 13 with respect to each of the Freely Associated
 14 States; and

15 (B) the effectiveness of administrative
 16 oversight by the United States of the Freely As-
 17 sociated States.

18 (b) SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR OVERSIGHT AU-
 19 THORITY.—The Secretary of the Interior shall have the
 20 authority necessary to fulfill the responsibilities for moni-
 21 toring and managing the funds appropriated to the Com-
 22 pact of Free Association account of the Department of the
 23 Interior by section 10(a) to carry out—

24 (1) the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact;

25 (2) the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact;

1 (3) the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review
2 Agreement; and

3 (4) subsidiary agreements.

4 (c) POSTMASTER GENERAL OVERSIGHT AUTHOR-
5 ITY.—The Postmaster General shall have the authority
6 necessary to fulfill the responsibilities for monitoring and
7 managing the funds appropriated to the United States
8 Postal Service under paragraph (1) of section 10(b) and
9 deposited in the Postal Service Fund under paragraph
10 (2)(A) of that section to carry out—

11 (1) section 221(a)(2) of the 2023 Amended
12 U.S.-FSM Compact;

13 (2) section 221(a)(2) of the 2023 Amended
14 U.S.-RMI Compact;

15 (3) section 221(a)(2) of the U.S.-Palau Com-
16 pact; and

17 (4) Article 6(a) of the 2023 U.S.-Palau Com-
18 pact Review Agreement.

19 (d) INTERAGENCY GROUP ON FREELY ASSOCIATED
20 STATES.—

21 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The President, in con-
22 sultation with the Secretary of State, the Secretary
23 of the Interior, and the Secretary of Defense, shall
24 establish an Interagency Group on Freely Associated

1 States (referred to in this subsection as the “Inter-
2 agency Group”).

3 (2) PURPOSE.—The purposes of the Inter-
4 agency Group are—

5 (A) to coordinate development and imple-
6 mentation of executive branch policies, pro-
7 grams, services, and other activities in or relat-
8 ing to the Freely Associated States; and

9 (B) to provide policy guidance, rec-
10 ommendations, and oversight to Federal agen-
11 cies, departments, and instrumentalities with
12 respect to the implementation of—

13 (i) the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM
14 Compact;

15 (ii) the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI
16 Compact; and

17 (iii) the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact
18 Review Agreement.

19 (3) MEMBERSHIP.—The Interagency Group
20 shall consist of—

21 (A) the Secretary of State, who shall serve
22 as co-chair of the Interagency Group;

23 (B) the Secretary of the Interior, who shall
24 serve as co-chair of the Interagency Group;

25 (C) the Secretary of Defense;

1 (D) the Secretary of the Treasury;

2 (E) the heads of relevant Federal agencies,
3 departments, and instrumentalities carrying out
4 obligations under—

5 (i) sections 131 and 132 of the 2003
6 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact and sub-
7 sections (a) and (b) of section 221 and sec-
8 tion 261 of the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM
9 Compact;

10 (ii) sections 131 and 132 of the 2003
11 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact and sub-
12 sections (a) and (b) of section 221 and sec-
13 tion 261 of the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI
14 Compact;

15 (iii) sections 131 and 132 and sub-
16 sections (a) and (b) of section 221 of the
17 U.S.-Palau Compact;

18 (iv) Article 6 of the 2023 U.S.-Palau
19 Compact Review Agreement;

20 (v) any applicable subsidiary agree-
21 ment; and

22 (vi) section 8; and

23 (F) the head of any other Federal agency,
24 department, or instrumentality that the Sec-

1 retary of State or the Secretary of the Interior
2 may designate.

3 (4) DUTIES OF SECRETARY OF STATE AND SEC-
4 RETARY OF THE INTERIOR.—The Secretary of State
5 (or a senior official designee of the Secretary of
6 State) and the Secretary of the Interior (or a senior
7 official designee of the Secretary of the Interior)
8 shall—

9 (A) co-lead and preside at a meeting of the
10 Interagency Group not less frequently than an-
11 nually;

12 (B) determine, in consultation with the
13 Secretary of Defense, the agenda for meetings
14 of the Interagency Group; and

15 (C) facilitate and coordinate the work of
16 the Interagency Group.

17 (5) DUTIES OF THE INTERAGENCY GROUP.—
18 The Interagency Group shall—

19 (A) provide advice on the establishment or
20 implementation of policies relating to the Freely
21 Associated States to the President, acting
22 through the Office of Intergovernmental Af-
23 fairs, in the form of a written report not less
24 frequently than annually;

1 (B) obtain information and advice relating
2 to the Freely Associated States from the Presi-
3 dents, other elected officials, and members of
4 civil society of the Freely Associated States, in-
5 cluding through the members of the Inter-
6 agency Group (including senior official des-
7 ignees of the members) meeting not less fre-
8 quently than annually with any Presidents of
9 the Freely Associated States who elect to par-
10 ticipate;

11 (C) at the request of the head of any Fed-
12 eral agency (or a senior official designee of the
13 head of a Federal agency) who is a member of
14 the Interagency Group, promptly review and
15 provide advice on a policy or policy implementa-
16 tion action affecting 1 or more of the Freely
17 Associated States proposed by the Federal
18 agency, department, or instrumentality; and

19 (D) facilitate coordination of relevant poli-
20 cies, programs, initiatives, and activities involv-
21 ing 1 or more of the Freely Associated States,
22 including ensuring coherence and avoiding du-
23 plication between programs, initiatives, and ac-
24 tivities conducted pursuant to a Compact with

1 a Freely Associated State and non-Compact
2 programs, initiatives, and activities.

3 (6) REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the
4 date of enactment of this joint resolution and each
5 year thereafter in which a Compact of Free Associa-
6 tion with a Freely Associated State is in effect, the
7 President shall submit to the majority leader and
8 minority leader of the Senate, the Speaker and mi-
9 nority leader of the House of Representatives, and
10 the appropriate committees of Congress a report
11 that describes the activities and recommendations of
12 the Interagency Group during the applicable year.

13 (e) FEDERAL AGENCY COORDINATION.—The head of
14 any Federal agency providing programs and services to
15 the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the
16 Marshall Islands, or the Republic of Palau shall coordinate
17 with the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of
18 State regarding the provision of the programs and serv-
19 ices.

20 (f) FOREIGN LOANS OR DEBT.—Congress reaffirms
21 that—

22 (1) the foreign loans or debt of the Government
23 of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Govern-
24 ment of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, or the

1 Government of the Republic of Palau shall not con-
2 stitute an obligation of the United States; and

3 (2) the full faith and credit of the United
4 States Government shall not be pledged for the pay-
5 ment and performance of any foreign loan or debt
6 referred to in paragraph (1) without specific further
7 authorization.

8 (g) COMPACT COMPILATION.—Not later than 180
9 days after the date of enactment of this joint resolution,
10 the Secretary of the Interior shall submit to the appro-
11 priate committees of Congress a report that includes a
12 compilation of the Compact of Free Association with the
13 Federated State of Micronesia, the Compact of Free Asso-
14 ciation with the Republic of Palau, and the Compact of
15 Free Association with Republic of the Marshall Islands.

16 (h) PUBLICATION; REVISION BY THE OFFICE OF THE
17 LAW REVISION COUNSEL.—

18 (1) PUBLICATION.—In publishing this joint res-
19 olution in slip form and in the United States Stat-
20 utes at Large pursuant to section 112 of title 1,
21 United States Code, the Archivist of the United
22 States shall include after the date of approval at the
23 end an appendix setting forth the text of—

24 (A) the 2023 Agreement to Amend the
25 U.S.-FSM Compact; and

1 (B) the 2023 Agreement to Amend the
2 U.S.-RMI Compact.

3 (2) REVISION BY THE OFFICE OF THE LAW RE-
4 VISION COUNSEL.—The Office of the Law Revision
5 Counsel is directed to revise—

6 (A) the 2003 Amended U.S.-FSM Com-
7 pact set forth in the note following section 1921
8 of title 48, United States Code, to reflect the
9 amendments to the 2003 Amended U.S.-FSM
10 Compact made by the 2023 Agreement to
11 Amend the U.S.-FSM Compact; and

12 (B) the 2003 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact
13 set forth in the note following section 1921 of
14 title 48, United States Code, to reflect the
15 amendments to the 2003 Amended U.S.-RMI
16 Compact made by the 2023 Agreement to
17 Amend the U.S.-RMI Compact.

18 **SEC. 8. UNITED STATES POLICY REGARDING THE FREELY**
19 **ASSOCIATED STATES.**

20 (a) AUTHORIZATION FOR VETERANS' SERVICES.—

21 (1) DEFINITION OF FREELY ASSOCIATED
22 STATES.—In this subsection, the term “Freely Asso-
23 ciated States” means—

24 (A) the Federated States of Micronesia,
25 during such time as it is a party to the Com-

1 pact of Free Association set forth in section
 2 201 of the Compact of Free Association Act of
 3 1985 (Public Law 99–239; 48 U.S.C. 1901
 4 note);

5 (B) the Republic of the Marshall Islands,
 6 during such time as it is a party to the Com-
 7 pact of Free Association set forth in section
 8 201 of the Compact of Free Association Act of
 9 1985 (Public Law 99–239; 48 U.S.C. 1901
 10 note); and

11 (C) the Republic of Palau, during such
 12 time as it is a party to the Compact of Free As-
 13 sociation between the United States and the
 14 Government of Palau set forth in section 201 of
 15 Joint Resolution entitled “Joint Resolution to
 16 approve the ‘Compact of Free Association’ be-
 17 tween the United States and the Government of
 18 Palau, and for other purposes” (Public Law
 19 99–658; 48 U.S.C. 1931 note).

20 (2) HOSPITAL CARE, MEDICAL SERVICES, AND
 21 NURSING HOME CARE ABROAD.—Section 1724 of
 22 title 38, United States Code, is amended—

23 (A) in subsection (a), by striking “sub-
 24 sections (b) and (c)” and inserting “subsections
 25 (b), (c), and (f)”; and

1 (B) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(f)(1) The Secretary may furnish hospital care and
3 medical services in the Freely Associated States to a vet-
4 eran who is otherwise eligible to receive hospital care and
5 medical services.

6 “(2) In furnishing hospital care and medical services
7 under paragraph (1), the Secretary may furnish hospital
8 care and medical services through—

9 “(A) contracts or other agreements;

10 “(B) reimbursement; or

11 “(C) the direct provision of care by health care
12 personnel of the Department.

13 “(3) In furnishing hospital care and medical services
14 under paragraph (1), the Secretary may furnish hospital
15 care and medical services for any condition regardless of
16 whether the condition is connected to the service of the
17 veteran in the Armed Forces.

18 “(4)(A) A veteran who has received hospital care or
19 medical services in a country pursuant to this subsection
20 shall remain eligible, to the extent determined advisable
21 and practicable by the Secretary, for hospital care or med-
22 ical services in that country regardless of whether the
23 country continues to qualify as a Freely Associated State
24 for purposes of this subsection.

1 “(B) If the Secretary determines it is no longer advis-
2 able or practicable to allow veterans described in subpara-
3 graph (A) to remain eligible for hospital care or medical
4 services pursuant to such subparagraph, the Secretary
5 shall—

6 “(i) provide direct notice of that determination
7 to such veterans; and

8 “(ii) publish that determination and the reasons
9 for that determination in the Federal Register.

10 “(5) In this subsection, the term ‘Freely Associated
11 States’ means—

12 “(A) the Federated States of Micronesia, dur-
13 ing such time as it is a party to the Compact of
14 Free Association set forth in section 201 of the
15 Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (Public
16 Law 99–239; 48 U.S.C. 1901 note);

17 “(B) the Republic of the Marshall Islands, dur-
18 ing such time as it is a party to the Compact of
19 Free Association set forth in section 201 of the
20 Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (Public
21 Law 99–239; 48 U.S.C. 1901 note); and

22 “(C) the Republic of Palau, during such time as
23 it is a party to the Compact of Free Association be-
24 tween the United States and the Government of
25 Palau set forth in section 201 of Joint Resolution

1 entitled ‘Joint Resolution to approve the “Compact
2 of Free Association” between the United States and
3 the Government of Palau, and for other purposes’
4 (Public Law 99–658; 48 U.S.C. 1931 note).”.

5 (3) BENEFICIARY TRAVEL.—Section 111 of title
6 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at
7 the end the following:

8 “(h)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law,
9 the Secretary may make payments to or for any person
10 traveling in, to, or from the Freely Associated States for
11 receipt of care or services authorized under section
12 1724(f) of this title.

13 “(2) A person who has received payment for travel
14 in a country pursuant to this subsection shall remain eligi-
15 ble for payment for such travel in that country regardless
16 of whether the country continues to qualify as a Freely
17 Associated State for purposes of this subsection.

18 “(3) The Secretary shall prescribe regulations to
19 carry out this subsection.

20 “(4) In this subsection, the term ‘Freely Associated
21 States’ means—

22 “(A) the Federated States of Micronesia, dur-
23 ing such time as it is a party to the Compact of
24 Free Association set forth in section 201 of the

1 Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (Public
2 Law 99–239; 48 U.S.C. 1901 note);

3 “(B) the Republic of the Marshall Islands, dur-
4 ing such time as it is a party to the Compact of
5 Free Association set forth in section 201 of the
6 Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (Public
7 Law 99–239; 48 U.S.C. 1901 note); and

8 “(C) the Republic of Palau, during such time as
9 it is a party to the Compact of Free Association be-
10 tween the United States and the Government of
11 Palau set forth in section 201 of Joint Resolution
12 entitled ‘Joint Resolution to approve the “Compact
13 of Free Association” between the United States and
14 the Government of Palau, and for other purposes’
15 (Public Law 99–658; 48 U.S.C. 1931 note).”.

16 (4) LEGAL ISSUES.—

17 (A) HEALTH SERVICES.—The Secretary of
18 Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the Sec-
19 retary of State, shall work with the govern-
20 ments of the Freely Associated States to facili-
21 tate the furnishing of health services, including
22 telehealth, under the laws administered by the
23 Secretary of Veterans Affairs, to veterans in the
24 Freely Associated States, such as by address-
25 ing—

(i) licensure, certification, registration, and tort issues relating to health care personnel; and

(ii) matters relating to delivery of pharmaceutical products and medical surgical products, including delivery of such products through the Consolidated Mail Outpatient Pharmacy of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to the Freely Associated States.

(B) LICENSURE OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS PROVIDING TREATMENT VIA TELE-MEDICINE IN THE FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES.—Section 1730C(a) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “any State” and inserting “any State or any of the Freely Associated States (as defined in section 1724(f) of this title)”.

(C) PAYMENT OF CLAIMS.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may pay tort claims, in the manner authorized in the first paragraph of section 2672 of title 28, United States Code, when such claims arise in the Freely Associated States in connection with furnishing hospital care or medical services or providing medical

1 consultation or medical advice to a veteran
2 under the laws administered by the Secretary,
3 including through a remote or telehealth pro-
4 gram.

5 (5) OUTREACH AND ASSESSMENT OF OP-
6 TIONS.—During the 1-year period beginning on the
7 date of enactment of this joint resolution, the Sec-
8 retary of Veterans Affairs shall, subject to the avail-
9 ability of appropriations—

10 (A) conduct robust outreach to, and en-
11 gage with, each government of the Freely Asso-
12 ciated States;

13 (B) assess options for the delivery of care
14 through the use of authorities provided pursu-
15 ant to the amendments made by this sub-
16 section; and

17 (C) increase staffing as necessary to con-
18 duct outreach under subparagraph (A).

19 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF EDUCATION PROGRAMS.—

20 (1) ELIGIBILITY.—For fiscal year 2024 and
21 each fiscal year thereafter, the Government of the
22 United States shall—

23 (A) continue to make available to the Fed-
24 erated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the
25 Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau,

1 grants for services to individuals eligible for
2 such services under part B of the Individuals
3 with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.
4 1411 et seq.) to the extent that those services
5 continue to be available to individuals in the
6 United States;

7 (B) continue to make available to the Fed-
8 erated States of Micronesia and the Republic of
9 the Marshall Islands and make available to the
10 Republic of Palau, competitive grants under the
11 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
12 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.), the Carl D.
13 Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of
14 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.), and part D of
15 the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
16 (20 U.S.C. 1450 et seq.), to the extent that
17 those grants continue to be available to State
18 and local governments in the United States;

19 (C) continue to make grants available to
20 the Republic of Palau under part A of title I of
21 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
22 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.), the Adult
23 Education and Family Literacy Act (29 U.S.C.
24 3271 et seq.), and the Carl D. Perkins Career

1 and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20
2 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.);

3 (D) continue to make available to eligible
4 institutions of higher education in the Republic
5 of Palau and make available to eligible institu-
6 tions of higher education in the Federated
7 States of Micronesia and the Republic of the
8 Marshall Islands and to students enrolled in
9 those institutions of higher education, and to
10 students who are citizens of the Federated
11 States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Mar-
12 shall Islands, and the Republic of Palau and
13 enrolled in institutions of higher education in
14 the United States and territories of the United
15 States, grants under—

16 (i) subpart 1 of part A of title IV of
17 the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
18 U.S.C. 1070a et seq.);

19 (ii) subpart 3 of part A of title IV of
20 the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
21 U.S.C. 1070b et seq.); and

22 (iii) part C of title IV of the Higher
23 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087–
24 51 et seq.);

1 (E) require, as a condition of eligibility for
2 a public institution of higher education in any
3 State (as defined in section 103 of the Higher
4 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1003)) that
5 is not a Freely Associated State to participate
6 in or receive funds under any program under
7 title IV of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.),
8 that the institution charge students who are
9 citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia,
10 the Republic of the Marshall Islands, or the Re-
11 public of Palau tuition for attendance at a rate
12 that is not greater than the rate charged for
13 residents of the State in which such public in-
14 stitution of higher education is located; and

15 (F) continue to make available, to eligible
16 institutions of higher education, secondary
17 schools, and nonprofit organizations in the Fed-
18 erated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the
19 Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau,
20 competitive grants under the Higher Education
21 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.).

22 (2) OTHER FORMULA GRANTS.—Except as pro-
23 vided in paragraph (1), the Secretary of Education
24 shall not make a grant under any formula grant pro-
25 gram administered by the Department of Education

1 to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic
2 of the Marshall Islands, or the Republic of Palau.

3 (3) GRANTS TO THE FREELY ASSOCIATED
4 STATES UNDER PART B OF THE INDIVIDUALS WITH
5 DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT.—Section 611(b)(1)
6 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
7 (20 U.S.C. 1411(b)(1)) is amended by striking sub-
8 paragraph (A) and inserting the following:

9 “(A) FUNDS RESERVED.—From the
10 amount appropriated for any fiscal year under
11 subsection (i), the Secretary shall reserve not
12 more than 1 percent, which shall be used as fol-
13 lows:

14 “(i) To provide assistance to the out-
15 lying areas in accordance with their respec-
16 tive populations of individuals aged 3
17 through 21.

18 “(ii)(I) To provide each freely associ-
19 ated State a grant so that no freely associ-
20 ated State receives a lesser share of the
21 total funds reserved for the freely associ-
22 ated State than the freely associated State
23 received of those funds for fiscal year
24 2023.

1 “(II) Each freely associated State
2 shall establish its eligibility under this sub-
3 paragraph consistent with the require-
4 ments for a State under section 612.

5 “(III) The funds provided to each
6 freely associated State under this part may
7 be used to provide, to each infant or tod-
8 dler with a disability (as defined in section
9 632), either a free appropriate public edu-
10 cation, consistent with section 612, or
11 early intervention services consistent with
12 part C, notwithstanding the application
13 and eligibility requirements of sections
14 634(2), 635, and 637.”.

15 (4) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO THE ELE-
16 MENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT OF
17 1965.—The Elementary and Secondary Education
18 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) is amended—

19 (A) by striking subparagraph (A) of sec-
20 tion 1121(b)(1) (20 U.S.C. 6331(b)(1)(A)) and
21 inserting the following:

22 “(A) first reserve \$1,000,000 for the Re-
23 public of Palau, subject to such terms and con-
24 ditions as the Secretary may establish, except

1 that Public Law 95–134, permitting the con-
2 solidation of grants, shall not apply; and”; and

3 (B) by striking paragraph (36) of section
4 8101 (20 U.S.C. 7801(36)) and inserting the
5 following:

6 “(36) OUTLYING AREA.—The term ‘outlying
7 area’—

8 “(A) means American Samoa, the Com-
9 monwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,
10 Guam, and the United States Virgin Islands;
11 and

12 “(B) for the purpose of any discretionary
13 grant program under this Act, includes the Re-
14 public of the Marshall Islands, the Federated
15 States of Micronesia, and the Republic of
16 Palau, to the extent that any such grant pro-
17 gram continues to be available to State and
18 local governments in the United States.”.

19 (5) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT TO THE COMPACT
20 OF FREE ASSOCIATION AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2003.—
21 Section 105(f)(1)(B) of the Compact of Free Asso-
22 ciation Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C.
23 1921d(f)(1)(B)) is amended by striking clause (ix).

24 (6) HEAD START PROGRAMS.—

1 (A) DEFINITIONS.—Section 637 of the
2 Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9832) is amended,
3 in the paragraph defining the term “State”, by
4 striking the second sentence and inserting “The
5 term ‘State’ includes the Federated States of
6 Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Is-
7 lands, and the Republic of Palau.”.

8 (B) ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS.—Section
9 640(a)(2)(B) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
10 9835(a)(2)(B)) is amended—

11 (i) in clause (iv), by inserting “the
12 Republic of Palau,” before “and the Virgin
13 Islands”; and

14 (ii) by striking clause (v) and insert-
15 ing the following:

16 “(v) if a base grant has been estab-
17 lished through appropriations for the Fed-
18 erated States of Micronesia or the Repub-
19 lic of the Marshall Islands, to provide an
20 amount for that jurisdiction (for Head
21 Start agencies (including Early Head Start
22 agencies) in the jurisdiction) that is equal
23 to the amount provided for base grants for
24 such jurisdiction under this subchapter for
25 the prior fiscal year, by allotting to each

1 agency described in this clause an amount
2 equal to that agency’s base grant for the
3 prior fiscal year; and”.

4 (7) COORDINATION REQUIRED.—The Secretary
5 of the Interior, in coordination with the Secretary of
6 Education and the Secretary of Health and Human
7 Services, as applicable, shall, to the maximum extent
8 practicable, coordinate with the 3 United States ap-
9 pointees to the Joint Economic Management Com-
10 mittee described in section 4(b)(1) and the 2 United
11 States appointees to the Joint Economic Manage-
12 ment and Financial Accountability Committee de-
13 scribed in section 5(d)(1) to avoid duplication of eco-
14 nomic assistance for education provided under sec-
15 tion 261(a)(1) of the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM
16 Compact or section 261(a)(1) of the 2023 Amended
17 U.S.-RMI Compact of activities or services provided
18 under—

19 (A) the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831
20 et seq.);

21 (B) subpart 3 of part A of title IV of the
22 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
23 1070b et seq.); or

1 (C) part C of title IV of the Higher Edu-
2 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087–51 et
3 seq.).

4 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
5 PROGRAMS.—

6 (1) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE MEDICAL FA-
7 CILITIES.—The Secretary of Defense shall make
8 available, on a space available and reimbursable
9 basis, the medical facilities of the Department of De-
10 fense for use by citizens of the Federated States of
11 Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands,
12 and the Republic of Palau, who are properly referred
13 to the facilities by government authorities respon-
14 sible for provision of medical services in the Fed-
15 erated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the
16 Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, and the af-
17 fected jurisdictions (as defined in section 104(e)(2)
18 of the Compact of Free Association Amendments
19 Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921c(e)(2))).

20 (2) PARTICIPATION BY SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN
21 THE ARMED SERVICES VOCATIONAL APTITUDE BAT-
22 TERY STUDENT TESTING PROGRAM.—It is the sense
23 of Congress that the Department of Defense may ex-
24 tend the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Bat-
25 tery (ASVAB) Student Testing Program and the

1 ASVAB Career Exploration Program to selected sec-
2 ondary schools in the Federated States of Micro-
3 nesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the
4 Republic of Palau to the extent such programs are
5 available to Department of Defense dependent sec-
6 ondary schools established under section 2164 of
7 title 10, United States Code, and located outside the
8 United States.

9 (d) JUDICIAL TRAINING.—In addition to amounts
10 provided under section 261(a)(4) of the 2023 Amended
11 U.S.-FSM Compact and the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI
12 Compact and under subsections (a) and (b) of Article 1
13 of the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement, for
14 each of fiscal years 2024 through 2043, the Secretary of
15 the Interior shall use the amounts made available to the
16 Secretary of the Interior under section 10(c) to train
17 judges and officials of the judiciary in the Federated
18 States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands,
19 and the Republic of Palau, in cooperation with the Pacific
20 Islands Committee of the judicial council of the ninth judi-
21 cial circuit of the United States.

22 (e) ELIGIBILITY FOR THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU.—
23 (1) NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS.—The
24 Secretary of Health and Human Services shall make
25 the services of the National Health Service Corps

1 available to the residents of the Federated States of
2 Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands,
3 and the Republic of Palau to the same extent, and
4 for the same duration, as services are authorized to
5 be provided to persons residing in any other areas
6 within or outside the United States.

7 (2) ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES.—

8 The Republic of Palau shall be eligible for the pro-
9 grams and services made available to the Federated
10 States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Mar-
11 shall Islands under section 108(a) of the Compact of
12 Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48
13 U.S.C. 1921g(a)).

14 (3) PROGRAMS AND SERVICES OF CERTAIN

15 AGENCIES.—In addition to the programs and serv-
16 ices set forth in the operative Federal Programs and
17 Services Agreement between the United States and
18 the Republic of Palau, the programs and services of
19 the following agencies shall be made available to the
20 Republic of Palau:

21 (A) The Legal Services Corporation.

22 (B) The Public Health Service.

23 (C) The Rural Housing Service.

24 (f) COMPACT IMPACT FAIRNESS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 402 of the Personal
2 Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation
3 Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1612) is amended—

4 (A) in subsection (a)(2), by adding at the
5 end the following:

6 “(N) EXCEPTION FOR CITIZENS OF FREE-
7 LY ASSOCIATED STATES.—With respect to eligi-
8 bility for benefits for any specified Federal pro-
9 gram, paragraph (1) shall not apply to any in-
10 dividual who lawfully resides in the United
11 States in accordance with section 141 of the
12 Compacts of Free Association between the Gov-
13 ernment of the United States and the Govern-
14 ments of the Federated States of Micronesia,
15 the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the
16 Republic of Palau.”; and

17 (B) in subsection (b)(2)(G)—

18 (i) in the subparagraph heading, by
19 striking “MEDICAID EXCEPTION FOR” and
20 inserting “EXCEPTION FOR”; and

21 (ii) by striking “the designated Fed-
22 eral program defined in paragraph (3)(C)
23 (relating to the Medicaid program)” and
24 inserting “any designated Federal pro-
25 gram”.

1 (2) EXCEPTION TO 5-YEAR WAIT REQUIRE-
 2 MENT.—Section 403(b)(3) of the Personal Responsi-
 3 bility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of
 4 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1613(b)(3)) is amended by striking
 5 “, but only with respect to the designated Federal
 6 program defined in section 402(b)(3)(C)”.

7 (3) DEFINITION OF QUALIFIED ALIEN.—Section
 8 431(b)(8) of the Personal Responsibility and Work
 9 Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C.
 10 1641(b)(8)) is amended by striking “, but only with
 11 respect to the designated Federal program defined
 12 in section 402(b)(3)(C) (relating to the Medicaid
 13 program)”.

14 (g) CONSULTATION WITH INTERNATIONAL FINAN-
 15 CIAL INSTITUTIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury, in
 16 coordination with the Secretary of the Interior and the
 17 Secretary of State, shall consult with appropriate officials
 18 of the Asian Development Bank and relevant international
 19 financial institutions (as defined in section 1701(c) of the
 20 International Financial Institutions Act (22 U.S.C.
 21 262r(c))), as appropriate, with respect to overall economic
 22 conditions in, and the activities of other providers of as-
 23 sistance to, the Freely Associated States.

24 (h) CHIEF OF MISSION.—Section 105(b) of the Com-
 25 pact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48

1 U.S.C. 1921d(b)) is amended by striking paragraph (5)
2 and inserting the following:

3 “(5) Pursuant to section 207 of the Foreign
4 Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3927), all United
5 States Government executive branch employees in
6 the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of
7 the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau fall
8 under the authority of the respective applicable chief
9 of mission, except for employees identified as ex-
10 cepted from the authority under Federal law or by
11 Presidential directive.”.

12 (i) ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNIT FOR THE FREELY
13 ASSOCIATED STATES IN THE BUREAU OF EAST ASIAN
14 AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE
15 AND INCREASING PERSONNEL FOCUSED ON OCEANIA.—

16 (1) DEFINITION OF APPROPRIATE CONGRES-
17 SIONAL COMMITTEES.—In this subsection, the term
18 “appropriate congressional committees” means the
19 Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and
20 the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of
21 Representatives.

22 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary of State
23 shall—

24 (A) assign additional full-time equivalent
25 personnel to the Office of Australia, New Zea-

land, and Pacific Island Affairs of the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs of the Department of State, including to the unit established under subparagraph (B), as the Secretary of State determines to be appropriate, in accordance with paragraph (4)(A); and

(B) establish a unit in the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs of the Department of State to carry out the functions described in paragraph (3).

(3) FUNCTIONS OF UNIT.—The unit established under paragraph (2)(B) shall be responsible for the following:

(A) Managing the bilateral and regional relations with the Freely Associated States.

(B) Supporting the Secretary of State in leading negotiations relating to the Compacts of Free Association with the Freely Associated States.

(C) Coordinating, in consultation with the Department of the Interior, the Department of Defense, and other interagency partners as appropriate, implementation of the Compacts of Free Association with the Freely Associated States.

1 (4) FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT EMPLOYEES.—The
2 Secretary of State shall—

3 (A) not later than 5 years after the date
4 of enactment of this joint resolution, assign to
5 the Office of Australia, New Zealand, and Pa-
6 cific Island Affairs of the Bureau of East Asian
7 and Pacific Affairs, including to the unit estab-
8 lished under paragraph (2)(B), not less than 4
9 additional full-time equivalent staff, who shall
10 not be dual-hatted, including by considering—

11 (i) the use of existing flexible hiring
12 authorities, including Domestic Employees
13 Teleworking Overseas (DETOs); and

14 (ii) the realignment of existing per-
15 sonnel, including from the United States
16 Mission in Australia, as appropriate;

17 (B) reduce the number of vacant foreign
18 service positions in the Pacific Island region by
19 establishing an incentive program within the
20 Foreign Service for overseas positions related to
21 the Pacific Island region; and

22 (C) report to the appropriate congressional
23 committees on progress toward objectives out-
24 lined in this subsection beginning 1 year from

1 the date of enactment of this joint resolution
2 and annually thereafter for 5 years.

3 (j) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Section 105 of the
4 Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003
5 (48 U.S.C. 1921d) is amended by striking subsection (j)
6 and inserting the following:

7 “(j) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Technical assistance may
9 be provided pursuant to section 224 of the 2023
10 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact, section 224 of the
11 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact, or section 222
12 of the U.S.-Palau Compact (as those terms are de-
13 fined in section 2 of the Compact of Free Associa-
14 tion Amendments Act of 2023) by Federal agencies
15 and institutions of the Government of the United
16 States to the extent the assistance shall be provided
17 to States, territories, or units of local government.

18 “(2) HISTORIC PRESERVATION.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Any technical assist-
20 ance authorized under paragraph (1) that is
21 provided by the Forest Service, the Natural Re-
22 sources Conservation Service, the United States
23 Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Marine
24 Fisheries Service, the United States Coast
25 Guard, the Advisory Council on Historic Pres-

1 ervation, the Department of the Interior, or any
2 other Federal agency providing assistance
3 under division A of subtitle III of title 54,
4 United States Code, may be provided on a non-
5 reimbursable basis.

6 “(B) GRANTS.—During the period in
7 which the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact
8 (as so defined) and the 2023 Amended U.S.-
9 RMI Compact (as so defined) are in force, the
10 grant programs under division A of subtitle III
11 of title 54, United States Code, shall continue
12 to apply to the Federated States of Micronesia
13 and the Republic of the Marshall Islands in the
14 same manner and to the same extent as those
15 programs applied prior to the approval of the
16 U.S.-FSM Compact and U.S.-RMI Compact.

17 “(3) ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—Any funds provided
18 pursuant to this subsection, subsections (c), (g), (h),
19 (i), (k), (l), and (m), section 102(a), and subsections
20 (a), (b), (f), (g), (h), and (j) of section 103 shall be
21 in addition to, and not charged against, any
22 amounts to be paid to the Federated States of Mi-
23 cronesia or the Republic of the Marshall Islands pur-
24 suant to—

25 “(A) the U.S.-FSM Compact;

1 “(B) the U.S.-RMI Compact; or

2 “(C) any related subsidiary agreement.”.

3 (k) CONTINUING TRUST TERRITORY AUTHORIZA-
 4 TION.—The authorization provided by the Act of June 30,
 5 1954 (68 Stat. 330, chapter 423), shall remain available
 6 after the effective date of the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM
 7 Compact and the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact with
 8 respect to the Federated States of Micronesia and the Re-
 9 public of the Marshall Islands for transition purposes, in-
 10 cluding—

11 (1) completion of projects and fulfillment of
 12 commitments or obligations;

13 (2) termination of the Trust Territory Govern-
 14 ment and termination of the High Court;

15 (3) health and education as a result of excep-
 16 tional circumstances;

17 (4) ex gratia contributions for the populations
 18 of Bikini, Enewetak, Rongelap, and Utrik; and

19 (5) technical assistance and training in finan-
 20 cial management, program administration, and
 21 maintenance of infrastructure.

22 (l) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—

23 (1) PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT DEFINI-
 24 TION.—Section 2(f) of the Public Health Service Act
 25 (42 U.S.C. 201(f)) is amended by striking “and the

Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands” and inserting
 “the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of
 the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau”.

(2) COMPACT IMPACT AMENDMENTS.—Section
 104(e) of the Compact of Free Association Amend-
 ments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921c(e)) is amend-
 ed—

(A) in paragraph (4)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking
 “beginning in fiscal year 2003” and insert-
 ing “during the period of fiscal years 2003
 through 2023”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking
 “after fiscal year 2003” and inserting “for
 the period of fiscal years 2004 through
 2023”;

(B) by striking paragraph (5); and

(C) by redesignating paragraphs (6)
 through (10) as paragraphs (5) through (9), re-
 spectively.

SEC. 9. ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES.

(a) AGENCIES, DEPARTMENTS, AND INSTRUMENTAL-
 ITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Appropriations to carry out
 the obligations, services, and programs described in

1 paragraph (2) shall be made directly to the Federal
2 agencies, departments, and instrumentalities car-
3 rying out the obligations, services and programs.

4 (2) OBLIGATIONS, SERVICES, AND PROGRAMS
5 DESCRIBED.—The obligations, services, and pro-
6 grams referred to in paragraphs (1) and (3) are the
7 obligations, services, and programs under—

8 (A) sections 131 and 132, paragraphs (1)
9 and (3) through (6) of section 221(a), and sec-
10 tion 221(b) of the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM
11 Compact;

12 (B) sections 131 and 132, paragraphs (1)
13 and (3) through (6) of section 221(a), and sec-
14 tion 221(b) of the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI
15 Compact;

16 (C) sections 131 and 132 and paragraphs
17 (1), (3), and (4) of section 221(a) of the U.S.-
18 Palau Compact;

19 (D) Article 6 of the 2023 U.S.-Palau Com-
20 pact Review Agreement; and

21 (E) section 8.

22 (3) AUTHORITY.—The heads of the Federal
23 agencies, departments, and instrumentalities to
24 which appropriations are made available under para-

1 graph (1) as well as the Federal Deposit Insurance
2 Corporation shall—

3 (A) have the authority to carry out any ac-
4 tivities that are necessary to fulfill the obliga-
5 tions, services, and programs described in para-
6 graph (2); and

7 (B) use available funds to carry out the ac-
8 tivities under subparagraph (A).

9 (b) ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE.—Any assistance pro-
10 vided pursuant to section 105(j) of the Compact of Free
11 Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C.
12 1921d(j)) (as amended by section 8(j)) and sections 4(a),
13 5(a), 6(b), and 8 shall be in addition to and not charged
14 against any amounts to be paid to the Federated States
15 of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and
16 the Republic of Palau pursuant to—

- 17 (1) the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact;
18 (2) the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact;
19 (3) the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review
20 Agreement; or
21 (4) any related subsidiary agreement.

22 (c) REMAINING BALANCES.—Notwithstanding any
23 other provision of law, including section 109 of the Com-
24 pact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48
25 U.S.C. 1921h)—

1 (1) remaining balances appropriated to carry
2 out sections 211, 212(b), 215, and 217 of the 2023
3 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact, shall be programmed
4 pursuant to Article IX of the 2023 U.S.-FSM Fiscal
5 Procedures Agreement; and

6 (2) remaining balances appropriated to carry
7 out sections 211, 213(b), 216, and 218 of the 2023
8 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact, shall be programmed
9 pursuant to Article XI of the 2023 U.S.-RMI Fiscal
10 Procedures Agreement.

11 (d) GRANTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision
12 of law—

13 (1) contributions under the 2023 Amended
14 U.S.-FSM Compact, the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact
15 Review Agreement, and the 2023 Amended U.S.-
16 RMI Compact may be provided as grants for pur-
17 poses of implementation of the 2023 Amended U.S.-
18 FSM Compact, the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Re-
19 view Agreement, and the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI
20 Compact under the laws of the United States; and

21 (2) funds appropriated pursuant to section 10
22 may be deposited in interest-bearing accounts and
23 any interest earned may be retained in and form
24 part of those accounts for use consistent with the
25 purpose of the deposit.

1 (e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Except as specifically
2 provided, nothing in this joint resolution or the amend-
3 ments made by this joint resolution amends the following:

4 (1) Title I of the Compact of Free Association
5 Act of 1985 (48 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.).

6 (2) Title I of Public Law 99–658 (48 U.S.C.
7 1931 et seq.).

8 (3) Title I of the Compact of Free Association
9 Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921 et seq.).

10 (4) Section 1259C of the National Defense Au-
11 thorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (48 U.S.C.
12 1931 note; Public Law 115–91).

13 (5) The Department of the Interior, Environ-
14 ment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act,
15 2018 (Public Law 115–141; 132 Stat. 635).

16 (f) CLARIFICATION RELATING TO APPROPRIATED
17 FUNDS.—Notwithstanding section 109 of the Compacts of
18 Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C.
19 1921h)—

20 (1) funds appropriated by that section and de-
21 posited into the RMI Compact Trust Fund shall be
22 governed by the 2023 U.S.-RMI Trust Fund Agree-
23 ment on entry into force of the 2023 U.S.-RMI
24 Trust Fund Agreement;

1 (2) funds appropriated by that section and de-
2 posited into the FSM Compact Trust Fund shall be
3 governed by the 2023 U.S.-FSM Trust Fund Agree-
4 ment on entry into force of the 2023 U.S.-FSM
5 Trust Fund Agreement;

6 (3) funds appropriated by that section and
7 made available for fiscal year 2024 or any fiscal year
8 thereafter as grants to carry out the purposes of sec-
9 tion 211(b) of the 2003 U.S.-RMI Amended Com-
10 pact shall be subject to the provisions of the 2023
11 U.S.-RMI Fiscal Procedures Agreement on entry
12 into force of the 2023 U.S.-RMI Fiscal Procedures
13 Agreement;

14 (4) funds appropriated by that section and
15 made available for fiscal year 2024 or any fiscal year
16 thereafter as grants to carry out the purposes of sec-
17 tion 221 of the 2003 U.S.-RMI Amended Compact
18 shall be subject to the provisions of the 2023 U.S.-
19 RMI Fiscal Procedures Agreement on entry into
20 force of the 2023 U.S.-RMI Fiscal Procedures
21 Agreement, except as modified in the Federal Pro-
22 grams and Services Agreement in force between the
23 United States and the Republic of the Marshall Is-
24 lands; and

1 (5) funds appropriated by that section and
2 made available for fiscal year 2024 or any fiscal year
3 thereafter as grants to carry out the purposes of sec-
4 tion 221 of the 2003 U.S.-FSM Amended Compact
5 shall be subject to the provisions of the 2023 U.S.-
6 FSM Fiscal Procedures Agreement on entry into
7 force of the 2023 U.S.-FSM Fiscal Procedures
8 Agreement, except as modified in the 2023 U.S.-
9 FSM Federal Programs and Services Agreement.

10 **SEC. 10. COMPACT APPROPRIATIONS.**

11 (a) FUNDING FOR ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARY
12 OF THE INTERIOR.—For the period of fiscal years 2024
13 through 2043, there are appropriated to the Compact of
14 Free Association account of the Department of the Inte-
15 rior, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appro-
16 priated, to remain available until expended, the amounts
17 described in and to carry out the purposes of—

18 (1) sections 261, 265, and 266 of the 2023
19 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact;

20 (2) sections 261, 265, and 266 of the 2023
21 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact; and

22 (3) Articles 1, 2, and 3 of the 2023 U.S.-Palau
23 Compact Review Agreement.

24 (b) FUNDING FOR ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED
25 STATES POSTAL SERVICE.—

1 (1) APPROPRIATION.—There is appropriated to
2 the United States Postal Service, out of any funds
3 in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated for each
4 of fiscal years 2024 through 2043, \$31,700,000, to
5 remain available until expended, to carry out the
6 costs of the following provisions that are not other-
7 wise funded:

8 (A) Section 221(a)(2) of the 2023 Amend-
9 ed U.S.-FSM Compact.

10 (B) Section 221(a)(2) of the 2023 Amend-
11 ed U.S.-RMI Compact.

12 (C) Section 221(a)(2) of the U.S.-Palau
13 Compact.

14 (D) Article 6(a) of the 2023 U.S.-Palau
15 Compact Review Agreement.

16 (2) DEPOSIT.—

17 (A) IN GENERAL.—The amounts appro-
18 priated to the United States Postal Service
19 under paragraph (1) shall be deposited into the
20 Postal Service Fund established under section
21 2003 of title 39, United States Code, to carry
22 out the provisions described in that paragraph.

23 (B) REQUIREMENT.—Any amounts depos-
24 ited into the Postal Service Fund under sub-

1 paragraph (A) shall be the fiduciary, fiscal, and
2 audit responsibility of the Postal Service.

3 (c) FUNDING FOR JUDICIAL TRAINING.—There is
4 appropriated to the Secretary of the Interior to carry out
5 section 8(d) out of any funds in the Treasury not other-
6 wise appropriated, \$550,000 for each of fiscal years 2024
7 through 2043, to remain available until expended.

Union Calendar No. 775

118TH CONGRESS
2D Session

H. J. RES. 96

[Report No. 118-785, Part I]

JOINT RESOLUTION

To approve the 2023 Agreement to Amend the U.S.-FSM Compact, and related agreements, between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia, the 2023 Agreement to Amend the U.S.-RMI Compact, and certain related agreements between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Palau, to appropriate funds to carry out the agreements, and for other purposes.

DECEMBER 19, 2024

Committees on Veterans' Affairs, Oversight and Accountability, Agriculture, and Ways and Means discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed