

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1632

To extend eligibility for certain Federal benefits to citizens of the Freely
Associated States.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2003

Mr. AKAKA (for himself and Mr. INOUE) introduced the following bill; which
was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To extend eligibility for certain Federal benefits to citizens
of the Freely Associated States.

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

3 **SECTION 1. EXCEPTION FOR CITIZENS OF FREELY ASSOCI-**
4 **ATED STATES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 402(a)(2) of the Personal
6 Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act
7 of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1612(a)(2)) is amended by adding at
8 the end the following:

9 “(M) EXCEPTION FOR CITIZENS OF FREE-
10 LY ASSOCIATED STATES.—With respect to eligi-

1 bility for benefits for the specified Federal pro-
2 grams described in subparagraphs (A) and (B)
3 of paragraph (3), paragraph (1) shall not apply
4 to any individual who lawfully resides in the
5 United States (including territories and posses-
6 sions of the United States) in accordance
7 with—

8 “(i) section 141 of the Compact of
9 Free Association between the Government
10 of the United States and the Government
11 of the Federated States of Micronesia, ap-
12 proved by Congress in the Compact of
13 Free Association Amendments Act of
14 2003;

15 “(ii) section 141 of the Compact of
16 Free Association between the Government
17 of the United States and the Government
18 of the Republic of the Marshall Islands,
19 approved by Congress in the Compact of
20 Free Association Amendments Act of
21 2003; or

22 “(iii) section 141 of the Compact of
23 Free Association between the Government
24 of the United States and the Government

1 of Palau, approved by Congress in Public
2 Law 99–658 (100 Stat. 3672).”.

3 (b) MEDICAID AND TANF EXCEPTIONS.—Section
4 402(b)(2) of the Personal Responsibility and Work Oppor-
5 tunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1612(b)(2))
6 is amended by adding at the end the following:

7 “(G) MEDICAID EXCEPTION FOR CITIZENS
8 OF FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES.—With respect
9 to eligibility for benefits for the program de-
10 fined in paragraph (3)(C) (relating to the med-
11 icaid program), section 401(a) and paragraph
12 (1) shall not apply to any individual who law-
13 fully resides in the United States (including ter-
14 ritories and possessions of the United States) in
15 accordance with a Compact of Free Association
16 referred to in section 402(a)(2)(M).

17 “(H) TANF EXCEPTION FOR CITIZENS OF
18 FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES.—With respect to
19 eligibility for benefits for the program defined
20 in paragraph (3)(A) (relating to the temporary
21 assistance for needy families program), section
22 401(a) and paragraph (1) shall not apply to
23 any individual who lawfully resides in the
24 United States (including territories and posses-
25 sions of the United States) in accordance with

1 a Compact of Free Association referred to in
2 section 402(a)(2)(M).”.

3 (c) QUALIFIED ALIEN.—Section 431(b) of the Per-
4 sonal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation
5 Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1641(b)) is amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (6), by striking “or” at the
7 end;

8 (2) in paragraph (7), by striking the period at
9 the end and inserting “; or”; and

10 (3) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(8) an individual who lawfully resides in the
12 United States (including territories and possessions
13 of the United States) in accordance with a Compact
14 of Free Association referred to in section
15 402(a)(2)(M).”.

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