

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4000

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 30, 2007

Mr. ABERCROMBIE (for himself, Ms. HIRONO, and Ms. BORDALLO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Agriculture, 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

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:

1 “(M) EXCEPTION FOR CITIZENS OF FREE-
2 LY ASSOCIATED STATES.—With respect to eligi-
3 bility for benefits for the specified Federal pro-
4 grams described in paragraph (3), paragraph
5 (1) shall not apply to any individual who law-
6 fully resides in the United States (including ter-
7 ritories and possessions of the United States) in
8 accordance with—

9 “(i) section 141 of the Compact of
10 Free Association between the Government
11 of the United States and the Government
12 of the Federated States of Micronesia, ap-
13 proved by Congress in the Compact of
14 Free Association Amendments Act of
15 2003;

16 “(ii) section 141 of the Compact of
17 Free Association between the Government
18 of the United States and the Government
19 of the Republic of the Marshall Islands,
20 approved by Congress in the Compact of
21 Free Association Amendments Act of
22 2003; or

23 “(iii) section 141 of the Compact of
24 Free Association between the Government
25 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 AND TANF EXCEPTIONS
8 FOR CITIZENS OF FREELY ASSOCIATED
9 STATES.—With respect to eligibility for benefits
10 for the programs defined in subparagraphs (A)
11 and (C) of paragraph (3) (relating to temporary
12 assistance for needy families and medicaid),
13 paragraph (1) shall not apply to any individual
14 who lawfully resides in the United States (in-
15 cluding territories and possessions of the
16 United States) in accordance with a Compact of
17 Free Association referred to in subsection
18 (a)(2)(M).”.

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

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

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

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

2 “(8) an individual who lawfully resides in the
3 United States (including territories and possessions
4 of the United States) in accordance with a Compact
5 of Free Association referred to in section
6 402(a)(2)(M).”.

7 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 1108 of
8 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1308) is amended—

9 (1) in subsection (f), in the matter preceding
10 paragraph (1), by striking “subsection (g)” and in-
11 serting “subsections (g) and (h)”; and

12 (2) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(h) The limitations of subsections (f) and (g) shall
14 not apply with respect to medical assistance provided to
15 an individual described in section 431(b)(8) of the Per-
16 sonal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation
17 Act of 1996.”.

18 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
19 this Act take effect on the date of enactment of this Act
20 and apply to benefits and assistance provided on or after
21 that date.

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