

111TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5250

To direct the Election Assistance Commission to make an election administration improvement payment to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands under title I of the Help America Vote Act of 2002, to treat the Commonwealth as a State for the other purposes of such Act, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 6, 2010

Mr. SABLON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on House Administration

A BILL

To direct the Election Assistance Commission to make an election administration improvement payment to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands under title I of the Help America Vote Act of 2002, to treat the Commonwealth as a State for the other purposes of such Act, and for other purposes.

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

1 **SECTION 1. ELECTION ADMINISTRATION IMPROVEMENT**
2 **PAYMENT TO COMMONWEALTH OF THE**
3 **NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.**

4 (a) PAYMENT TO COMMONWEALTH.—The Election
5 Assistance Commission shall make a single payment to the
6 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in an
7 amount equal to the aggregate amount of the payments
8 which would have been made to the Commonwealth under
9 title I of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C.
10 15301 et seq.) if—

11 (1) the Commonwealth had been treated as a
12 State under such Act at the time payments were
13 made under such title to other States; and

14 (2) the Commonwealth had been subject to the
15 same minimum payment amounts applicable under
16 such title to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico,
17 Guam, American Samoa, and the United States Vir-
18 gin Islands.

19 (b) USE OF PAYMENT.—The Commonwealth shall
20 use the payment made under this section to carry out the
21 same activities (subject to the same conditions) for which
22 States received payments under title I of the Help Amer-
23 ica Vote Act of 2002.

24 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
25 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
26 necessary for the payment under this section.

1 **SEC. 2. TREATMENT OF COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN**
2 **MARIANA ISLANDS AS STATE FOR PURPOSES**
3 **OF HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT OF 2002.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 901 of the Help America
5 Vote Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 15541) is amended by strik-
6 ing “and the United States Virgin Islands” and inserting
7 “the United States Virgin Islands, and (except for pur-
8 poses of title I) the Commonwealth of the Northern Mar-
9 iana Islands”.

10 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO
11 TREATMENT OF TERRITORIES.—

12 (1) SELECTION OF LOCAL ELECTION OFFICIALS
13 TO SERVE ON ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION
14 STANDARDS BOARD.—Section 213(a)(2) of such Act
15 (42 U.S.C. 15343(a)(2)) is amended by striking
16 “and American Samoa,” and inserting “American
17 Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern
18 Mariana Islands,”.

19 (2) MINIMUM AMOUNT OF REQUIREMENTS PAY-
20 MENT.—Section 252(c)(2) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
21 15402(c)(2)) is amended by striking “or the United
22 States Virgin Islands,” and inserting “the United
23 States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the
24 Northern Mariana Islands,”.

25 (3) CONSULTATION OF HELP AMERICA VOTE
26 FOUNDATION WITH LOCAL ELECTION OFFICIALS.—

1 Section 15602(c) of title 36, United States Code, is
2 amended by striking “and the United States Virgin
3 Islands” and inserting “the United States Virgin Is-
4 lands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mar-
5 iana Islands”.

6 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
7 this section shall apply with respect to fiscal years begin-
8 ning with the first fiscal year which begins after funds
9 are appropriated to the Commonwealth of the Northern
10 Mariana Islands pursuant to the grant under section 1.

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