

should and must go through the established process, pursuant to the Immigration and Nationality Act. Therefore, the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature disagrees with and is strongly opposed to the inclusion of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in S.744, under Section 2109 (Long-Term Legal Residents of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands); and

Whereas, Article V, Section 503(a) of the Covenant authorizes the United States Congress to make applicable to the Northern Mariana Islands the immigration and naturalization law of the United States after the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement. This was accomplished when the U.S. Congress enacted the Consolidated Natural Resource Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-229). However, such authority given to the United States Congress under the said Article V, Section 503(a) does not necessarily mean that the U.S. Congress can unilaterally and arbitrarily enact immigration laws and/or other bills or legislations for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands that contradicts and infringes on the fundamental provisions delineated in Article 1, Section 105 and other provisions of the Covenant; particularly, outlined in Article 1, Section 103, which guarantees the indigenous people of the Northern Mariana Islands the right of local self-government and to govern themselves with respect to internal affairs in accordance with a Constitution of their own adoption; and

Whereas, Article 1, Section 105 of the Covenant states: "The United States may enact legislation in accordance with its constitutional processes which will be applicable to the Northern Mariana Islands, but if such legislation cannot also be made applicable to the several States the Northern Mariana Islands must be specifically named therein for it to become effective in the Northern Mariana Islands. In order to respect the right of self-government guaranteed by this Covenant the United States agrees to limit the exercise of that authority so that the fundamental provisions of this Covenant, namely Articles I, II and III and Sections 501 and 805, may be modified only with the consent of the Government of the United States and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands"; and

Whereas, Section 2109 (Long-term Legal Residents of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) of S. 744 contradicts U.S. Public Law 110-229 (Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008) which mandates the alien worker population of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to be zeroed out when the transition period ends on Dec. 31, 2014. U.S. Public Law 110-229 (Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008) seeks to help create jobs for the many unemployed indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian people and U.S. citizens who are residents in the Northern Mariana Islands, who have been actively searching for work in the job market. Section 2109 of S. 744, on the other hand, will deprive the Chamorro and Carolinian people of Northern Marianas descent and U.S. citizens who are residents of the Commonwealth of employment opportunities, as alien workers and people of other ethnic origin will continue to occupy and fill the positions in the job market; and

Whereas, alien workers who are recruited for employment purposes, should not, irrespective of the length of their employment in the Commonwealth, be automatically entitled to full social, economic, and political rights, because such benefits and privileges of United States citizens were never promised, bargained, entered, and/or agreed upon in their employment contracts, which were approved by them and the Government of the

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; nor were discussions made or suggested for alien workers, their families, and persons of other ethnic origin to become permanent resident during the negotiation of Covenant Agreement between the indigenous people of the Northern Mariana Islands and the United States of America, notwithstanding Section 506 of Article V of the Covenant; and

Whereas, the enactment of Section 2109 (Long-term Legal Residents of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) of S. 744, and/or any similar Act by Congress, will dramatically change the social, economic, and political landscape in the Commonwealth to the advantage of the thousands of alien workers, their families and people of other ethnic origin or race upon them becoming U.S. Citizens. This will have a devastating effect on the social, political and economic livelihood of the Chamorro and Carolinian people of the Northern Mariana Islands. It will give birth to a new form of foreign domination on the indigenous people once again, but this time, sadly, it evolves from within the Commonwealth by way of Section 2109 (Long-term Legal Residents of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands); and

Whereas, the enactment of Section 2109 of S. 744, and/or any similar legislations by Congress will place the Carolinian and Chamorro people of the Northern Mariana Islands back in time, trapped under a new form of foreign domination once again, and a direct violation of the Covenant Agreement, and the mandates of the Trusteeship Agreement which was agreed upon by the United States and the United Nation Security Council, including the Charter of the United Nation which obligates the United States "to promote the development of the people of the trust territory toward self-government or independence as may be appropriate to the particular circumstances of the trust territory and its peoples and the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned". The enactment of Section 2109 and/or other similar act or legislations by Congress is a direct contradiction to the freely expressed wishes of the Chamorro and Carolinian people of the Northern Marianas Islands when they exercised their inalienable right of self-determination and negotiated the Covenant Agreement with the United States of America—to be free from foreign domination, and to be recognized as a people of the Northern Mariana Islands, with "the right of local self-government and to govern themselves in accordance with a Constitution of their own adoption; and

Whereas, Section 2109 of S. 744, and/or any similar Act currently before both houses of the U.S. Congress for consideration, or are being proposed will create alarming concerns to the Chamorro and Carolinian people of the Northern Mariana Islands, thus affecting the relationship between them and the United States; therefore, the 18th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature urged the U.S. Congress that any and all propose legislations that infringes upon the social, economic and political rights of the indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian people who are of Northern Marianas descent, who called for, negotiated, and voted favorably in support of the Covenant, must be addressed pursuant to Article 1, Section 105 and Section 902 of the Covenant; and

Whereas, Section 902 of Article IX states in part: "The Government of the United States and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands will consult regularly on all matters affecting the relationship between them". . . "to consider in good faith such issues affecting the relationship between the Northern Mariana Islands and the United

States as may be designated by either Government and to make recommendations with respect thereto". Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the 18th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature respectfully request and urge the House of Representatives of the 113th United States Congress to eliminate Section 2109 (Long-Term Legal Residents of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) of S. 744, and any similar legislation that is currently before both houses of the U.S. Congress undergoing review for consideration until such legislative intent for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is discussed pursuant to Article 1, Section 105 and Article IX, Section 902 of the Covenant to Establish the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas in Political Union with the United States of America; and to recognize, respect and take into serious consideration the mandates of the Trusteeship Agreement which was agreed upon by the United States; and the United Nation Security Council, including the United States obligation under the Charter of the United Nation as stipulated in the House Joint Resolution No. 549—to approve the "Covenant To Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America"; and be it further

Resolved, That the Speaker of the House shall certify, and the Clerk of the House shall attest to the adoption of this resolution. The Clerk of the House shall transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., President of the Senate, 113th United States Congress; the Honorable John Boehner, Speaker of the House, 113th United States Congress; the Honorable Gregorio "Kilili" Sablan, CNMI Delegate to the 113th United States Congress; the U. S. Department of Interior Secretary Sally Jewell; the Secretary of U.S. Department of Homeland Security; the Honorable Eloy S. Inos, Governor, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; the Honorable Ralph DLG Torres, President of the Senate; 18th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature; the Honorable Donald P. Flores, Mayor of Saipan; the Honorable Ramon M. Dela Cruz, Mayor of Tinian and Aguigan; the Honorable Melchor A. Mendiola, Mayor of Rota; and the Honorable Tobias C. Aldan, Mayor of the Northern Islands.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Ms. CANTWELL for the Committee on Indian Affairs.

*Vincent G. Logan, of New York, to be Special Trustee, Office of Special Trustee for American Indians, Department of the Interior.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. ROBERTS:

S. 1974. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to prohibit Federal education mandates, and for

other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 1975. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an above-the-line deduction for child care expenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. PRYOR, and Mr. NELSON):

S. 1976. A bill to protect consumers by requiring reasonable security policies and procedures to protect data containing personal information, and to provide for nationwide notice in the event of a breach of security; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. AYOTTE (for herself, Mr. GRAMHAM, Mr. WICKER, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1977. A bill to repeal section 403 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013, relating to an annual adjustment of retired pay for members of the Armed Forces under the age of 62, and to provide an offset; read the first time.

By Mr. UDALL of New Mexico:

S. 1978. A bill to increase access to primary care services through training and accountability improvements; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. BROWN):

S. 1979. A bill to provide for USA Retirement Funds, to reform the pension system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Res. 342. A resolution designating February 3 through 7, 2014, as "National School Counseling Week"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 41

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 41, a bill to provide a permanent deduction for State and local general sales taxes.

S. 84

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 84, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

S. 289

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 289, a bill to extend the low-interest refinancing provisions under the Local Development Business Loan Program of the Small Business Administration.

S. 526

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr.

HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 526, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the special rule for contributions of qualified conservation contributions, and for other purposes.

S. 862

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 862, a bill to amend section 5000A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an additional religious exemption from the individual health coverage mandate.

S. 865

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 865, a bill to provide for the establishment of a Commission to Accelerate the End of Breast Cancer.

S. 1235

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1235, a bill to restrict any State or local jurisdiction from imposing a new discriminatory tax on cell phone services, providers, or property.

S. 1410

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1410, a bill to focus limited Federal resources on the most serious offenders.

S. 1431

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1431, a bill to permanently extend the Internet Tax Freedom Act.

S. 1456

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the names of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1456, a bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Shimon Peres.

S. 1587

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1587, a bill to posthumously award the Congressional Gold Medal to each of Glen Doherty and Tyrone Woods in recognition of their contributions to the Nation.

S. 1596

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from West Vir-

ginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1596, a bill to require State educational agencies that receive funding under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to have in effect policies and procedures on background checks for school employees.

S. 1654

At the request of Mr. REED, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1654, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny tax deductions for corporate regulatory violations.

S. 1704

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1704, a bill to expand the use of open textbooks in order to achieve savings for students.

S. 1709

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1709, a bill to require the Committee on Technology of the National Science and Technology Council to develop and update a national manufacturing competitiveness strategic plan, and for other purposes.

S. 1792

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1792, a bill to close out expired, empty grant accounts.

S. 1814

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1814, a bill to encourage, enhance, and integrate Silver Alert plans throughout the United States and for other purposes.

S. 1908

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1908, a bill to allow reciprocity for the carrying of certain concealed firearms.

S. 1909

At the request of Mr. SCOTT, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1909, a bill to expand opportunity through greater choice in education, and for other purposes.

S. 1923

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1923, a bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to exempt from registration brokers performing services in connection with the transfer of ownership of smaller privately held companies.

S. 1924

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1924, a bill to require a report