

the remaining members of the population of Rongelap and Utrik who were exposed to radiation resulting from the 1954 United States thermonuclear “Bravo” test, pursuant to Public Law 95-134 (91 Stat. 1159) and Public Law 96-205 (94 Stat. 84).

(h) Agricultural and food programs

(1) In general

Congress reaffirms that—

(A) section 1903(h)(2) of this title and section 1921b(f)(2)(A) of this title provided that notwithstanding “any other provision of law, upon the request of the Government of the Marshall Islands, for the first fifteen years after the effective date of the Compact, the President (either through an appropriate department or agency of the United States or by contract with a United States firm or by a grant to the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands which may further contract only with a United States firm or a Republic of the Marshall Islands firm, the owners, officers and majority of the employees of which are citizens of the United States or the Republic of the Marshall Islands) shall provide technical and other assistance without reimbursement, to continue the planting and agricultural maintenance program on Enewetak; without reimbursement, to continue the food programs of the Bikini, Rongelap, Utrik, and Enewetak people described in section 1(d) of Article II of the Subsidiary Agreement for the Implementation of Section 177 of the Compact and for continued waterborne transportation of agricultural products to Enewetak including operations and maintenance of the vessel used for such purposes.”;

(B) section 1903(h)(2) of this title and section 1921b(f)(2)(B) of this title provided that “The President shall ensure the assistance provided under these programs reflects the changes in the population since the inception of such programs.”; and

(C) section 1903(h)(3) of this title and section 1921b(f)(3) of this title provided that “payments under this subsection shall be provided to such extent or in such amounts as are necessary for services and other assistance provided pursuant to this subsection. It is the sense of Congress that after the periods of time specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection, consideration will be given to such additional funding for these programs as may be necessary.”.

(2) Planting and agricultural maintenance program

The Secretary of the Interior may provide grants to the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands to carry out a planting and agricultural maintenance program on Bikini, Enewetak, Rongelap, and Utrik.

(3) Food programs

The Secretary of Agriculture may provide, without reimbursement, food programs to the people of the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

(Pub. L. 118-42, div. G, title II, §206, Mar. 9, 2024, 138 Stat. 427.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 209(j), referred to in subsec. (a)(2), means section 209(j) of title II of div. G of Pub. L. 118-42.

Public Law 95-134, referred to in subsecs. (f)(1) and (g), is Pub. L. 95-134, Oct. 15, 1977, 91 Stat. 1159, popularly known as the Omnibus Territories Act of 1977. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

Public Law 96-205, referred to in subsecs. (f)(1) and (g), is Pub. L. 96-205, Mar. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 84. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

§ 1986. Agreements with and other provisions related to the Republic of Palau

(a) Bilateral economic consultations

United States participation in the annual economic consultations referred to in Article 8 of the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement shall be by officers or employees of the Federal Government.

(b) Economic Advisory Group

(1) Qualifications

A member of the Economic Advisory Group described in Article 7 of the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement (referred to in this subsection as the “Advisory Group”) who is appointed by the Secretary of the Interior shall be an individual who, by reason of knowledge, experience, or training, is especially qualified in private sector business development, economic development, or national development.

(2) Funds

With respect to the Advisory Group, the Secretary of the Interior may use available funds for—

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

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

(C) the costs of—

(i) technical and administrative assistance for the Advisory Group; and

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

(3) Reports to Congress

Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Advisory Group receives or completes any report required under the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement, or any related subsidiary agreement, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit the report to the appropriate committees of Congress.

(c) Reports to Congress

(1) In general

Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Government of the Republic of Palau completes any report required under the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement, or any related subsidiary agreement, the Sec-

retary of the Interior shall submit the report to the appropriate committees of Congress.

(2) Notice to Congress

Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Government of the Republic of Palau submits a report required under the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement, or any related subsidiary agreement, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress—

(A) if the report is submitted by the applicable deadline, written notice attesting that the report is complete and accurate; or

(B) if the report is not submitted by the applicable deadline, written notice that the report has not been timely submitted.

(Pub. L. 118-42, div. G, title II, § 207, Mar. 9, 2024, 138 Stat. 433.)

§ 1987. Oversight provisions

(a) Authorities and duties of the Comptroller General of the United States

(1) In general

The Comptroller General of the United States (including any duly authorized representative of the Comptroller General of the United States) shall have the authorities necessary to carry out the responsibilities of the Comptroller General of the United States under—

(A) the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact and related subsidiary agreements, including the authorities and privileges described in section 1921a(b) of this title;

(B) the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact and related subsidiary agreements, including the authorities and privileges described in section 1921b(k) of this title; and

(C) the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement, related subsidiary agreements, and the authorities described in appendix D of 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” signed by the United States and the Republic of Palau on September 3, 2010.

(2) Reports

Not later than 18 months after March 9, 2024, and every 4 years thereafter, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report with respect to the Freely Associated States, including addressing—

(A) the topics described in subparagraphs (A) through (E) of section 1921c(h)(1) of this title, except that for purposes of a report submitted under this paragraph, the report shall address those topics with respect to each of the Freely Associated States; and

(B) the effectiveness of administrative oversight by the United States of the Freely Associated States.

(b) Secretary of the Interior oversight authority

The Secretary of the Interior shall have the authority necessary to fulfill the responsibilities for monitoring and managing the funds ap-

propriated to the Compact of Free Association account of the Department of the Interior by section 1990(a) of this title to carry out—

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

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

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

(4) subsidiary agreements.

(c) Postmaster General oversight authority

The Postmaster General shall have the authority necessary to fulfill the responsibilities for monitoring and managing the funds appropriated to the United States Postal Service under paragraph (1) of section 1990(b) of this title and deposited in the Postal Service Fund under paragraph (2)(A) of that section to carry out—

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

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

(3) section 221(a)(2) of the U.S.-Palau Compact; and

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

(d) Interagency Group on Freely Associated States

(1) Establishment

The President, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Defense, shall establish an Interagency Group on Freely Associated States (referred to in this subsection as the “Interagency Group”).

(2) Purpose

The purposes of the Interagency Group are—

(A) to coordinate development and implementation of executive branch policies, programs, services, and other activities in or relating to the Freely Associated States; and

(B) to provide policy guidance, recommendations, and oversight to Federal agencies, departments, and instrumentalities with respect to the implementation of—

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

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

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

(3) Membership

The Interagency Group shall consist of—

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

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

(C) the Secretary of Defense;

(D) the Secretary of the Treasury;

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

(i) sections 131 and 132 of the 2003 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact and subsections (a) and (b) of section 221 and section 261 of the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact;

(ii) sections 131 and 132 of the 2003 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact and subsections (a) and (b) of section 221 and sec-