

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To amend the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996 to provide certain Federal public benefits to citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau who are lawfully residing in the United States if they are otherwise qualified, consistent with section 141 of the Compacts of Free Association.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. SCHATZ) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To amend the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996 to provide certain Federal public benefits to citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau who are lawfully residing in the United States if they are otherwise qualified, consistent with section 141 of the Compacts of Free Association.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Compact Impact Fair-
3 ness Act of 2023”.

4 **SEC. 2. PROVISION OF FEDERAL PUBLIC BENEFIT ELIGI-**
5 **BILITY FOR CITIZENS OF FREELY ASSOCI-**
6 **ATED STATES.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 402 of the Personal Re-
8 sponsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of
9 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1612) is amended—

10 (1) in subsection (a)(2), by adding at the end
11 the following:

12 “(N) EXCEPTION FOR CITIZENS OF FREE-
13 LY ASSOCIATED STATES.—With respect to eligi-
14 bility for benefits for any specified Federal pro-
15 gram, paragraph (1) shall not apply to any in-
16 dividual who lawfully resides in the United
17 States in accordance with section 141 of the
18 Compacts of Free Association between the Gov-
19 ernment of the United States and the Govern-
20 ments of the Federated States of Micronesia,
21 the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the
22 Republic of Palau, and who is a citizen of one
23 of those three nations.”; and

24 (2) in subsection (b)(2)(G)—

1 (A) in the subparagraph heading, by strik-
2 ing “MEDICAID EXCEPTION FOR” and inserting
3 “EXCEPTION FOR”;

4 (B) by striking “the designated Federal
5 program defined in paragraph (3)(C) (relating
6 to the Medicaid program)” and inserting “any
7 designated Federal program”.

8 (b) EXCEPTION TO 5-YEAR WAIT REQUIREMENT.—
9 Section 403(b)(3) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1613(b)(3)) is
10 amended by striking “, but only with respect to the des-
11 ignated Federal program defined in section
12 402(b)(3)(C)”.

13 (c) DEFINITION OF QUALIFIED ALIEN.—Section
14 431(b)(8) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1641(b)(8)) is amended
15 by striking “, but only with respect to the designated Fed-
16 eral program defined in section 402(b)(3)(C) (relating to
17 the Medicaid program)”.