

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1676

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

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 21, 2007

Mr. AKAKA (for himself and Mr. INOUE) introduced the following bill; which  
was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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## 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:

9 “(M) EXCEPTION FOR CITIZENS OF FREE-  
10 LY ASSOCIATED STATES.—With respect to eligi-

1           bility for benefits for the specified Federal pro-  
2           grams described in paragraph (3), paragraph  
3           (1) shall not apply to any individual who law-  
4           fully resides in the United States (including ter-  
5           ritories and possessions of the United States) in  
6           accordance with—

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

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

21                  “(iii) section 141 of the Compact of  
22                  Free Association between the Government  
23                  of the United States and the Government  
24                  of Palau, approved by Congress in Public  
25                  Law 99–658 (100 Stat. 3672).”.

1 (b) MEDICAID AND TANF EXCEPTIONS.—Section  
 2 402(b)(2) of the Personal Responsibility and Work Oppor-  
 3 tunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1612(b)(2))  
 4 is amended by adding at the end the following:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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