

A BILL FOR AN ACT

To further amend Public Law No. 10-11, as amended, by further amending sections 1, 2, and 4 thereof to clarify the make-up and expand the negotiating authority of the Joint Committee on Compact Economic Negotiations, and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA:

1 Section 1. Section 1 of Public Law No. 10-11, as amended by
2 Public Law No. 10-125, is hereby further amended to read as
3 follows:

4 "Section 1. Purpose. In preparation for the Compact of
5 Free Association negotiations scheduled to commence in
6 November, 1999, there is hereby established a joint
7 committee. With respect to said negotiations, the joint
8 committee shall also be empowered to renegotiate the
9 expiring terms of the Compact of Free Association with
10 the United States of America and any other Compact-
11 related issues."

12 Section 2. Section 2 of Public Law No. 10-11, as amended by
13 Public Law No. 10-125, is hereby further amended to read as
14 follows:

15 "Section 2. Establishment of the Joint Committee on
16 Compact Economic Negotiations. There is hereby created
17 and established a joint committee to be known as the
18 Joint Committee on Compact Economic Negotiations (JCN),

1 comprising nine voting members as follows: one
2 representative from each of the four States, as
3 appointed by the President in consultation with the
4 leadership of each State, and four representatives
5 ~~[from]~~ appointed by the Congress of the Federated States
6 of Micronesia, one ~~[from]~~ appointed by each congressional
7 delegation. One member shall be the Secretary of
8 Foreign Affairs. He shall chair the Joint Committee's
9 first meeting, and organize the election of its Chairman
10 and Vice Chairman. The Secretary of Economic Affairs,
11 or his designee, shall serve as a non-voting member.
12 Six of the voting members shall constitute a quorum for
13 the transaction of business. Decisions shall be made
14 within the Committee by at least five concurring votes,
15 with each participating member casting a single vote. A
16 member representing a State may be replaced by the
17 President upon the request of the Governor and the
18 Legislature of the State."

19 Section 3. Section 4 of Public Law No. 10-11, as amended by
20 Public Law No. 10-125, is hereby further amended to read as
21 follows:

22 "Section 4. Mandate. The Joint Committee on Compact
23 Economic Negotiations shall carry out the following
24 responsibilities and obligations:

- 25 (1) In consultation with the Congress, set goals and

1 objectives for the Compact of Free Association
2 negotiations;

3 (2) Conduct a thorough analysis of all factors
4 relating to the Compact of Free Association
5 negotiations;

6 (3) Develop all necessary strategies and approaches to
7 enable the Federated States of Micronesia to commence
8 negotiating with the United States in November, 1999;

9 (4) Direct its Secretariat in preparing the
10 documentation necessary to accomplish its
11 responsibilities hereunder;

12 (5) Analyze all economic information available on the
13 Federated States of Micronesia, with the aim of
14 identifying the FSM's continuing requirement for
15 reasonable, fair, and effective financial assistance
16 from the United States of America from the year 2001
17 onward;

18 (6) Provide reports periodically to the Congress at
19 each regular session, and to the Office of the
20 President, on all developments, actual or potential,
21 positive or negative, that may be related to the
22 renegotiation of the Compact of Free Association,
23 including, but not limited to, new information, actions,
24 communications, domestic and foreign policies, bilateral
25 and multilateral plans, as well as periodic surveys

1 exploring the value of net benefits to a foreign nation
2 from an exclusive security prerogative;

3 (7) Conduct negotiations on the expiring terms of the
4 Compact of Free Association with the United States of
5 America and any other Compact-related issues. The Joint
6 Committee on Compact Economic Negotiations may delegate
7 negotiations to an individual negotiator or a
8 negotiating team. All actions taken or decisions made
9 by an individual negotiator or a negotiating team shall
10 be provisional and subject to confirmation by the Joint
11 Committee on Compact Economic Negotiations; and

12 (8) Use funds for each separate category of expense
13 only up to the aggregate amount of the line-items of the
14 corresponding expense category set out in the associated
15 appropriations bill or bills approved by Congress, and
16 select and hire the personnel needed to staff the
17 Secretariat, as specified in section 5 below."

18 Section 4. This act shall become law upon approval by the
19 President of the Federated States of Micronesia or upon its
20 becoming law without such approval.

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22 Date: 3/12/03

Introduced by: /s/ Joseph J. Urusemal
Joseph J. Urusemal
(by request)

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