A RESOLUTION

Expressing the utmost appreciation to the entire Hawaii Delegation to the United States Congress, especially former Congressman Neil Abercrombie, as well as the Honorable Senator Blanche L. Lincoln of Arkansas and the Honorable Senator Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico, for their brave and altruistic efforts to reinstate the Medicaid eligibility of citizens of Freely Associated States.

WHEREAS, the citizens of Freely Associated States lost their longstanding Medicaid eligibility as a result of the 1996 Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act; and

WHEREAS, the resulting financial and social detriment to the various states and territories that host significant populations of citizens from Freely Associated States has been considerable and continues to increase; and

WHEREAS, since the loss of Medicaid eligibility in 1996, the citizens of Freely Associated States have been treated like immigrants from any other nation, notwithstanding the unique, longstanding, and mutually beneficial relationship between the United States and the Freely Associated States; and

WHEREAS, due to the long history and special relationship between our two nations, the citizens of the Freely Associated States deserve unique treatment, evidenced by the original inclusion of citizens of Freely Associated States as eligible for Medicaid benefits and the decision to reinstate that eligibility in H.R. 3962; and

WHEREAS, certain honorable members of the United States
Congress, namely the Honorable Senators Daniel K. Akaka and Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii, the Honorable Representative Mazie Hirono of Hawaii, the Honorable Senator Blanche L. Lincoln of Arkansas, the Honorable Senator Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico, and the former Representative Neil Abercrombie of Hawaii have boldly taken the initiative to reinstate Medicaid eligibility for citizens of Freely Associated States; and

WHEREAS, the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia recognizes the unusual benevolence displayed by these U.S. Congress members in fighting for the rights and benefits of citizens and constituents not their own; and

WHEREAS, the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia respectfully requests these most honorable U.S. Congress members to continue to seek reinstatement of Medicaid eligibility for citizens of Freely Associated States and prays that their colleagues in the United States Congress will begin to listen and take heed; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Sixteenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, Fifth Regular Session, 2010, that the Congress expresses its utmost appreciation to the entire Hawaii Delegation to the United States Congress, especially former Congressman Neil Abercrombie, as well as the Honorable Senator Blanche L. Lincoln of Arkansas and the Honorable Senator Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico, for their brave and altruistic efforts to

reinstate the Medicaid eligibility of citizens of Freely

2 of 3
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Governor of each FSM state, the Governor of Hawaii, the Governor of Guam, the Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the U.S. Congressional delegation of the State of Hawaii, the Honorable Senator Blanche L. Lincoln, the Honorable Senator Jeff Bingaman, and the former Congressman Neil Abercrombie.

Date: 9/27/10

Introduced by: /s/ Setiro Paul

Setiro Paul