
A BILL FOR AN ACT

To mandate a national comprehensive census for the Federated States of Micronesia, by amending for this purpose chapter 1 of title 43 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated), in particular sections 101, 102, 103, 106, 109, and 114 thereof, by inserting new sections 115 and 116 under the same chapter, and for other purposes.

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

1 Section 1. Section 101 of title 43 of the Code of the
2 Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated) is hereby amended to
3 read as follows:

4 "Section 101. Short title. This chapter may be cited
5 as the [~~"Statistics and Census Act of 1988"~~]
6 Comprehensive National Census Act of 2026."

7 Section 2. Section 102 of title 43 of the Code of the
8 Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated) is hereby amended to
9 read as follows:

10 "Section 102. Definitions.

11 As used in this chapter, unless the context requires
12 another meaning or unless it is otherwise provided:

13 (1) "Census" means the Comprehensive National Census
14 as required under this chapter~~[a survey of all of the~~
15 ~~persons, owners, officials, agents, corporations,~~
16 ~~businesses, institutions, establishments or other~~
17 ~~organizations in field of inquiry];~~

1 (2) "Chief" means the Chief of the Division of
2 Statistics;

3 (3) "Citizen" means any person who is a citizen of
4 the Federated States of Micronesia under the laws of the
5 FSM.

6 (4) "Comprehensive National Census" means the
7 official count and survey of the population undertaken
8 pursuant to this Act, which includes all FSM citizens,
9 both resident and non-resident;

10 (5) [(3)] "Congress" means the Congress of the
11 Federated States of Micronesia;

12 (6) "Diaspora" refers to FSM citizens residing
13 outside of the FSM.

14 (7) [(4)] "Division of Statistics" means the Division
15 of Statistics within the Department of Resources and
16 Development [Office of Planning and Statistics] of the
17 Federated States of Micronesia;

18 (8) [(5)] "National Government" means the Government
19 of the Federated States of Micronesia;

20 ~~[(6) "National Planner" means the highest management~~
21 ~~official of the Office of Planning and Statistics of the~~
22 ~~Federated States of Micronesia;]~~

23 (9) [(7)] "President" means the President of the
24 Federated States of Micronesia;

25 (10) [(8)] "Respondent" includes a corporation,

1 company, association, firm, partnership, proprietorship,
2 society, joint stock company, individual, or other
3 organization or entity which reported or is required to
4 report, or on behalf of which information was reported,
5 in response to a questionnaire, inquiry, or other
6 request of the Division of Statistics;

7 (11) [(+9)] "Sample Survey" means a survey of some but
8 not all of the persons, owners, officials, agents,
9 corporations, businesses, institutions, establishments
10 or other organizations in a field of inquiry; [~~and~~]

11 (12) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the
12 Department of Resources and Development; and

13 (13) [(+10)] "State government" means the government of
14 any of the States of the Federated States of
15 Micronesia."

16 Section 3. Section 103 of title 43 of the Code of the
17 Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated) is hereby amended to
18 read as follows:

19 "Section 103. Statement of purpose and legislative
20 intent.

21 (a) The primary purpose of this chapter is as
22 follows:

23 (1) To define the functions and
24 responsibilities of the Division of Statistics;

25 (2) To authorize the Division of Statistics

1 to develop an integrated and comprehensive statistical
2 and census information system;

3 (3) To guarantee the confidentiality of data
4 collected by the Division of Statistics and other
5 departments and agencies of the National Government or
6 jointly by departments or agencies of the National and
7 State Governments; and

8 (4) To promote cooperation between the
9 National and State Governments with respect to the
10 improvement of recording and reporting of statistics in
11 the Federated States of Micronesia.

12 (b) Legislative intent: Congress also
13 recognizes that a significant number of citizens of the
14 Federated States of Micronesia reside abroad, forming a
15 vital part of the national community, and are currently
16 residing abroad, particularly in the United States. The
17 current national census framework does not
18 systematically capture comprehensive data on citizens
19 residing outside the FSM, limiting the Government's
20 understanding of its total population and resources.

21 (c) The FSM diaspora represents a substantial
22 reservoir of skills, knowledge, financial capital, and
23 cultural strength that can contribute significantly to
24 the nation's economic, social, and developmental
25 progress.

1 (d) On the basis of the above considerations, it
2 is the intent of this chapter to mandate a
3 Comprehensive National Census, inclusive of all
4 citizens, regardless of residence, which is essential
5 for accurate national planning, equitable resource
6 allocation, effective public policy formulation, and
7 the strengthening of national unity.

8 (e) engage, and facilitate the participation of
9 all its citizens in nation-building, whether they
10 reside within FSM or abroad."

11 Section 4. Section 106 of title 43 of the Code of the
12 Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated) is hereby amended to
13 read as follows:

14 "Section 106. Conduct of censuses and sample surveys
15 and collection of statistical data.

16 (a) The National Government, through the
17 Department of Resources and Development, in
18 collaboration with all FSM departments and agencies,
19 shall conduct a Comprehensive National Census every ten
20 years, or as otherwise mandated by Congress. The Census
21 shall, for the first time and thereafter, mandate the
22 inclusion of all FSM citizens, with explicit provisions
23 and methodologies for the enumeration of citizens
24 residing abroad (the diaspora).

25 (b) The methodologies for diaspora enumeration shall

1 consider available records from immigration, election
2 and civil registry. Methodologies may also include, but
3 not be limited to: online census portals, coordination
4 with FSM Embassies and Consulates, targeted outreach
5 through diaspora associations, and partnerships with
6 host-country statistical agencies where feasible and
7 lawful.

8 In order to conduct the censuses and sample surveys
9 and collect the statistical data as authorized [~~by~~
10 ~~sections 104 and 105 of]~~ in this chapter, the [~~National~~
11 ~~Planner, the]~~ Chief[, ~~or other employee of the Division~~
12 ~~of Statistics designated by the National Planner,~~] shall
13 be empowered to:

14 (1) Supply a schedule to any respondent and
15 require such respondent to supply to the best of his
16 knowledge, orally or in writing, all of the information
17 requested in the schedule in accordance with
18 instructions in the schedule or accompanying it, and
19 require that person to complete the schedule, if
20 necessary with the assistance of the [~~National Planner]~~
21 Chief or his designee, and to return the completed
22 schedule to the Chief [~~National Planner]~~ or his designee
23 by a specific date; and

24 (2) Ask any respondent orally or in writing
25 any questions necessary to obtain information for the

1 purpose of compiling statistical data or conducting a
2 census or sample survey as prescribed under this
3 chapter, and require the respondent to give, to the best
4 of his knowledge, written or oral answers to any such
5 questions."

6 Section 5. Section 109 of Chapter 1 of title 43 of the
7 Code of the Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated) is hereby
8 amended to read as follows:

9 "Section 109. Oath of employees.

10 The Secretary [~~National Planner~~], the Chief, and every
11 other person employed in carrying out the provisions of
12 this chapter shall take and subscribe the following oath:

13 "I solemnly swear that I will faithfully and honestly
14 fulfill my duties in accordance with the provisions of
15 the Statistics and Census Act of [~~1988~~] 2026, and that I
16 will not disclose or make known, except as authorized by
17 law, any information collected in a census or sample
18 survey which comes to my knowledge by reason of, or
19 through my employment by, or on behalf of any
20 governmental entity in the Federated States of
21 Micronesia."

22 The oath shall be taken, retained, and recorded in such
23 manner as the Chief shall determine."

24 Section 6. Section 114 Chapter 1 of title 43 of the Code of
25 the Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated) is hereby amended

1 by inserting a new section 115 to read as follows:

2 "Section 114. Administration of Chapter. The Secretary
3 ~~[National Planner]~~ shall be charged with the
4 administration of this chapter. The Secretary ~~[National~~
5 ~~Planner]~~ shall have all such authority as may be
6 reasonably necessary for the performance of any function
7 of the Division of Statistics or for the administration
8 of this chapter, including the authority to promulgate,
9 with approval by the President, such rules and
10 regulations as he deems necessary to conduct periodic
11 censuses or sample surveys or to otherwise effect the
12 administration of this chapter. Such rules and
13 regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with the
14 provisions of chapter 1 of title 17 of this code and
15 shall have the force and effect of law."

16 Section 7. Chapter 1 of title 43 of the Code of the
17 Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated) is hereby amended by
18 inserting a new section 115 to read as follows:

19 "Section 115. Scope of the Comprehensive National
20 Census.

21 The Comprehensive National Census shall collect, at a
22 minimum, the following information for all enumerated
23 citizens:

24 (a) Core Demographic Data: Name, age, gender, state
25 of origin, current residence (domestic or abroad).

(b) Socio-Economic Data: Educational attainment, occupational skills, employment status, industry of employment, and language proficiency.

(c) Diaspora-Specific Data: Country of residence, duration of residence abroad, legal status abroad, remittance patterns (frequency and estimated volume), interest in investing, returning, or engaging in professional/developmental projects within the FSM.

(d) Resource Analysis Data: As pertains to the nation's human capital, the census shall analyze data to assess the total skilled workforce, educational profile, and economic potential of the entire citizenry, forming a national human resources inventory of this nation."

Section 8. Chapter 1 of title 43 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated) is hereby amended by inserting a new section 116 to read as follows:

"Section 116. Data Utilization and Government Planning.

(a) The data collected from the Comprehensive National Census shall be consolidated, analyzed, and published in an official report by the Statistics Unit.

(b) All Government departments and agencies shall utilize this comprehensive data in their planning, policy development, and resource allocation exercises. This data shall provide, at a minimum, the baseline for:

(1) National and state development planning.

