S.R. NO. 112

MAR 1 0 2023

SENATE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE FACILITATION OF A PATH TO CITIZENSHIP FOR IMMIGRANTS FROM PARTIES TO THE COMPACTS OF FREE ASSOCIATION.

WHEREAS, the Compacts of Free Association are a series of treaties between the United States, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands; and

WHEREAS, these treaties were partially established as compensation for the loss of life, health, land, and resources due to the numerous nuclear weapons tests on the Marshall Islands and Bikini and Enewetak Atolls conducted by the United States from 1946 to 1958; and

WHEREAS, the Compacts allow citizens of Micronesia to live and legally work in the United States without visas, as well as have access to social and health services; and

WHEREAS, in return, the United States has sole access to and substantial military and veto power over areas of these island nations, which are considered of great strategic value; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, that the United States Congress is encouraged to facilitate a path to citizenship for immigrants from the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement is requested to refrain from deporting the aforementioned immigrants; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, members of Hawaii's congressional delegation,

and Director of United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

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OFFERED BY:

