

**House Natural Resources Committee Oversight Hearing on COFA Amendments Act**

**Questions for the VA**

- The Compact of Free Association Amendments Act was signed into law on March 9<sup>th</sup> of this year and includes provisions to address FAS veterans' lack of access to the health care benefits they have earned as the result of their service in the U.S. military. The law requires the VA beginning on the date of enactment to conduct robust outreach to and engage with each government of the Freely Associated States. It has been six months since the enactment. How many meetings has the VA held with each respective government since March?
- It has come to our attention that the VA has suggested it lacks sufficient appropriations to carry out these provisions. The CBO included a mandatory cost estimate for the VA provisions in the COFA Amendment Act. Can you please explain in detail to the committee what funding is needed and for what purposes?

**Questions for State and Interior**

- Have you been coordinating to help FAS governments resolve any implementation issues that have been brought to your attention? Have you been advocates for the FAS as they have tried to get U.S. agencies to do more, or have you been leaving implementation in their hands?

**Questions for FAS**

- Can you summarize any issues the FAS governments encountered relating to implementation since the bill passed?