

House Natural Resources Committee Hearing on Implementation of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2024 - January 2026

**Agency Questions**

- Can you provide an update on how Departments of State and Interior are progressing in implementing the authorities granted under the COFA Amendments Act?
- [STATE ONLY] The House National Security and Department of State FY 2026 appropriations bill encourages the Peace Corps' operations in the Pacific and outlines plans to expand its presence. The Peace Corps had been a major positive influence on U.S. relations with the FAS for many years. Is the State Department actively supporting the return of the Peace Corps to the RMI and the FSM?

**FSM/FAS Ambassador Questions**

- Why is it important for the United States to provide health care to veterans of U.S. military service who return to the FAS after their service in the U.S. military? What are the challenges for veterans who return to the FAS after service and don't have access to adequate health care?
- Given that Congress included funding for Head Start programs in FSM and RMI in recent appropriations bills, how is the process progressing?