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SEC. 209. UNITED STATES POLICY REGARDING THE FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES.

(a) Authorization for Veterans' Services.--

(1) Definition of freely associated states.--In this subsection, the term "Freely Associated States" means--

(A) the Federated States of Micronesia, during such time as it is a party to the Compact of Free Association set forth in section 201 of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-239; 48 U.S.C. 1901 note);

(B) the Republic of the Marshall Islands, during such time as it is a party to the Compact of Free Association set forth in section 201 of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-239; 48 U.S.C. 1901 note); and

(C) the Republic of Palau, during such time as it is a party to the Compact of Free Association between the United States and the Government of Palau set forth in section 201 of Joint Resolution entitled "Joint Resolution to approve the 'Compact of Free Association' between the United States and the Government of Palau, and for other purposes" (Public Law 99-658; 48 U.S.C. 1931 note).

(2) Hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care abroad.--Section 1724 of title 38, United States Code, is amended--

(A) in subsection (a), by striking "subsections (b) and (c)" and inserting "subsections (b), (c), and (f)"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(f)(1)(A) The Secretary may furnish hospital care and medical

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services in the Freely Associated States, subject to agreements the Secretary shall enter into with the governments of the Freely Associated States as described in section 209(a)(4)(A) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2024, and subject to subparagraph (B), to a veteran who is otherwise eligible to receive hospital care and medical services.

“(B) The agreements described in subparagraph (A) shall incorporate, to the extent practicable, the applicable laws of the Freely Associated States and define the care and services that can be legally provided by the Secretary in the Freely Associated States.

“(2) In furnishing hospital care and medical services under paragraph (1), the Secretary may furnish hospital care and medical services through--

“(A) contracts or other agreements;

“(B) reimbursement; or

“(C) the direct provision of care by health care personnel of the Department.

“(3) In furnishing hospital care and medical services under paragraph (1), the Secretary may furnish hospital care and medical services for any condition regardless of whether the condition is connected to the service of the veteran in the Armed Forces.

“(4)(A) A veteran who has received hospital care or medical services in a country pursuant to this subsection shall remain eligible, to the extent determined advisable and practicable by the Secretary, for hospital care or medical services in that country regardless of whether the country continues to qualify as a Freely

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Associated State for purposes of this subsection.

“(B) If the Secretary determines it is no longer advisable or practicable to allow veterans described in subparagraph (A) to remain eligible for hospital care or medical services pursuant to such subparagraph, the Secretary shall--

“(i) provide direct notice of that determination to such veterans; and

“(ii) publish that determination and the reasons for that determination in the Federal Register.

“(5) In this subsection, the term ‘Freely Associated States’ means--

“(A) the Federated States of Micronesia, during such time as it is a party to the Compact of Free Association set forth in section 201 of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-239; 48 U.S.C. 1901 note);

“(B) the Republic of the Marshall Islands, during such time as it is a party to the Compact of Free Association set forth in section 201 of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-239; 48 U.S.C. 1901 note); and

“(C) the Republic of Palau, during such time as it is a party to the Compact of Free Association between the United States and the Government of Palau set forth in section 201 of Joint Resolution entitled ‘Joint Resolution to approve the ‘Compact of Free Association’ between the United States and the Government of Palau, and for other purposes’ (Public Law 99-658; 48 U.S.C. 1931 note).”.

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(3) Beneficiary travel.--Section 111 of title 38, United States

Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(h)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may make payments to or for any person traveling in, to, or from the Freely Associated States for receipt of care or services authorized to be legally provided by the Secretary in the Freely Associated States under section 1724(f)(1) of this title.

“(2) A person who has received payment for travel in a country pursuant to this subsection shall remain eligible for payment for such travel in that country regardless of whether the country continues to qualify as a Freely Associated State for purposes of this subsection.

“(3) The Secretary shall prescribe regulations to carry out this subsection.

“(4) In this subsection, the term ‘Freely Associated States’ means--

“(A) the Federated States of Micronesia, during such time as it is a party to the Compact of Free Association set forth in section 201 of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-239; 48 U.S.C. 1901 note);

“(B) the Republic of the Marshall Islands, during such time as it is a party to the Compact of Free Association set forth in section 201 of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-239; 48 U.S.C. 1901 note); and

“(C) the Republic of Palau, during such time as it is a party to the Compact of Free Association between the United States and the Government of Palau set forth in section 201 of Joint

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Resolution entitled "Joint Resolution to approve the "Compact of Free Association" between the United States and the Government of Palau, and for other purposes" (Public Law 99-658; 48 U.S.C. 1931 note)."

(4) Legal issues.--

(A) Agreements to furnish care and services.--

(i) In general.--Before delivering hospital care or medical services under subsection (f) of section 1724 of title 38, United States Code, as added by paragraph (2)(B), the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall enter into agreements with the governments of the Freely Associated States to--

(I) facilitate the furnishing of health services, including telehealth, under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to veterans in the Freely Associated States, such as by addressing--

(aa) licensure, certification, registration, and tort issues relating to health care personnel;

(bb) the scope of health services the Secretary may furnish, as well as the means for furnishing such services; and

(cc) matters relating to delivery of pharmaceutical products and medical surgical products, including delivery of such products

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through the Consolidated Mail Outpatient Pharmacy
of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to the
Freely Associated States;

(II) clarify the authority of the Secretary of
Veterans Affairs to pay for tort claims as set forth
under subparagraph (C); and

(III) clarify authority and responsibility on any
other matters determined relevant by the Secretary of
Veterans Affairs or the governments of the Freely
Associated States.

(ii) Scope of agreements.--The agreements described in
clause (i) shall incorporate, to the extent practicable,
the applicable laws of the Freely Associated States and
define the care and services that can be legally provided
by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in the Freely
Associated States.

(iii) Report to congress.--

(I) In general.--Not later than 90 days after
entering into an agreement described in clause (i), the
Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit the
agreement to the appropriate committees of Congress.

(II) Appropriate committees of congress defined.--
In this clause, the term ``appropriate committees of

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Congress" means--

(aa) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate; and

(bb) the Committee on Natural Resources, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(B) Licensure of health care professionals providing treatment via telemedicine in the freely associated states.-- Section 1730C(a) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking ``any State" and inserting ``any State or any of the Freely Associated States (as defined in section 1724(f) of this title)".

(C) Payment of claims.--The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may pay tort claims, in the manner authorized in the first paragraph of section 2672 of title 28, United States Code, when such claims arise in the Freely Associated States in connection with furnishing hospital care or medical services or providing medical consultation or medical advice to a veteran under the laws administered by the Secretary, including through a remote or telehealth program.

(5) Outreach and assessment of options.--During the 1-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall, subject to the availability of

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appropriations--

(A) conduct robust outreach to, and engage with, each government of the Freely Associated States;

(B) assess options for the delivery of care through the use of authorities provided pursuant to the amendments made by this subsection; and

(C) increase staffing as necessary to conduct outreach under subparagraph (A).

SEC. 211. COMPACT APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) FUNDING FOR ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.—For the period of fiscal years 2024 through 2043, there are appropriated to the Compact of Free Association account of the Department of the Interior, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to remain available until expended, the amounts described in and to carry out the purposes of—

(1) sections 261, 265, and 266 of the 2023 Amended U.S.- FSM Compact;

(2) sections 261, 265, and 266 of the 2023 Amended U.S.- RMI Compact; and

(3) Articles 1, 2, and 3 of the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement.

(b) FUNDING FOR ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE.— (1) APPROPRIATION.—There is appropriated to the United States Postal Service, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated for each of fiscal years 2024 through 2043, \$31,700,000, to remain available until expended, to carry.....