



REPUBLIC OF PALAU
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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The Honorable Bruce Westerman
Chairman
Committee on Natural Resources
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for all that you and your staff have done in the development of the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Reconciliation Bill to ensure that the Government and citizens of Palau receive all of the assistance provided for in the 2023 Compact of Free Association Review Agreement and the 2024 Compact Amendments Act. This not only includes the aid within the jurisdiction of your Committee, but the eligibility for programs within the jurisdiction of other committees, including that of Palauans in the United States.

I am aware of the great work done in this regard by Indian and Insular Affairs Subcommittee Staff Director Ken Degenfelder but know that it takes a team effort to succeed and appreciate what all involved have done.

As the U.S. Government makes major changes in its fiscal policies, you and your staff are solidifying the deeper bonds that we forged for the greater security and prosperity of both of our nations.

Sincerely,


Surangel S. Whipps, Jr.
President of the Republic of Palau

This material is disturbed by Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld on behalf of the Republic of Palau. Additional Information is on file with the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.
