

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 3

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas the Republic of the Marshall Islands—

(1) is a sovereign country in free association with the United States under the Compact of Free Association between the Government of the United States and the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands (referred to in this preamble as the “Compact”), approved in the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (Public Law 99–239; 99 Stat. 1770) and amended by the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–188; 117 Stat. 2720), which authorizes economic assistance, through Federal grants and programs, to persons in the Republic of the Marshall Islands; and

(2) has full authority and responsibility over security and defense matters relating to the Republic of the Marshall Islands;

Whereas, under the Compact, eligible citizens of the Republic of the Marshall Islands may reside, work, and study in the United States without a visa and may serve in the Armed Forces of the United States;

Whereas an estimated $\frac{1}{3}$ of the population of the Republic of the Marshall Islands has relocated to the United States; and

Whereas Marshallese individuals who live in the United States—

(1) offer positive economic and cultural benefits to the communities in which those individuals live;

(2) pay Federal and State taxes but are not eligible for benefits under—

(A) the Medicare program established under title XVIII of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.); or

(B) the Medicaid program established under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.); and

(3) were undercounted in the 2010 census and, as a result, areas where those individuals live are underserved by the Federal Government: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring), That Congress—*

3 (1) commends—

4 (A) the rich history and heritage of the
5 Republic of the Marshall Islands; and

6 (B) citizens of the Republic of the Mar-
7 shall Islands who live in the United States for
8 the contributions of those individuals to—

9 (i) the communities in which those in-
10 dividuals live; and

11 (ii) the national defense of the United
12 States through their service in the Armed
13 Forces of the United States;

14 (2) recognizes the strategic importance of the
15 Republic of the Marshall Islands; and

1 (3) encourages a continued commitment to im-
2 prove census data to better serve citizens of the Re-
3 public of the Marshall Islands who live in the United
4 States.

 Passed the Senate May 23 (legislative day, May 22),
2019.

Attest:

Secretary.

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Recognizing the rich history, heritage, and strategic importance of the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Marshallese population residing in the United States.