



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240



JUN 29 2009

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. President:

Section 104(e)(8) of Public Law 108-188 authorizes the Governors of Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) and Hawaii to submit annual reports on the impact of the Compacts of Free Association on their respective jurisdictions due to the residence of migrants from the freely associated states (FAS) of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Republic of Palau. Guam submitted such a report for fiscal years 2004 through 2008; please find it enclosed.

As authorized in Public Law 108-188, the Department of the Interior distributes \$30 million annually among the three territories and Hawaii to aid in defraying costs incurred by these jurisdictions as a result of the compacts. In order to properly allocate these funds, the law authorizes an enumeration every five years. The most recent enumeration completed by the Bureau of the Census will be the basis for distribution of the \$30 million in compact impact funds for fiscal year 2010. Based on census estimates, Guam hosts 18,305 FAS citizens; American Samoa, 15; the CNMI, 2,100; and Hawaii, 12,215.

Public Law 108-188 also requests trade information on exports of tuna from the FSM and the RMI to the United States. At present, there are no FSM or RMI commercial exports of canned tuna to the United States and therefore no affect on the economy of American Samoa. Due to market conditions and minimum wage considerations, one of American Samoa's two canneries has suspended operations and announced that it is closing by October 2009.

Sincerely,

Nikolao I. Pula, Jr.
Director
Office of Insular Affairs

Enclosure