

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4442

To provide consultations for the development of Articles of Relations and Self-Government for insular areas of the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 17, 1994

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To provide consultations for the development of Articles of Relations and Self-Government for insular areas of the United States.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that:

5 (1) The United States of America has long been
6 committed to making it possible for all peoples to ex-
7 ercise their inherent rights of self-government.

8 (2) While the nearly four million citizens of the
9 insular areas of the United States of America are
10 United States citizens (or, in the case of American

1 Samoa, United States nationals) and have achieved
2 local self-government, they do not fully participate in
3 the Federal decisionmaking process although they
4 are subject to Federal laws, rules, and regulations.

5 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

6 The purpose of this Act is to provide a process where-
7 by the citizens of United States insular areas can achieve
8 a full measure of self-government through political inte-
9 gration into the United States or through another ar-
10 rangement with the United States.

11 **SEC. 3. ARTICLES OF RELATIONS AND SELF-GOVERNMENT.**

12 (a) GENERAL AUTHORIZATION.—Before December
13 31, 1998, the President and the government of an insular
14 area may develop, and submit to the Congress, proposed
15 measures to enable the citizens of the insular area to exer-
16 cise greater powers of self-government or greater partici-
17 pation in the Federal system.

18 (b) APPOINTMENT OF UNITED STATES REPRESENT-
19 ATIVE.—At the request of the government of an insular
20 area transmitted not later than December 31, 1997, the
21 President shall designate a personal representative to con-
22 sult and develop in good faith with representatives des-
23 igned by the government of the area, Articles of Rela-
24 tions and Self-Government.

1 (c) SUBMISSION DEADLINE.—The proposed Articles
2 and a report on the consultations shall be submitted to
3 the Congress within one year after the appointment of a
4 representative under subsection (b).

5 (d) RATIFICATION.—Upon enactment of a resolution
6 approving the proposed Articles, the legislation shall be
7 submitted to the citizens of the insular area in a plebiscite
8 organized by the government of the insular area and shall
9 take effect in accordance with the terms of such resolution
10 if ratified by a majority vote in that plebiscite.

11 (e) INSULAR AREA DEFINED.—For the purpose of
12 this Act, the term “insular area” includes American
13 Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mari-
14 ana Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the
15 Virgin Islands.

16 **SEC. 4. GENERAL INSULAR AREAS PROCESSES.**

17 The process for developing the status of insular areas
18 provided for by this Act shall be in addition to any other
19 process for addressing issues in the relationship between
20 the United States and an insular area established by or
21 initiated pursuant to any other Federal or insular area
22 Act and enactment of this Act is not intended to prevent
23 or limit such efforts.

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