



# Association of Pacific Island Legislatures

American Samoa  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
FSM, State of Chuuk  
FSM, State of Kosrae  
FSM, State of Pohnpei  
FSM, State of Yap  
Island of Guam  
Republic of Kiribati  
Republic of the Marshall Islands  
Republic of Nauru  
Republic of Palau  
State of Hawaii

## A RESOLUTION

### Resolution No. 38-GA-04

**“Relative to expressing the support of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures for the passage of United States Senate S.947, also known as the “The Radiation Exposure Compensation Act amendments of 2019.”**

1           **WHEREAS**, the United States Government conducted nuclear testing on a number of  
2 sites in the Marshall Islands and other sites in the Pacific Ocean between 1946 and 1962;  
3 and

4           **WHEREAS**, radioactive fallout from the first thermonuclear hydrogen bomb, which  
5 was detonated on October 31, 1952, was released into the atmosphere for 24 hours; and

6           **WHEREAS**, on the descent back to earth, these radioactive particles were carried  
7 through jet streams to locations over a thousand miles away; and

8           **WHEREAS**, the location where these radioactive particles have been released  
9 includes Guam, as well as potentially other locations within the Blue Continent; and

10          **WHEREAS**, ships that were present in the Marshall Islands during the radioactive  
11 testing were then decontaminated on Guam, where runoff from the operation affected the  
12 marine life; and

13          **WHEREAS**, there is recorded evidence through the testimony of U.S. Navy  
14 Lieutenant Charles Schreiber who was a Radiological Safety Officer connected with the  
15 tests, that on November 3, 1952, he had observed the presence of measured radioactive  
16 exposure on Guam; and

17          **WHEREAS**, the local residents of Guam, as well as other Member-Jurisdictions of  
18 the Blue Continent that were potentially affected, were never informed of the risks associated  
19 with the tests conducted in our region; and

20          **WHEREAS**, On October 15<sup>th</sup>, 1990, former President George H. Bush signed into  
21 law H.R. 2372 (Public Law 101-426), relative to the “Radiation Exposure Compensation Act  
22 (RECA)”; and

1       **WHEREAS**, RECA covered those who were affected by nuclear fallout during  
2 atmospheric testing in Nevada, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands; and

3       **WHEREAS**, on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019, the eighth version of RECA was introduced by  
4 Senators Mike Crapo, Jim Risch, Tom Udall, Martin Heinrich, Mike Bennet and Cory  
5 Booker; and

6       **WHEREAS**, this eighth amendment to RECA would include coverage to  
7 downwinders living on Guam; now, therefore,

8       **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 38<sup>th</sup> General  
9 Assembly, Republic of the Marshall Islands, July 23-26, 2019, that the Association of Pacific  
10 Island Legislatures hereby unequivocally supports the proposed amendments to RECA; and

11       **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL President shall certify and the APIL  
12 Secretary shall attest to the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same shall thereafter be  
13 transmitted to the President of the Senate of the U.S. Congress, to the Speaker of the House  
14 of Representatives of the U.S. Congress, to the sponsors of “the Radiation Exposure  
15 Compensation Act amendments of 2019”, and to the Chief Executive and the Legislative  
16 Presiding Officers of each Member Jurisdiction of the Association of Pacific Island  
17 Legislatures.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 26<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JULY, 2019.**

  
**NELSON STEPHEN**  
**ACTING PRESIDENT**

  
**IVAN A. BLANCO**  
**SECRETARY**

