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PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Update on the Medicaid Restoration

**Public Announcement No. 21-02
January 13, 2021**

In consultations with the U.S. Department of Health & Human Service (HHS), the Embassy is delighted to post the following announcement as an update to the Medicaid Restoration for citizens of the FSM residing in the U.S.

In accordance with the Omnibus Appropriations Bill of 2021

- Citizens of the Freely Associated States living in the 50 states and DC will no longer be excluded from the Medicaid Programs in those states.
- Territories' governors have the option to no longer exclude citizens of the Freely Associated States living in the US territories from their Medicaid programs. The Governors will need to communicate this to the HHS Secretary.
- Citizens of COFA nations should benefit from these changes as soon as states can update their eligibility procedures and they are enrolled. The bill reads "The amendments made by this section shall apply to benefits for items and services furnished on or after the date of the enactment of this Act".
- If COFA citizens now seek to renew or enroll for the first time in Healthcare.gov, and through that process it is determined that they qualify for Medicaid, they will be directed to the state Medicaid Office to apply for that program. In most cases they will have more comprehensive coverage at no or little cost.

Procedures for citizens of COFA nations to enroll in State Medicaid Programs

- Each state and territory have its own process for Medicaid enrollment and people seeking coverage should contact their state Medicaid enrollment office. In many states this is handled at the county level.

Citizens may also contact the Embassy of the Federated States of Micronesia in D.C. at (202)223-4383 if they have any questions or kindly refer to or contact the three FSM Consulates in Portland (503)954-3710, Honolulu (808)836-4775, and Guam (671)646-9154.