



EMBASSY OF THE  
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*Office of  
the Ambassador*

February 22, 2021

Liz Ritcher  
Acting Administrator  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
Hubert H. Humphrey Building  
200 Independence Ave. SW  
Washington, D.C. 2021

Dear Acting Administrator Ritcher:

I write in support of a February 5<sup>th</sup> letter to you from the Hawaii Congressional Delegation, in regards to the recent action of the U.S. Congress (December 2020) enacting a long overdue fix to restore Medicaid access to citizens of the Freely Associated States (FAS) including the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM). We are grateful for the enactment of this law especially during this challenging time of the coronavirus pandemic.

As we continue to monitor how the pandemic has disproportionately impacted citizens of the FAS countries (Palau, the Marshall Islands, and the FSM), we become aware that a full nationwide implementation of this Medicaid restoration is very much needed. In this regard, we would like to join the Hawaii Congressional Delegation in appealing to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for a timely and expeditious action for full implementation of the law. We look to CMS to provide the needed guidance and technical assistances to the respective States and territories so they can be in position to move toward full restoration of Medicaid to FAS citizens anywhere in the United States.

As the law is specific to the welfare of our citizens, we would appreciate if we can be kept in the loop on your plans and timeline to move this matter to full implementation. Thank you in advance for the support you continue to provide the citizens of the FAS countries. We look forward to continue working with you.

Sincerely,

Akillino H. Susaia  
Ambassador  
Federated States of Micronesia