

SEVENTH CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA  
CONGRESSIONAL BILL NO. 7-241, C.D.1,

PUBLIC LAW 7-118

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AN ACT

To further amend the Federated States of Micronesia Social Security Act, codified as subtitle II of title 53 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia, as amended by Public Laws Nos. 5-120 and 6-111, by further amending section 603, as amended by Public Law No. 5-120, and by further amending section 804, as amended by Public Law No. 5-120, to make changes in the Social Security law, and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA:

1 Section 1. Section 603 of title 53 of the Code of the Federated  
2 States of Micronesia, as amended by Public Law No. 5-120, is hereby  
3 further amended to read as follows:

4 "Section 603. Definitions. In this chapter, unless the  
5 context otherwise requires, the following definitions shall  
6 be applicable:

7 (1) 'Became disabled' means the first month in which  
8 an individual is under a disability and is both fully and  
9 currently insured.

10 (2) 'Board' means the Federated States of Micronesia  
11 Social Security Board provided for by section 701 of this  
12 subtitle.

13 (3) 'Child or spouse' means that an applicant is the  
14 child or spouse of an individual if the court of the State  
15 in which the individual was domiciled at the time of his  
16 death has or would find the applicant to be the  
17 individual's child or spouse in determining the devolution  
18 of interstate personal property.

19 (4) 'Contributions' means the tax imposed upon income  
20 of covered employees and the tax imposed upon employers on  
21 account of wages paid to a covered employee.

22 (5) 'Disability' means inability to engage in any

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1 substantial gainful employment by reason of any medically  
2 determinable physical or mental impairment which can be  
3 expected to result in death or which has lasted or can be  
4 expected to last for a continuous period of not less than  
5 twelve months.

6 (6) 'Earning test' means that an individual who  
7 receives a retirement, disability, or survivor benefit and  
8 who works in covered or noncovered employment shall have  
9 his quarterly benefit reduced by one dollar for each two  
10 dollars earned in a quarter, except there shall be no  
11 reduction for the first \$300 earned in a quarter. The  
12 reduction shall be applied in one of the subsequent two  
13 quarters immediately after the quarter in which the  
14 earnings were made, or as soon as possible thereafter.

15 (7) 'Employee' means:

16 (a) any officer of a corporation; or

17 (b) any individual who, under the usual common  
18 law rules applicable in determining the employer-employee  
19 relationship, has the status of an employee; or

20 (c) any self-employed person who has at least  
21 one employee for whom he is required to report in a given  
22 quarter; or

23 (d) any self-employed person who had more than  
24 \$10,000 of annual gross revenue in the preceding calendar  
25 year.

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1           (8) 'Employment' means any service by an employee for  
2           an employer incorporated or doing business within the  
3           Federated States of Micronesia employing him, irrespective  
4           of where such employment is performed, except family  
5           employment.

6           (9) 'Family employment' means employment of a worker  
7           by a member of the household, a parent or a son or daughter  
8           except that the worker may apply to the Board for a  
9           determination that such employment is bona fide covered  
10          employment subject to this subtitle.

11          (10) 'Insured status' can mean any of the following:

12           (a) 'Currently insured individual' means any  
13           individual who has had not less than eight quarters of  
14           coverage during the thirteen quarter period ending with:

15                   (i) the quarter in which he died; or

16                   (ii) the quarter in which he became  
17           entitled to old age insurance benefits; or

18                   (iii) the quarter in which he became  
19           disabled, whichever first occurs.

20           (b) 'Fully insured individual' means any  
21           individual who has not less than one quarter of coverage  
22           for each year beginning after June 30, 1968, or for each  
23           year after attaining the age of twenty-one, whichever is  
24           later, and up to but excluding the year in which he  
25           attained retirement age, became disabled, or died,

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1           whichever first occurred, except that in no case shall an  
2           individual be a fully insured individual unless he has at  
3           least twelve quarters of coverage.

4           (11) 'Quarter' and 'calendar quarter' mean a period of  
5           three calendar months ending on March 31st, June 30th,  
6           September 30th, or December 31st. 'Quarter of coverage'  
7           means a quarter in which the individual has been paid fifty  
8           dollars or more in wages in employment subject to this  
9           subtitle.

10          (12) 'Wages' means remuneration paid subject to the  
11          provisions of this subtitle, including the cash value of  
12          all remuneration paid in any medium other than cash and  
13          remuneration accruing to a self-employed person.  
14          Remuneration accruing to a self-employed person shall be  
15          deemed to be twice the amount paid to the highest paid  
16          employee reported by the self-employed person in a quarter,  
17          \$3,000 maximum per quarter. Remuneration accruing to  
18          a self-employed person who has no covered employees shall,  
19          for each quarter of a year, be deemed to be 2.5 percent of  
20          the gross revenue of the business for the previous calendar  
21          year, subject to \$3,000 maximum. Remuneration paid  
22          for any service which is more or less than a whole dollar  
23          shall, as may be prescribed by regulations, be computed to  
24          the nearest dollar. Wages shall not include:

25                 (a) that part of remuneration in excess of

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1           \$3,000 paid in a quarterly reporting period by one employer;

2                   (b) any payment on account of sickness or  
3           accident disability, or medical or hospitalization expenses  
4           made by an employer to or on behalf of an employee;

5                   (c) any payment made to or on behalf of an employee  
6           or to the employee's beneficiary from a trust or annuity;

7                   (d) remuneration paid in any medium other than  
8           cash to an employee for service not in the course of the  
9           employer's trade or business or for domestic service in a  
10          private home of an employer;

11                  (e) remuneration paid for casual or intermittent  
12          labor not performed in the course of the employer's trade  
13          or business when such employment does not exceed employment  
14          in more than one week in each calendar month of each  
15          quarterly reporting period; and

16                  (f) remuneration from family employment subject  
17          to the provisions of this subtitle."

18          Section 2. Section 804 of title 53 of the Code of the Federated  
19          States of Micronesia, as amended by Public Law No. 5-120, is hereby  
20          further amended to read as follows:

21                  "Section 804. Amount of retirement and disability insurance  
22                  benefits.

23                  (1) An insured eligible individual shall be paid a  
24                  monthly old age benefit for life, except for any month of  
25                  disqualification as provided by this subtitle, in an

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1 amount calculated upon an annual basis of 16.5 percent of  
2 the first \$10,000 of cumulative covered earnings, plus  
3 3 percent of cumulative covered earnings in excess of  
4 \$10,000 but not in excess of the next \$30,000, plus 2  
5 percent of cumulative covered earnings in excess of \$40,000.  
6 Earnings for employment after commencement of payments for  
7 retirement or disability insurance benefits shall be included  
8 in benefit calculations upon subsequent application for  
9 benefits, but such earnings shall be applicable for benefits  
10 for months after the calendar year in which such earnings  
11 occurred. For the purpose of this section cumulative  
12 covered earnings includes earnings on which contributions  
13 have been paid by the individual to the Trust Territory  
14 Social Security System.

15 (2) An insured, eligible individual shall be paid a  
16 minimum monthly benefit of fifty dollars if the benefit amount  
17 calculated in accordance with subsection (1) of this section  
18 is less than fifty dollars monthly.

19 (3) An individual who is both fully and currently  
20 insured and who has been under a disability for three full  
21 calendar months shall be paid a monthly benefit for life or  
22 until recovery from the disability, except for any month of  
23 disqualification as provided by this subtitle in an amount  
24 calculated in accordance with the preceding subsections of  
25 this section. Further, the amount of the benefit as so

