TWENTY-SECOND CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

FIFTH SPECIAL SESSION, 2022

C.B. NO. 22-225

A BILL FOR AN ACT

To amend chapter 8 of title 53 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated), by amending section 802 thereof, in order to limit surviving spouse benefits, by amending section 803 thereof, in order to limit surviving dependents' benefits, and for other purposes. BEI IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA: 2 Section 1. Section 802 of title 53 of the Code of the 3 Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated) is hereby amended to 4 read as follows: 5 "Section 802. Surviving spouse benefits. 6 Every surviving spouse who: (1)was married to an individual who died 7 (a) 8 fully insured; and 9 files an application (b) 10 shall be entitled to a surviving spouse insurance 11 benefit, subject to the earnings test as defined in this 12 subtitle. 13 Surviving spouse benefit payments shall be (2) 14 paid for each month commencing with the month of death 15 of the fully insured spouse and ending when the 16 employer-employee social security tax contributions from 17 the individual who died fully insured are exhausted or 18 [ending with] the month preceding the month in which the 19 surviving spouse dies or remarries, whichever occurs

1 first. 2 (3) Notwithstanding the provision of subsection (1) 3 and (2) of this section, retroactive payments shall be limited to the 12 months immediately preceding the month 4 in which the surviving spouse has submitted an 5 6 application." Section 803 of title 53 of the Code of the 7 Section 2. Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated) is hereby amended to 8 read as follows: 9 "Section 803. Dependent's benefits. 10 11 (1) Every surviving child who: 12 (a) was dependent upon an individual who died 13 fully insured or currently insured; and 14 (b) has filed a complete application with the 15 Social Security Administrator for survivor's insurance; 16 shall be entitled to a surviving child's insurance 17 benefit, subject to the earnings test as defined in this subtitle. 18 (2) A surviving child's insurance benefit shall be 19 paid for each month beginning with the month of death of 20 21 the individual who died fully insured or currently 22 insured and shall end with the month preceding the month 23 which contains the first to occur of the following 24 events: 25 (a) attainment of age 22 in the case of a

1 surviving child who is a bona fide student; or 2 (b) ceasing to be disabled after attainment of 3 age 18 in the case of a surviving child who was disabled before attainment of age 22; or 4 (c) attainment of age 18 in the case of any 5 6 surviving child not described in preceding paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection, except that benefits 7 shall be payable during the disability of a surviving 8 9 child who was disabled before the attainment of age 22 10 regardless of the child's age; or 11 (d) marriage; [or] 12 (e) adoption; or 13 (f) when the employer-employee social security 14 tax contributions from the individual who died fully 15 insured are exhausted. 16 (3) A surviving child shall be deemed to have been 17 dependent upon his parent or adopting parent unless that parent or adopting parent was not living in the same 18 household with or contributing to the support of such 19 20 child prior to his death. The child's insurance benefit 21 shall be paid to the individual upon whom the child is currently dependent, except such benefit shall be 22 23 subject to the earnings test as defined in this 24 subtitle. 25 (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections

| 1 | (1) and (2) of this section, retroactive payments shall |
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| 2 | be limited to the 12 months immediately preceding the |
| 3 | month in which the surviving child or the surviving |
| 4 | child's guardian has submitted an application." |
| 5 | Section 3. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2023. |
| 6 | Section 4. This act shall become law upon approval by the |
| 7 | President of the Federated States of Micronesia or upon its |
| 8 | becoming law without such approval. |
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| 10 | Date: 7/20/22 Introduced by: /s/ Ferny S. Perman |
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