



20 July 2007

Ms. Helaine M. Barnett
President
Legal Services Corporation
3333 K St., N.W.
Washington, DC 20007

Dear Ms. Barnett:

It has come to my attention that the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) will meet at the end of this month to consider, among other matters, possible changes to the Corporation's regulations on the eligibility of the citizens of the freely associated states (FAS) for legal services. I understand the Office of Insular Affairs, Department of the Interior is in full support of this regulation change, and will request in writing for this change.

The FAS citizens are eligible under their respective compacts to receive legal assistance from LSC through funding to Micronesian Legal Services Corporation. Citizens of the FAS who reside legally in the United States and its territories should be eligible to receive such assistance if they so qualified. The Congress has recognized this and has introduced a Compact related legislation (S. 283) to include this eligibility. The Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation can effectuate this change without having to wait for the passage of this bill.

Accordingly, I respectfully request your support and assistance in this effort.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Hersey Kyota
Ambassador

Cc: Mattie Cohan
Senior Assistant General Counsel, LSC