

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3940

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 8, 2009

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources

AN ACT

To amend Public Law 96–597 to clarify the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to extend grants and other assistance to facilitate political status public education programs for the peoples of the non-self-governing territories of the United States.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

2 Congress reaffirms that it is the responsibility of the
3 Secretary of the Interior to advance the economic, social,
4 and political development of the territories of the United
5 States.

6 **SEC. 2. ASSISTANCE FOR POLITICAL STATUS PUBLIC EDU-**
7 **CATION PROGRAMS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 601 of the Act entitled
9 “An Act to authorize appropriations for certain insular
10 areas of the United States, and for other purposes”, ap-
11 proved December 24, 1980 (48 U.S.C. 1469d), is amend-
12 ed—

13 (1) by redesignating subsections (b) through (d)
14 as subsections (c) through (e), respectively; and

15 (2) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
16 lowing new subsection:

17 “(b) The Secretary of the Interior may extend to the
18 governments of American Samoa, Guam, and the United
19 States Virgin Islands, and their agencies and instrumen-
20 talities, assistance, including assistance in the form of
21 grants, research, planning assistance, studies, and agree-
22 ments with Federal agencies, to facilitate public education
23 programs regarding political status options for their re-
24 spective territories.”.

25 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
26 19(a)(2)(C) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.

1 2028(a)(2)(C)) is amended by striking “section 601(c) of
2 Public Law 96–597 (48 U.S.C. 1469d(e))” and inserting
3 “section 601(d) of Public Law 96–597 (48 U.S.C.
4 1469d(d))”.

Passed the House of Representatives December 7,
2009.

Attest:

LORRAINE C. MILLER,

Clerk.