



**SAIPAN AND NORTHERN ISLANDS LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION
SIXTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 2008

Saipan Local Law 16-8
HOUSE LOCAL BILL No. 16-22, D2

**A LOCAL BILL FOR AN ACT
FOR THE THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT**

To authorize SHEFA financial assistance for students who have not obtained a high school diploma or its equivalent, yet are simultaneously enrolled in a high school or a high school equivalency program and who are enrolled in a trade institution such as the Northern Marianas Trades Institute; amend 10 CMC § 3921(e) and § 3922; and for other purposes.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT DELEGATION PURSUANT
TO CHAPTER 4, DIVISION 1, TITLE 1 OF THE COMMONWEALTH CODE:**

1 **Section 1. Purpose and Findings.** The Third Senatorial District Delegation finds that
2 scholarships, SHEFA and CNMI Scholarship, are available for those who have obtained a high school
3 diploma or high school equivalent diploma. However, there is no financial assistance to those who
4 have yet to complete their high school education. The Delegation is cognizant that many in our
5 community are still working to complete their high school education have the strong desire to learn a
6 skill or trade so that they become employable. It is time to focus some attention to those left out and
7 provide the incentive to persuade some, if not all, to enter a trade program.

8 The purpose of this Act is to allow financial assistance for those who have yet to complete their
9 high school education and are enrolled in a trade-type institution. In addition, to provide for the term
10 expiration of the board members by amending 10 CMC § 3922.

11 **Section 2.** The SHEFA financial assistance as defined under 10 CMC § 3921(c) shall also be
12 available for students who have not obtained a high school diploma or its equivalent, yet are
13 simultaneously enrolled in a high school or a high school equivalency program and are enrolled in a
14 trades-type institution such as the Northern Marianas Trades Institute.

1 **Section 3. Amendment.** 10 CMC § 3921(e) is amended to read as follows:

2 “(e) ‘*Resident*’ means a person who is a United States citizen or a
3 United States permanent resident, who has resided in the municipality
4 of Saipan for at least a year before applying for financial assistance
5 administered by the board and who is attending or has been accepted
6 for enrollment at an institution of higher education or simultaneously
7 enrolled in a high school or a high school equivalency program and a
8 trades-type institution such as the Northern Marianas Trade Institute
9 in the CNMI or outside the CNMI. The residency requirement may be
10 met by proof of a parent residing on Saipan for the requisite period.”

11 **Section 4. Amendment.** 10 CMC § 3922 is amended to read as follows:

12 “**§ 3922. Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance Board:**

13 **Establishment.** There is hereby established, within the Office of the Mayor of
14 Saipan, a Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance Board, to be composed
15 of five members who shall serve for a term of two years. All members shall be
16 eligible to vote in the CNMI, be at least 21 years of age, and be residents of Saipan
17 for at least three years immediately prior to appointment. The Mayor of Saipan
18 shall appoint members of the board subject to confirmation by the Saipan and
19 Northern Islands Legislative Delegation. The board shall choose a chairperson
20 among its members to preside over board meetings. It also may establish
21 committees necessary for the conduct of its business and prescribe by regulation
22 procedures to govern meetings.

23 “Provided the terms of the initial members shall be staggered when the
24 board is first established. Three members term shall expire in two years, the other
25 two shall expire in three years, except that in the case of a prior vacancy, an
26 appointment shall be only for the length of the unexpired term. ~~Each member of~~
27 ~~the board shall hold office until his or her successor has been appointed and~~

1 ~~has qualified.~~ Upon the expiration of the term of a board member, the board
2 member shall cease to be a member unless reappointed and confirmed pursuant
3 to this section. The members shall draw lots to determine which term the
4 members shall serve.”

5 **Section 4. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or the application of any such provision
6 to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder
7 of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is
8 held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

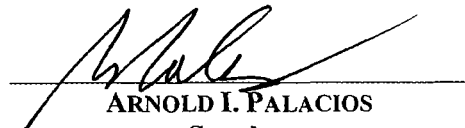
9 **Section 5. Savings Clause.** This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be construed
10 as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes repealed or under any
11 rule, regulation or order adopted under the statutes. Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect any
12 proceeding instituted under or pursuant to prior law. The enactment of this Act shall not have the effect
13 of terminating, or in any way modifying, any liability civil or criminal, which shall already be in
14 existence at the date this Act becomes effective.

15 **Section 6. Effective Date.** This Act shall take effect, upon approval by the Governor or upon
16 its becoming law without such approval.

CERTIFIED BY:

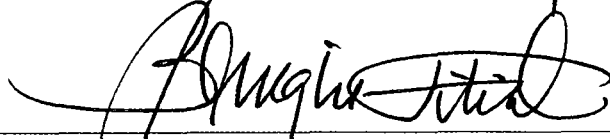


RAMON A. TEBUTEB
Chairman
Saipan and Northern Islands
Legislative Delegation



ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
Speaker
House of Representatives

APPROVED on this 31st day of MARCH, 2009.



BENIGNO R. FITIAL
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands