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AN ACT

Making appropriations for the Board of Elections for Fiscal Year 1981, and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:

1           Section 1. Purpose. This Act appropriates funds from the General Fund  
2 for the non-capital operations and activities of the Board of Elections for  
3 Fiscal Year 1981, commencing October 1, 1980 extending through September 30,  
4 1981.

5           Section 2. Appropriation. For the non-capital operations and activities  
6 of the Board of Elections the following sums are hereby appropriated from the  
7 General Fund:

8                   Item 1. For personal services and personnel benefits  
9   for not more than 4 employees, and for  
10   compensation of the Members of the Board  
11   of Elections ..... \$ 45,200

12                   Item 2. For all other necessary expenditures .... \$ 28,300

13           Section 3. Prohibition. No obligation, expenditure, agreement or contract  
14 for expenditure of Commonwealth Funds appropriated by this Act shall be made for  
15 any purpose other than the purposes for which the funds are appropriated and  
16 only as authorized by the Chairman of the Board of Elections or his designee.  
17 No funds appropriated by this Act shall be obligated, encumbered or otherwise  
18 committed after September 30, 1981.

19           Section 4. Reprogramming. No funds appropriated by this Act shall be  
20 reprogrammed or reallocated except pursuant to this section, or as otherwise  
21 provided by Law. No employee ceiling limit imposed by this Act may be changed  
or reprogrammed except with the approval of the Legislature as provided in this

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1 section. No funds shall be reprogrammed other than to another item in this  
2 Act, except pursuant to a reallocation or change under Article III, Section 15  
3 of the Constitution. Subject to the restrictions of this Act, the Board of  
4 Elections, with the approval of the Governor, may reprogram funds between the  
5 items in this Act in any amount that does not increase or decrease the amount  
6 of either **such** item by more than twenty percent. Notice of such **reprogramming**  
7 shall be reported in writing to the Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations  
8 of the House of Representatives and the Chairman of the Committee on Fiscal  
9 Affairs of the Senate not later than three working days after the date the Board  
10 takes such reprogramming action. If the reprogramming would result in more than  
11 the percent change, cumulative and in total for the fiscal year, permitted by  
12 this section, or requests a change or reprogramming of any employee ceiling  
13 limit imposed by this Act, the proposal shall be submitted in writing to the  
14 two Chairmen for approval by the Legislature before the transfer of funds or  
15 other change takes place. Such reprogramming request shall be considered  
16 approved by the Legislature if it has not been disapproved by either Committee  
17 within five calendar days from the date of its acknowledged official receipt.  
18 Either Committee may propose to amend the request. If the other Committee does  
19 not agree to such an amendment within the five-day period, the request shall  
20 be considered disapproved. If the other Committee agrees to the amendment,  
21 the request shall be considered approved as amended, except that the Board  
22 may choose not to carry out the reprogramming if it does not concur with the  
23 amendment. If one Committee disapproves the request and the other does not,  
24 or if the two Committees do not agree on any amendment to the request, the  
25 two Chairmen shall arrange a joint meeting of the two Committees to discuss

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1 their differences in an **attempt** to resolve them and to arrive at a solution,  
2 if possible, before taking final action on the request. Notwithstanding  
3 the procedure set forth in the preceding five sentences of **this** section,  
4 such reprogramming request may be approved by the Legislature by concurrent  
5 resolution at any time prior to the expiration of such five-day period.


6 Section 5. Administrative Guidelines. The detailed worksheets,  
7 schedules and tables submitted to the Legislature by the Governor, as  
8 modified to reflect the amounts **appropriated** and allocated in this Act,  
9 are to be used by the Board of Elections as administrative guidelines  
10 for the purpose of allocating funds appropriated by this Act.

11 Section 6. Penalties. No funds appropriated by this Act shall be  
12 paid out of the General Fund except pursuant to the provisions of this Act.  
13 Any elected official or any officer or employee of any branch, department,  
14 agency, **commission**, office or instrumentality of the Government of the  
15 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands who **shall** knowingly and  
16 wilfully violate any ~~provision~~ of this Act ~~shall~~, upon conviction, be  
17 fined not more than one thousand dollars or be imprisoned for not more  
18 than one year, or both.

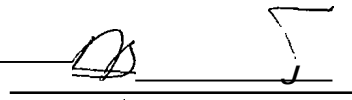
19 Section 7. Severability. If any provision of this Act, or the  
20 application of any such provision to any person or circumstance, ~~shall~~ be  
21 held ~~invalid~~ by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this  
22 Act, or the application of such provision to persons or circumstances other  
23 than those to which ~~it~~ is held invalid, shall not be affected thereby.

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1 Section 8. Effective Date. This Act shall take effect upon its  
2 approval by the Governor, or upon its becoming law without such approval.

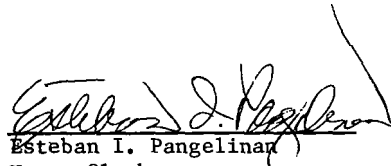


Joaquin I. Pangelinan  
Speaker of the House



Pedro P. Tenorio  
President of the Senate

ATTEST:

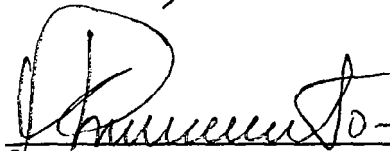


Esteban I. Pangelinan  
House Clerk



Senate Clerk  
Senate Clerk

August 21, 1981



Governor  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands