

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

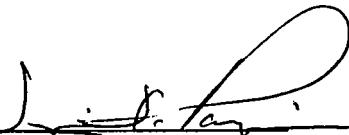
1 if the two Committees do not agree on any amendment to the request, the two
2 Chairmen shall arrange a joint meeting of the two **Committees** to discuss their
3 differences in an attempt to resolve them and to arrive at a solution, if
4 possible, before taking final action on the request. Notwithstanding the
5 **procedure** set forth in the preceding five sentences of this section, such
6 reprogramming request may be approved by the Legislature by concurrent
7 resolution at any time prior to the expiration **of** such five-day period.

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

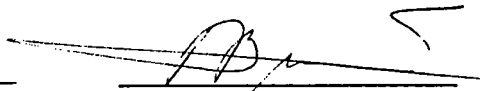
13 Section 6. Penalties. No funds appropriated by this Act shall be paid
14 out of the General Fund except pursuant to the provisions of this Act. Any
15 elected official or any officer or employee of any branch, department, agency,
16 **commission**, office or instrumentality of the Government of the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

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

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

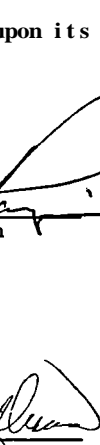


Joaquin I. Pangelinan
Speaker of the House




Pedro P. Tenorio
President of the Senate

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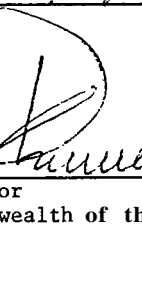


Esteban I. Pangelihan
House Clerk



Juan Teregeyo
Senate Clerk

August 21, 1981



Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands