

AN ACT

To establish an account for the deposit of ambulance fees; and for other purposes.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE TWELFTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH
LEGISLATURE:**

Section 1. Short Title. This Act may be cited as the “CNMI Ambulance Fee Act of 2000.”

Section 2. Findings. The Legislature finds that the Department of Public Health collects a fee for providing ambulance services. The fees are then deposited into the general fund. The Legislature finds it in the best interest of the Commonwealth that such fees should be reserved for ambulance vehicle repair, maintenance, and upgrades such as the purchase of EMS and Rescue equipment and supplies, as well as for personnel continuing education and training.

Section 3. Ambulance Fee Account:

(a) The Department of Finance shall establish a separate account to be known as the “Ambulance Fee Account” for the deposit of ambulance fees collected by the Department of Public Health in accordance with its rules and regulations.

(b) The funds collected and deposited pursuant to subsection (a) may not be expended except by appropriation and specifically for the repair, maintenance and upgrade of ambulance and rescue vehicles, purchase of EMS and Rescue equipment and supplies such as the “Jaws of Life” rescue equipment, and advance life support equipment and supplies as well as for ambulance and rescue personnel continuing education and training.

(c) The expenditure authority for funds appropriated from the Ambulance Fee Account shall be the Commissioner of Public Safety in consultation with the Director of Fire and Secretary of Public Health.

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

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herein shall not be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation or order adopted under the statutes.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

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

CERTIFIED BY:

ATTESTED TO BY:

/s/ Benigno R. Fitial
BENIGNO R. FITIAL
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

/s/ Evelyn C. Fleming
EVELYN C. FLEMING
HOUSE CLERK

Approved this 5th day of June, 2000

/s/ Pedro P. Tenorio
PEDRO P. TENORIO
GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS