



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
FOURTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2004

PUBLIC LAW NO. 14-26

H. B. No. 14-11, HS1, HD1, SS1, SD1

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AN ACT

To appropriate the remaining balance of approximately Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000.00) from the Saipan Trust Fund, which was originally established as the "Special Deposit Fund," and is presently managed by the Marianas Public Land Trust (MPLT) on behalf of the United States Navy for lands uses on Tinian and Saipan during the Trust Territory period, for scholarship and medical supplemental assistance and other public programs for residents of the Second Senatorial District; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE FOURTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH  
LEGISLATURE:

- 1           **Section 1. Findings.** The Legislature finds that the Saipan Trust Fund, which was  
2 originally called the Special Deposit Fund, was established by Admiral F.B. Stump of the  
3 United States Navy on October 1, 1957. This fund was comprised of the monies received by  
4 the United States Government, in compensation for land use and occupancy on the islands of  
5 Saipan and Tinian by the United States Government. As provided by Article IV of the Navy  
6 Order, the "funds received into the Special Deposit Fund will be used for the benefit of the  
7 indigenous inhabitants of the islands of Saipan and Tinian, in the Trust Territory of the  
8 Pacific Islands in accordance with the policy set forth in the commander in Chief United  
9 Stated Pacific Fleet letter serial 3546 of August 20, 1956."
- 10           From 1956 to 1965, the island of Saipan benefited from the Saipan Trust Fund when  
11 the amount of \$694,328 was appropriated for the completion of the Saipan Hospital. An  
12 additional amount of \$67,729.00 was appropriated for the Saipan Scholarship Program, and  
13 \$130,000 for a loan to the Saipan Housing Authority, and \$240,000.00 for the installation of  
14 a Saipan sewer line and paving of Saipan road. On April 12, 1977 the remaining balance of

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1 the Saipan Trust Fund was transferred to the CNMI Government. In 1991, the Saipan Trust  
2 Fund was transferred from the Department of Finance to the Marianas Public Land Trust to  
3 administer and to invest. Since the MPLT's involvement, the Saipan Trust Fund's opening  
4 balance of approximately \$199,000 has increased in value to approximately \$600,000  
5 depending on the market valuation of the securities. In addition, since its inception, the  
6 island of Tinian has yet to directly benefit from the Saipan Trust Fund, while Saipan has  
7 received over \$1.132 million in past appropriations from this fund.

8       **Section 2. Appropriation.** The entire remaining balance of approximately Four  
9 Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000.00) in the Saipan Trust Fund is hereby continuously  
10 appropriated, without fiscal year limitation, for scholarships, medical supplemental assistance  
11 and other public programs for residents of the Second Senatorial District.

12       **Section 3. Account Establishment.** ~~Notwithstanding 1 CMC §1408, all current and~~  
13 ~~future fees and taxes collected from local revenue sources within the Second Senatorial~~  
14 ~~District as defined in 1 CMC § 1402 (e), shall be deposited into an account to be established~~  
15 ~~by the Tinian Municipal Treasurer. Revenue sources may include but are not limited to~~  
16 ~~licensing fees and taxes on bingo, batu and cockfighting operations, amusement machines~~  
17 ~~excepting those machines operated within the casino premises which is the subject of a~~  
18 ~~TGCC license, and slaughter permits. Funds in this account shall be annually appropriated by~~  
19 ~~Tinian Legislative Delegation Resolution.~~

20       **Section 4. No transfer to General Fund.** Notwithstanding any other provisions  
21 of law, any unused appropriated Local Funds from within a Senatorial District shall not  
22 transfer to the General Fund, but shall remain available for re-appropriation by Local Law.

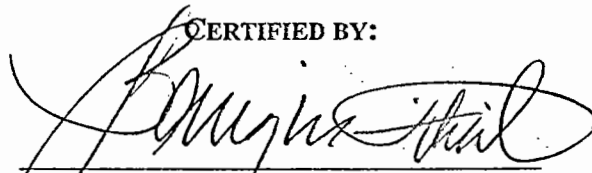
23       **Section 5. Expenditure Authority.** The expenditure authority for the funds  
24 described in Sections 2 and 3 shall be the Mayor of Tinian and Aguigan.

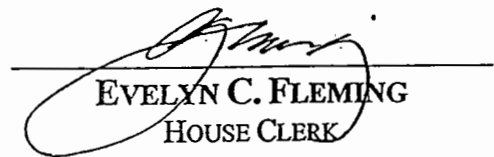
25       **Section 6. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or the application of any such  
26 provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent  
27 jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or  
28 circumstances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

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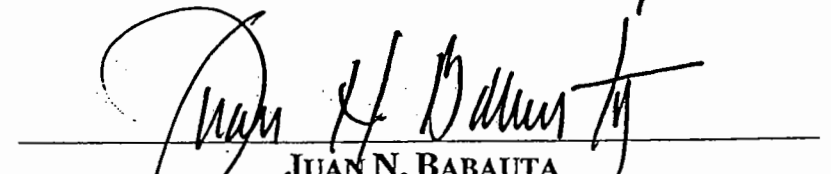
1           **Section 7. Savings Clause.** This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be  
2 construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes  
3 repealed or under any rule, regulation or order adopted under the statutes. Repealers  
4 contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding instituted under or pursuant to prior law.  
5 The enactment of the Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying,  
6 any liability, civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence on the date this Act  
7 becomes effective.

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

CERTIFIED BY:  
  
BENIGNO R. FITIAL  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

ATTESTED TO BY:  
  
EVELYN C. FLEMING  
HOUSE CLERK

Approved on this 21<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2004

  
JUAN N. BABAUTA  
GOVERNOR  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS