



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

PUBLIC LAW NO. 14-40

H. B. No. 14-232, HD1

AN ACT

To appropriate two hundred twenty three thousand fifty eight dollars and four cents (\$223,058.04) 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 land uses on Saipan and Tinian during the Trust Territory period, for the purchase of Nuestra Senora De la Concepcion artifacts; 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 States 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 \$694,328.00 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 \$130,000.00 for a loan to the Saipan Housing Authority, and \$240,000.00 for the installation
14 of a Saipan sewer line and paving of Saipan roads. On April 12, 1977, the remaining balance
15 of the Saipan Trust Fund was transferred to the CNMI Government. In 1991, the Saipan
16 Trust Fund was transferred from the Department of Finance to the Marianas Public Land
17 Trust to administer and to invest. Since the MPLT's involvement, the Saipan Trust Fund's
18 opening balance of approximately \$199,000.00 has increased in value to approximately
19 \$600,000.00 depending on the market valuation of the securities. In addition, since its

1 inception, the island of Tinian has yet to directly benefit from the Saipan Trust Fund, while
2 Saipan has received over \$1,132,000.00 in past appropriations from this fund.

3 **Section 2. Purpose.** The purpose of this Act is to appropriate \$223,058.04 from the
4 Saipan Trust Fund for the purchase of Nuestra Senora de la Concepcion artifacts.

5 **Section 3. Appropriation.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the
6 contrary, there is hereby appropriated \$223,058.04 for the purchase of the Nuestra Senora de
7 la Concepcion artifacts.

8 **Section 4. Expenditure Authority.** The expenditure authority shall be the Chairman
9 of the Board of Governors for the CNMI Museum.

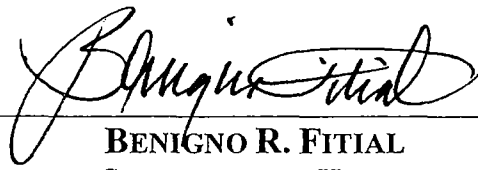
10 **Section 5. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or the application of any such
11 provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent
12 jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or
13 circumstances other than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

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

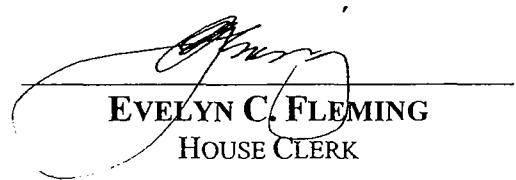
21 **Section 7. Effective Date.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the
22 Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

CERTIFIED BY:

ATTESTED TO BY:

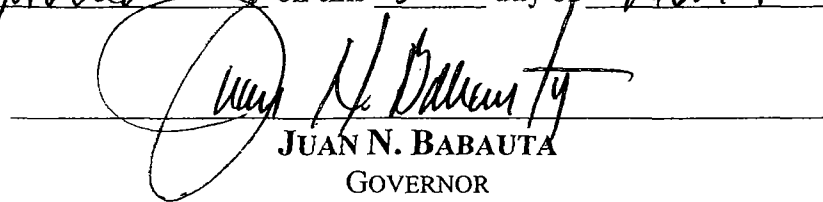


BENIGNO R. FITIAL
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE



EVELYN C. FLEMING
HOUSE CLERK

Approved on this 3rd day of November, 2004



JUAN N. BABAUTA
GOVERNOR

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS