



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
FOURTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION, 2005

PUBLIC LAW NO. 14-71

**H. B. No. 14-338**

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**AN ACT**

TO APPROPRIATE \$2,000,000 FROM THE FUNDS COLLECTED PURSUANT TO SAIPAN LOCAL LAW 11-2 FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

**Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature is cognizant that Japan Airlines (JAL) has disclosed its plan to pull out or reduce the number of flights to Saipan and Guam due to rising operational costs. JAL brings to the Commonwealth an average of 14,300 visitors per month and about 172,000 visitors per year. The number of visitors brought in by JAL translates into approximately \$2.2 million for the Commonwealth in landing and passenger fees alone. In addition, the Commonwealth benefits from the monies spent by the visitors during their stay in the Commonwealth.

The Legislature further finds that the Commonwealth cannot afford to stand idle and not accord assistance to the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA). CPA needs additional funding now to assist the airlines remain competitive and continue bringing visitors to the Commonwealth. The intent of this Act is to appropriate \$2 million dollars for CPA in order for CPA to find ways to provide incentives to the airlines and defray some of the costs of doing business in the Commonwealth.

**Section 2. Appropriation.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, and with the exception of funds appropriated for the Saipan Higher Education Assistance (SHEFA), the amount of \$2,000,000 is hereby appropriated from the funds collected pursuant to Saipan Local Law 11-2 for the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

**Section 3. Expenditure Authority.** The expenditure authority of the funds appropriated under this Act shall be the Executive Director of the Commonwealth Ports Authority and shall only be used for the purpose intended by this Act.

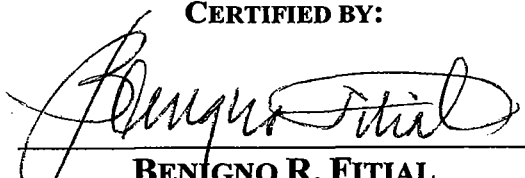
**Section 4. Fiscal Year Limitation and Reprogramming.** The funds appropriated under this Act shall not be reprogrammed and shall not be subject to fiscal year limitation for a minimum of five years.

**Section 5. 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 6. 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 the 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 7. Effective Date.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the Governor or becoming law without such approval.

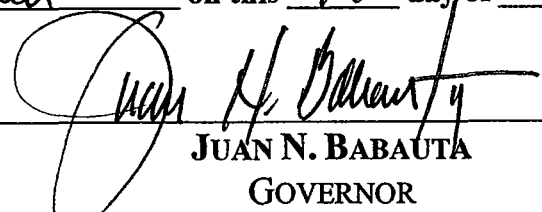
CERTIFIED BY:

  
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**BENIGNO R. FITIAL**  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

ATTESTED TO BY:

  
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**EVELYN C. FLEMING**  
HOUSE CLERK

Approved on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2005

  
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**JUAN N. BABAUTA**  
GOVERNOR  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS