



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Ralph DLG. Torres
Governor

Victor B. Hocog
Lieutenant Governor

21 JAN 2016

Honorable Rafael S. Demapan
Speaker, House of Representatives
Nineteenth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

Honorable Francisco M. Borja
Senate President, The Senate
Nineteenth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Mr. Speaker and Mr. President:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law House Bill No. 19-59, HD1, SD1, entitled, "To authorize the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Public School to enter into a loan agreement for a sum up to \$5,000,000.00 for the purposes of building additional classrooms, Early Head Start Centers, and to pave roads and parking lots at its facilities in Rota and Tinian; and for other purposes", which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Nineteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 19-31**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ralph DLG. Torres".

RALPH DLG. TORRES

cc: Lt. Governor; Attorney General's Office; Judicial Branch; Public School System; Public Auditor; Special Assistant for Administration; Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review



House of Representatives

19th NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 500586
SAIPAN, MP 96950

December 28, 2015

The Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres
Acting Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern
Mariana Islands
Capitol Hill
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Acting Governor Torres:

I have the honor of transmitting herewith for your action **H. B. No. 19-59, HD1, SD1**, entitled: "To authorize the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Public School to enter into a loan agreement for a sum up to \$5,000,000.00 for the purposes of building additional classrooms, Early Head Start Centers, and to pave roads and parking lots at its facilities in Rota and Tinian; and for other purposes.", which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Nineteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Muña".

Linda B. Muña
House Clerk

Attachment



*Nineteenth Legislature
of the
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Third Special Session

May 22, 2015

Representative Antonio P. Sablan, of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, Angel A. Demapan, Felicidad T. Ogumoro, Edwin K. Propst, and John Paul P. Sablan) in an open and public meeting with an opportunity for the public to comment, introduced the following Bill:

H. B. No. 19-59, HD1, SD1

AN ACT

TO AUTHORIZE THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS PUBLIC SCHOOL TO ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT FOR A SUM UP TO \$5,000,000.00 FOR THE PURPOSES OF BUILDING ADDITIONAL CLASSROOMS, EARLY HEAD START CENTERS, AND TO PAVE ROADS AND PARKING LOTS AT ITS FACILITIES IN ROTA AND TINIAN; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Bill was referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means, which submitted Standing Committee Report 19-46; adopted 10/27/15.

**THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON
FIRST AND FINAL READING, OCTOBER 27, 2015;**
with amendments in the form of H. B. 19-59, HD1 and transmitted to the
THE SENATE.

The Bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Fiscal Affairs, which submitted Standing Committee Report 19-53; adopted 11/13/15.

THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE SENATE ON FIRST AND FINAL READING, NOVEMBER 13, 2015;
with amendments in the form of H. B. 19-59, HD1, SD1.

The House of Representatives accepted the Senate amendments and passed H. B. 19-59, HD1, SD1 during its 10th Day, Second Regular Session on December 17, 2015.

THE BILL WAS FINALLY PASSED ON DECEMBER 17, 2015.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Muña".

Linda B. Muña, House Clerk



*Nineteenth Legislature
of the
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tenth Day, Second Regular Session
December 17, 2015

H. B. No. 19-59, HD1, SD1

AN ACT

TO AUTHORIZE THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS PUBLIC SCHOOL TO ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT FOR A SUM UP TO \$5,000,000.00 FOR THE PURPOSES OF BUILDING ADDITIONAL CLASSROOMS, EARLY HEAD START CENTERS, AND TO PAVE ROADS AND PARKING LOTS AT ITS FACILITIES IN ROTA AND TINIAN; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Be it enacted by the Nineteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature:

1 **Section 1. Findings.** The Legislature finds that the Commonwealth of the Northern
2 Marianas Islands Public School System (“PSS”) is in need of six additional kindergarten
3 classrooms, four Early Head Start Centers, and to pave school roads and parking lots on
4 Tinian and Rota. In order to continue with its mission to provide the best education and
5 services available to the students of the Mariana Islands, the PSS is needs to continue to
6 provide quality early education. This means both more kindergarten classrooms to keep up
7 with a growing population and more Early Head Start Centers in order to identify needs and
8 meet them from the earliest of ages. Consequently, the PSS has identified a loan program
9 through the USDA Rural Development program that will lend the PSS the three million
10 dollars (\$3,000,000.00) necessary to accomplish the above goals. However, the Legislature

HOUSE BILL 19-59, HD1, SD1

1 finds that PSS should be given authorization to loan up to \$5,000,000.00 to give PSS the
2 flexibility to loan additional funds in the future if necessary to complete its projects or to
3 address new projects. The PSS has further identified its own revenue sources and will not
4 need additional legislative appropriations above its constitutional allotment to service the
5 loan. The Legislature concludes therefore that the contemplated loan is in the public interest
6 and should be approved.

7 **Section 2. Authorization.** Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the
8 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Public School System is hereby authorized
9 to enter into a loan agreement for a sum up to \$5,000,000.00 for the purposes of building
10 additional classrooms, Early Head Start Centers, and to pave roads and parking lots at its
11 facilities in Rota and Tinian. The Public School System has identified its own revenue
12 sources and will not need additional legislative appropriations above its constitutional
13 allotment to service the loan. Since no collateral and no additional appropriations are
14 necessary, no additional authorization is necessary by the Legislature.

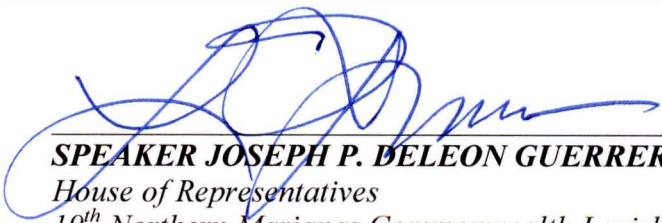
15 **Section 3. Severability.** If any provisions of this Act or the application of any such
16 provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent
17 jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or
18 circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

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

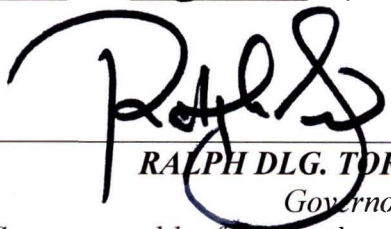
HOUSE BILL 19-59, HD1, SD1

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

Attested to by: 
Linda B. Muña, House Clerk

Certified by: 
SPEAKER JOSEPH P. DELEON GUERRERO
House of Representatives
19th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

Approved this 21st day of January, 2016.


RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands