



RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor

VICTOR B. HOCOG
Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH of the NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

16 FEB 2018

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

The Honorable Arnold I. Palacios
Senate President, The Senate
Twentieth 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. 20-135, SD4 entitled, "To amend Public Law No. 20-11, Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations Act to reflect the revised Fiscal Year 2018 Operations Budget for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation.", which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 20-41**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ralph DLG. Torres", written over a circular stamp or seal.

RALPH DLG. TORRES

cc: Lt. Governor; Press Secretary; Attorney General's Office; Commonwealth Utilities Corporation; CNMI Scholarship Office; Northern Marianas College; Northern Marianas Trade Institute; Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation; Department of Finance, Public Auditor; Special Assistant for Administration; Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review



House of Representatives

20th NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 500586
SAIPAN, MP 96950

January 30, 2018

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

Dear Governor Torres:

I have the honor of transmitting herewith for your action **H. B. No. 20-135, SD4**, entitled: "To amend Public Law No. 20-11, Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations Act to reflect the revised Fiscal Year 2018 Operations Budget for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation.", which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Sincerely yours,

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

Linda B. Muña
House Clerk

Attachment



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

Second Regular Session

November 21, 2017

REPRESENTATIVE ANGEL A. DEMAPAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Donald C. Barcinas, Ivan A. Blanco, Alice S. Igitol, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., 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. 20-135, SD4

AN ACT

**TO AMEND PUBLIC LAW NO. 20-11, FISCAL YEAR 2018
APPROPRIATIONS ACT TO REFLECT THE REVISED FISCAL
YEAR 2018 OPERATIONS BUDGET FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION.**

The Bill was not referred to a House Committee.

**THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON
FIRST AND FINAL READING, NOVEMBER 21, 2017;**
without amendments and transmitted to the
THE SENATE.

The Bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Fiscal Affair.
THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE SENATE ON FIRST AND FINAL READING, DECEMBER 14, 2017;
with amendments in the form of H. B. No. 20-135, SD4.

**H. B. NO. 20-135, SD4 WAS RETURNED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON
DECEMBER 15, 2017.**

The House of Representatives accepted the Senate amendments and passed H. B. No. 20-135, SD5 during its 1st Day, Third Regular Session on January 26, 2018.

THE BILL WAS FINALLY PASSED ON JANUARY 26, 2018.



Linda B. Muña, House Clerk



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

FIRST DAY, THIRD REGULAR SESSION

JANUARY 26, 2018

H. B. NO. 20-135, SD4

AN ACT

**TO AMEND PUBLIC LAW NO. 20-11, FISCAL YEAR 2018
 APPROPRIATIONS ACT TO REFLECT THE REVISED FISCAL
 YEAR 2018 OPERATIONS BUDGET FOR THE COMMONWEALTH
 UTILITIES CORPORATION.**

**Be it enacted by the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth
 Legislature:**

1 **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature finds that the Executive Director
 2 of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) submitted an amended Fiscal Year 2018
 3 Budget for the CUC. The Executive Director stated that it was “necessary that CUC resubmit
 4 its budget for Fiscal Year 2018 as it inadvertently omitted some critical expenditures”. The
 5 amended figures are reflective of the operational requirements for the year to ensure smooth
 6 and continuous service to the CNMI customers.

7 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to amend the Fiscal Year 2018 Operations
 8 Budget for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation in Public Law No. 20-11 to reflect the
 9 amended budget that was provided for by the Executive Director of CUC.

10 **Section 2. Amendment.** Section 301(c) and the Grand Total of Public Law No. 20-
 11 11 is hereby amended to read as follows:

HOUSE BILL 20-135, SD4

1 “(c) Commonwealth Utilities Corporation 449 \$17,880,930 \$103,577,541 \$121,458,471
 2 **Grand Total:** **1609 \$86,530,739 \$167,980,129 \$254,510,868”**

3 **Section 3. Amendment.** Section 710 and Schedule A of Public Law 20-11 are
 4 hereby amended as follows:

5 (a) Section 710 is amended by adding a new subsection (1) to read as follows:

6 “(1) The expenditure authority for the funds appropriated to the Micronesian
 7 Legal Services Corporation shall be the Executive Director of the corporation.”

8 (b) The appropriation for Micronesian Legal Services Corporation as shown
 9 on page 5 of Schedule A is amended as follows:

10 (1) Operations: \$155,476

11 (2) Total: \$155,476”

12 **Section 4. Amendment.** Section 802 Public Law 20-11 is hereby amended by adding
 13 a new subsection (c) to read as follows:

14 “(c) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, \$200,000.00 shall be used for
 15 the CHCC Diabetes Care and Control Center. The expenditure authority shall be the
 16 CHCC CEO.”

17 **Section 5. Amendment.** Section 606(a) of Public Law 20-11 is hereby amended as
 18 follows:

19 “(a) The expenditure authority of the Solid Waste Revolving Fund shall
 20 include the payment of hazardous work premium payment in accordance with
 21 NMIAC § 10-20.2-350(a) for the qualified Solid Waste employees of the
 22 First, Second and Third Senatorial districts who are assigned to the designated solid
 23 waste landfills, facilities, dumpsites, and transfer stations. This provision shall apply
 24 retroactively to October 1, 2017.”

25 **Section 6. Amendment.** Section 713(c) Public Law 20-11 is hereby to read as
 26 follows:

27 “(c) Commonwealth Worker Fund (Source: U.S.P.L. 110-229) \$1,949,700.00.

HOUSE BILL 20-135, SD4

1 The Governor has stated that the sum of \$1,949,700.00 in Commonwealth
2 Worker Fee Funds is to be administered by the CNMI Scholarship Office in
3 collaboration with the educational entities such as the Northern Marianas College and
4 the Northern Marianas Trade Institute; provided that the Northern Marianas Trade
5 Institute shall be allocated not less than \$1,000,000.00 of the total Commonwealth
6 Worker Fee Funds. The funds are restricted solely for the purpose of ongoing
7 vocational educational curricula and program development for Commonwealth
8 educational entities. Prior to obligation and disbursement of funds, the educational
9 entities shall develop and submit a plan to the CNMI Scholarship Office on the
10 expenditures of such funds. The funds shall not be used or reprogrammed for any
11 other purpose other than what is specified pursuant to Public Law 110-229,
12 Section 6.a.6.

13 The Executive Director of the CNMI Scholarship Office shall provide
14 accountability and transparency in administering this program by providing within 30
15 days after the end of each quarter an expenditure report to the Administration and to
16 the presiding officers of the Legislature.”


17 **Section 7. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or the application of any such
18 provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent
19 jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or
20 circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.


21 **Section 8. Savings Clause.** This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be
22 construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes
23 repealed or under any rule, regulation or order adopted under the statutes. Repealers
24 contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding instituted under or pursuant to prior law.
25 The enactment of this Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying,
26 any liability civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence at the date this Act becomes
27 effective.

HOUSE BILL 20-135, SD4

1 **Section 9. Effective Date.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the
2 Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval and shall apply to existing
3 judgments.

Attested to by: 
Linda B. Muña, House Clerk

Certified by: 
SPEAKER RAFAEL S. DEMAPAN
House of Representatives
20th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

Approval this 16th day of February, 2018

RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands