



RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor

VICTOR B. HOCO
Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH of the NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

14 SEP 2018

The Honorable Arnold I. Palacios
Senate President, The Senate
Twentieth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

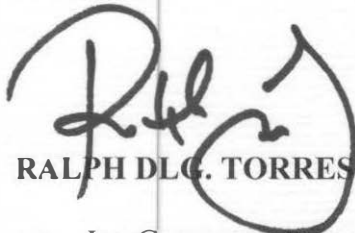
The Honorable Rafael S. Demapan
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twentieth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Mr. President and Mr. Speaker:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law Senate Bill No. 20-58 entitled, "To amend 3 CMC § 2836 to remove the payment requirement by CHCC to the Commonwealth government; and for other purposes.", which was passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 20-64**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,



RALPH DLG. TORRES

cc: Lt. Governor; Press Secretary; Attorney General's Office; Marianas Public Land Trust; Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation; Special Assistant for Administration; Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review



THE SENATE
Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature
P. O. Box 500129
Saipan, MP 96950

August 03, 2018

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

Dear Governor Torres:

I have the honor of transmitting herewith for your action Senate Bill No. 20-58, entitled: "To amend 3 CMC § 2836 to remove the payment requirement by CHCC to the Commonwealth government; and for other purposes" which was passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dolores S. Bermudes".

Dolores S. Bermudes
Senate Clerk

Attachments



THE SENATE
TWENTIETH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE BILL NO. 20-58

AN ACT

To amend 3 CMC § 2836 to remove the payment requirement by CHCC to the Commonwealth government; and for other purposes.

SENATE ACTION

Offered by Senator(s): Sixto K. Igisomar

Date: August 03, 2017

Referred to: Committee on Fiscal Affairs

Standing Committee Report No.: None

First and Final Reading: August 17, 2017

HOUSE ACTION

Referred to: Committee on Ways and Means

Standing Committee Report No.: 20-137 adopted on 7/30/18

First and Final Reading: July 30, 2018


DOLORES S. BERMUDES
SENATE CLERK



THE SENATE
TWENTIETH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 2017

S. B. NO. 20-58

AN ACT

To amend 3 CMC § 2836 to remove the payment requirement by CHCC to the Commonwealth government; and for other purposes.

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

1 **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature recognizes that Public Law
2 17-76 established the line of credit for the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
3 (CHCC) with the Marianas Public Land Trust (MPLT). The Legislature however finds
4 that PL 17-76 provides that the interest withheld to satisfy any principal and interest due
5 the MPLT from the CHCC shall be repaid by the CHCC to the Commonwealth
6 Government, and that the Commonwealth Government may withhold amounts due the
7 CHCC to satisfy the line of credit obligation.

8 The Legislature finds that the CHCC is struggling to meet all its financial
9 obligations for its operations, including the line of credit payment to MPLT. Therefore,
10 the purpose of this legislation is to amend 3 CMC § 2836 to remove the payment
11 requirement by CHCC to the Commonwealth government.

12 **Section 2. Amendment.** 3 CMC § 2836 is amended to read:

13 “§ 2836. Line of Credit from Marianas Public Land Trust. (a) Notwithstanding any
14 provision of law to the contrary, pursuant to N.M.I. Const. Art. XI § 6(d), the CNMI
15 Legislature hereby pledges and appropriates the sum of 11.58 million dollars from future
16 interest income distributions into the CNMI General Fund by the Marianas Public Land
17 Trust (MPLT) for starting Fiscal Year 2014 and future fiscal years thereafter until such
18 time as MPLT’s loan to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation is fully satisfied.

SENATE BILL NO. 20-58

1 Further, the Legislature agrees and consents that the Marianas Public Land Trust may
2 withhold interest income distributions for such fiscal years as necessary to pay for and
3 satisfy any due amounts for principal and interest due from the Commonwealth Healthcare
4 Corporation payable to the Marianas Public Land Trust. The Marianas Public Land Trust is
5 hereby authorized to retain net annual distributable interest income under N.M.I. Const.
6 Art. XI § 6(d) starting Fiscal Year 2014 until the full amount of principal and interest due
7 to the Marianas Public Land Trust is satisfied or retired. Thereafter, the Marianas Public
8 Land Trust shall remit any net distributable interest income to the General Fund. The
9 provisions of Article XI § 6(d) shall be fully satisfied to the extent that the amount of
10 interest income that MPLT would deposit into the general fund annually are deemed ear-
11 marked and herein appropriated pursuant to this section in the event of a shortfall, in the
12 form of a corresponding withholding. ~~Any amount of interest withheld to satisfy any~~
13 ~~principal and interest due the Marianas Public Land Trust from the Commonwealth~~
14 ~~Healthcare Corporation shall be repaid by the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation to~~
15 ~~the Commonwealth Government. The Commonwealth Government may withhold amounts~~
16 ~~due the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation to satisfy this obligation.~~

17 (b) All funds remitted to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation by MPLT
18 shall be deposited into the Healthcare Operations Fund pursuant to 3 CMC § 2828 and for
19 which the Chief Executive Officer shall be the expenditure authority.

20 (c) CHC Spending Plan. The Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation shall provide
21 a business spending plan and financial reports of actual expenditures for the 11.58 million
22 dollar line of credit from MPLT to the presiding officers of the legislature within 15 days
23 after each drawdown on the line of credit.”

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

28 **Section 4. Savings Clause.** This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not
29 be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under

SENATE BILL NO. 20-58

1 statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation or order adopted under the statutes.
2 Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding instituted under or pursuant
3 to prior law. The enactment of this Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any
4 way modifying, any liability civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence at the
5 date this Act becomes effective.

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

CERTIFIED BY:

ATTESTED BY:

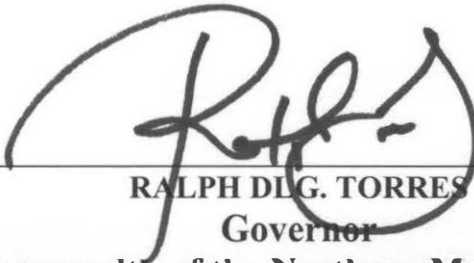


**ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE**



**JUSTO S. QUITUGUA
SENATE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY**

Approved this *14th* day of *September*, 2018



**RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor**

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands