

RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

The Honorable Edmund P. Villagomez
Speaker
House of Representatives
Twenty-Second Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

April 14, 2022

The Honorable Vinson F. Sablan
Chairman
Saipan and Northern Islands
Legislative Delegation
Twenty-Second Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Mr. Speaker and Mr. Chairman:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law **House Local Bill 22-27, SD1, D1**, entitled, "To appropriate \$4,000,000.00 from fees collected pursuant to Public Law 20-10 for the Third Senatorial District; and for other purposes", which was passed by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation of the Twenty-Second Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Notwithstanding, I have disapproved the following parts of the enactment for the foregoing reasons:

VETOED PARTS OF THE ENACTMENT

SECTION 2(B)(2)

This provision sought to appropriate \$350,000.00 for the Mayor of Saipan for its operations, expenditure of the funds under 2(B)2 shall be the Mayor of Saipan or his/her designee. I have disapproved of this provision and strongly recommend that these funds be appropriated to support the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance (SHEFA) Office so that we may continue to invest in our students and their future endeavors. Notwithstanding, I encourage the Honorable Mayor of Saipan to maximize the available ARPA funding already designated to his office for its operational needs.

SECTION 2(B)(20)(E)(i)

This provision sought to appropriate \$80,000.00 for the ongoing Kagman Watershed Project. I have disapproved of this provision with this critical project's hefty needs in mind and

with the assurance that related and adequate federal funding will be prioritized to accomplish this important task.

Lastly, although I acknowledge that plans were made to conduct an assessment study for the Sugar Dock, as you are well aware, on October 4, 2021, I sent a letter to the Legislature indicating that I have allocated \$2 Million specifically for the dock's repair and construction in consideration of its historic, economic, and social significance for our Commonwealth and especially for the residents of Precinct 2. I must take this opportunity to express my great disappointment in our Precinct 2 Representatives for their failure to prioritize the necessary repair and construction of the Sugar Dock amidst this funding availability and I urge the Legislature to seek available avenues to address this need as soon as possible.

With the exception of the vetoed portions, this bill becomes **Saipan Local Law 22-10**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,



RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor

cc: Press Secretary
Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review
Special Assistant for Administration
Secretary of Finance
Attorney General
Office of Public Auditor
Saipan Mayor's Office
Northern Island Mayor's Office
Commissioner of CNMI Public School System
CNMI Museum
Center for Living Independently
NMPASI
Veteran's Affairs Office
CNMI Parole Board



Saipan & Northern Islands Legislative Delegation

Twenty-Second Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

Third Senatorial District

P.O. Box 500129

Saipan, MP 9695

Senator Vinnie F. Sablan, Chairman • Representative John Paul P. Sablan, Vice Chair • Representative Sheila J. Babauta, Floor Leader

March 28, 2022

The Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building
Capitol Hill
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Governor Torres:

I am honored to transmit for your action **House Local Bill No. 22-27, S1, D1**, entitled,

“To appropriate \$4,000,000.00 from fees collected pursuant to Public Law 20-10; and for other purposes.”

The local bill was passed unanimously by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation of the Twenty-Second Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature on First and Final Reading, a quorum duly present during its Second Day, Third Regular Session held on March 25, 2022.

Sincerely,


Frances Joan R. Kaipat
Delegation Clerk

Enclosure

Sir



**SAIPAN AND NORTHERN ISLANDS LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION
TWENTY-SECOND NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
THIRD REGULAR SESSION, 2022**

HOUSE LOCAL BILL NO. 22-27, S1, D1

**A LOCAL APPROPRIATION BILL FOR AN ACT
FOR THE THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT**

To appropriate \$4,000,000.00 from fees collected pursuant to Public Law 20-10; and for other purposes.

Offered by Representatives:

Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Celina R. Babauta, Vicente C. Camacho, Angel A. Demapan,
Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita K. Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul

Prefiled on October 28, 2021 and Introduced on October 29, 2021


HOUSE ACTION

Transmitted to Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation for action on

October 29, 2021

DELEGATION ACTION

Referred To	: 11/22/21 - SNILD Ways & Means Committee
Comments Solicited	: 11/1/21 – DM 22-76 Mayor Apatang DM 22-77 Mayor Santos DM 22-78 Chairperson, 16 th SNIMC
Comments Received	: 11/1/21 Mayors Comm. 22-27 11/12/22 Misc. Comm. 22-75 16 th SNIMC
Standing Committee Report	: SNILD SCR 22-19
Passed First & Final Reading	: March 25, 2022



Frances Joan P. Kaipat
Delegation Clerk



SAIPAN AND NORTHERN ISLANDS LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION
Twenty-Second Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature
Third Senatorial District

THIRD REGULAR SESSION, 2022

HOUSE LOCAL BILL NO. 22-27, S1 D1

A LOCAL APPROPRIATION BILL FOR AN ACT
FOR THE THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT

To appropriate \$4,000,000.00 from fees collected pursuant to Public Law 20-10; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT DELEGATION PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 4, DIVISION 1, TITLE 1 OF THE COMMONWEALTH CODE:

1 **SECTION 1. PURPOSE.**

2 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds from the fees collected pursuant to Public
3 Law 20-10 (Casino License Fee).

4 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.**

5 Notwithstanding any provision(s) of law, statutes rules or regulations to the contrary and
6 pursuant to funds allocated to the Third Senatorial District the Saipan and Northern Islands
7 Legislative Delegation (SNILD) hereby appropriates \$4,000,000.00 of the fees collected
8 pursuant to Public Law 20-10 as follows:

9 (A) \$500,000.00 to Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance (SHEFA), expenditure
10 authority under 2(A) shall be the SHEFA Board Chairperson in concurrence with the SHEFA
11 Board;

HOUSE LOCAL BILL NO. 22-27, S1, D1

1 (B) \$3,500,000.00 shall be allocated to the following:

2 1) \$70,000.00 For Karidat Social Services, for operations and to support Karidat's
3 Emergency Food and Shelter Program for individuals and families in need in the Third
4 Senatorial District;

5 ~~2) \$350,000.00 For the Mayor of Saipan for its operations, expenditure of the~~
6 ~~funds under 2(B)2 shall be the Mayor of Saipan or his/her designee;~~

7 3) \$50,000.00 For the Mayor of Northern Islands for its operations, expenditure
8 of the funds under 2(B)3 shall be the Mayor of the Northern Islands or his/her designee;

9 4) \$50,000.00 For the Office of Veterans Affairs Office for the purchase of a
10 vehicle(s) and its operations, expenditure of the funds under 2(B)4 shall be the Executive
11 Officer;

12 5) \$200,000.00 For the CNMI Museum for its operations, expenditure of the
13 funds under 2(B)5 shall be the Executive Director of the CNMI Museum or his/her
14 designee;

15 6) \$50,000.00 For the Board of Parole for the purchase of a vehicle(s) and its
16 operations, expenditure of the funds under 2(B)6 shall be the Chief of the Board of Parole
17 or his/her designee;

18 7) \$80,000.00 For Haggan/Woong United for Recovery;

19 8) \$50,000.00 For Project Gigao;

20 9) \$40,000.00 For the Marianas Racing Association;

21 10) \$15,000.00 For 500 Sails for its operations;

HOUSE LOCAL BILL NO. 22-27, S1, D1

- 1 11) \$55,000.00 For Matua Council for its operations;
- 2 12) \$550,000.00 For the Public School System (PSS), expenditure of the funds
- 3 under 2(B)12 shall be the Commissioner of PSS or his/her designee. Provided however
- 4 that \$500,000.00 of the shall be utilized for the Kinder to 3rd Grade Chamorro and
- 5 Carolinian Language and Heritage Studies (CCLHS) Curriculum Development and the
- 6 Kinder to 3rd Grade Social Studies Curriculum Development. Furthermore, the
- 7 remaining \$50,000.00 shall be for the Office of Instructions for the installation of a 20 ft.
- 8 container and its amenities to house all the office files and potential documents;
- 9 13) \$400,000.00 For the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation
- 10 (operations), expenditure authority under 2(B)13 shall be the Chairperson of the
- 11 Delegation or his/her designee;
- 12 14) \$40,000.00 Northern Marianas National Paddle Sports Federation for the
- 13 construction of a storage and training area;
- 14 15) \$110,000.00 Center for Living Independently in the CNMI for the purchase
- 15 of an accessible van (ADA) and for fuel expenses;
- 16 16) \$40,000.00 for the NMI Basketball Federation;
- 17 17) \$50,000.00 for the operations of the 16th Saipan and Northern Islands
- 18 Municipal Council, expenditure authority under 2(B)17 shall be the Chairperson of the
- 19 municipal council;
- 20 18) \$75,000.00 for the Northern Marianas Athletics for a Photo Finish System
- 21 and Software; Container/Maintenance facilities; and for equipment and operations; and

HOUSE LOCAL BILL NO. 22-27, S1, D1

- 1 19) \$105,000.00 for the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems
2 Inc. (NMPASI); and
- 3 20) For Precinct Projects:
- 4 A. Precinct I.
- 5 i) To pave Tataga Drive \$50,000.00
- 6 ii) To pave Pontan Drive in As Lito \$180,000.00
- 7 iii) Expenditure authority shall be the Secretary of the Department of Public
8 Works.
- 9 B. Precinct II.
- 10 i) Mitigation of flooding and \$240,000.00
11 road repair
- 12 ii) Expenditure authority shall be the Secretary of the Department of Public
13 Works.
- 14 C. Precinct III.
- 15 i) Mitigation of flooding and \$240,000.00
16 road repair on Flores Rosa Street
- 17 ii) Expenditure authority shall be the Secretary of the Department of Public
18 Works.
- 19 D. Precinct IV.
- 20 i) Walkway expansion (South bound lane), \$70,000.00
21 railings, and crosswalk improvements

HOUSE LOCAL BILL NO. 22-27, S1, D1

- 1 ii) Mitigation of flooding and \$40,000.00
- 2 water run-off at the Pacific Marine Area
- 3 iii) Natibu Sports Association (NSA) \$30,000.00
- 4 Summer Youth Tee Ball League
- 5 and Girls Fastpitch League
- 6 iv) Talaabwogh StaR (T-StaR) Association \$30,000.00
- 7 Youth Programs and Operations
- 8 v) To purchase a playground set for \$50,000.00
- 9 Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School
- 10 vi) The expenditure authority for 2(B)20D(i and ii) shall be the Secretary of the
- 11 Department of Public Works; 2(B)20D(iii) shall be the President of NSA;
- 12 2(B)20D(iv) shall be the President of T-StaR; and 2(B)20D(v) shall be the Public
- 13 School System Commissioner in consultation with the Principal of Gregorio T.
- 14 Camacho Elementary School.

E. Precinct V.

- 16 ~~i) For the ongoing Kagman Watershed Project, \$80,000.00~~
- 17 ~~expenditure authority for 2(B)20E(i) shall be~~
- 18 ~~the Secretary of the Department of Lands and~~
- 19 ~~Natural Resources or his/her designee~~
- 20 ii) To pave Tagan Tagan Drive in Papago \$110,000.00

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1 iii) Expenditure authority for 2(B)20E(ii) shall be the Secretary of the Department
2 of Public Works.

3 **SECTION 3. EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY.**

4 The expenditure authority for the funds under Section 2 unless specified in this Act shall
5 be the Secretary of Finance.

6 **SECTION 4. REPROGRAMMING.**

7 Funds appropriated under this Act shall not be reprogrammed for any other purpose and
8 notwithstanding any provision of law, all funds appropriated under this Act shall be without shall
9 year limitation.

10 **SECTION 5. MANAGEMENT OF FUNDS.**

11 (A) The Secretary of Finance shall regulate and control the expenditure of the funds
12 appropriated by this Act to ensure that appropriated funds are not expended contrary to the law,
13 fiscal management policies, and practices of the Commonwealth.

14 **SECTION 6. REPORTING OF EXPENDITURES.**

15 Expenditures of the funds allocated under Section 2 of this Act shall be responsible to
16 report all expenses to the Secretary of the Department of Finance by the end of the 2022 calendar
17 year. Provided further that failure to provide all expenses entities that were afforded funds under
18 this Act shall not be able to avail to any future funds appropriated by the Saipan and Northern
19 Islands Legislative Delegation.

20 **SECTION 7. SEVERABILITY.**

21 If any provision of this Act or the application of any such provision to any person or

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1 circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this
2 Act or the application of its provisions to persons or circumstances other than those to which it
3 is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

4 **SECTION 8. SAVINGS CLAUSE.**

5 This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be construed as affecting any
6 existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes repealed or under any rule,
7 regulation or order adopted under the statutes. Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect
8 any proceeding instituted under or pursuant to prior law. The enactment of the Act shall not have
9 the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying, any liability, civil or criminal, which shall
10 already be in existence on the date this Act becomes effective.

11 **SECTION 9. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

12 This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the Governor or its becoming law without
13 such approval.

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CERTIFIED BY:



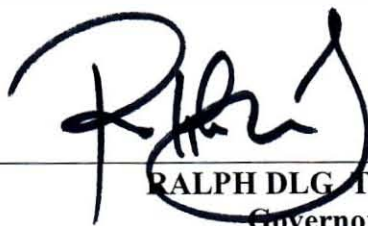
VINNIE F. SABLAN
Chairman

Saipan & Northern Islands Legislative Delegation



EDMUND S. VILLAGOMEZ
Speaker
House of Representatives

Approved on this 14th day of April, 2022.



RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands