August 10, 2023

The Honorable John Paul P. Sablan
Chairman
Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation
Twenty-Third Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

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

Dear Mr. Chairman and Mr. Speaker:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law **House Local Bill No. 23-17, S1** entitled, “To re-appropriate Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars ($75,000.00) allotted under Saipan Local Law 20-27; and for other purposes,” which was passed by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation of the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Saipan Local Law No. 23-05**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

**ARNOLD I. PALACIOS**
Governor

cc: Lieutenant Governor; Attorney General; Commonwealth Law Revision; Public Auditor; Secretary of Finance; Special Assistant for Administration; Resident Executive, IAO; Executive Assistant; Carolinian Affairs Office; Programs and Legislative Review Office
July 26, 2023

The Honorable Arnold I. Palacios
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Honorable Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building
Capitol Hill
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Governor Palacios:

I am honored to transmit for your action House Local Bill No. 23-17, S1, entitled:

“To re-appropriate Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars ($75,000.00) allotted under Saipan Local Law 20-27; and for other purposes.”

The local bill was passed unanimously by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation of the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature on First and Final Reading, a quorum duly present during its First Day, Third Special Session held on July 25, 2023.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Frances Joan P. Kaipat
Delegation Clerk

Enclosure
SAIPAN AND NORTHERN ISLANDS LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION
THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT
TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

THIRD SPECIAL SESSION, 2023

HOUSE LOCAL BILL NO. 23-17, S1

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

To re-appropriate Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars ($75,000.00) allotted under Saipan
Local Law 20-27; and for other purposes.

OFFERED BY
Representative Joh Paul P. Sablan

Introduced on June 20, 2023

HOUSE ACTION
Referred to House Ways and Means Committee on June 20, 2023
Transmitted to Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation for action on
July 7, 2023

DELEGATION ACTION

Referred to: None
Comments Solicited: 7/10/23: Mayor of Saipan [Del. Matters 23-44]
Mayor of Northern Island [Del. Matters 23-45]
17th SNIMC [Del. Matters 23-46]

Comments Received: 7/24/23: 17th SNIMC [Del. Matters 23-42, 23-43, & 23-44]

Standing Committee Report: None
Passed First & Final Reading: July 25, 2023, w/Substitute 1

Frances Joan P. Kaipat
Delegation Clerk
A LOCAL APPROPRIATION BILL FOR AN ACT
FOR THE THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT

To re-appropriate Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars ($75,000.00) allotted under Saipan Local Law 20-27; 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:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE.

The Delegation finds that Saipan Local Law 20-27 authorized the Resident Executive of the Indigenous Affairs Office (IAO) with the expenditure authority to use the appropriated funds in the amount of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars ($75,000.00) for the feasibility study and architectural and engineering design of the Indigenous Cultural Center pursuant to Article III, Section 23(b) of the CNMI Constitution.

The Delegation further finds that the Resident Executive of the Indigenous Affairs Office recently informed the Delegation that the funds appropriated in SLL 20-27 are no longer needed for its intended purpose. The IAO received federal grant funding that will cover the full intent of the project. However, the Delegation finds that the remaining funds should be re-appropriated to the Indigenous Affairs Office and the Carolinian Affairs Office to enhance their efforts in
preserving our cultural identities. With such funds, the respective offices can efficiently carry out their operations in fulfilling their duties and responsibilities. Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to re-appropriate Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars ($75,000.00) allotted under Saipan Local Law 20-27 to the Indigenous Affairs Office and the Carolinian Affairs Office.

SECTION 2. RE-APPROPRIATION.

Notwithstanding any provisions, statutes, laws or regulations to the contrary, the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation hereby reappropriates the amount of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars ($75,000.00) allotted under Saipan Local Law 20-27 for the following:

a. Indigenous Affairs Office $37,500.00
b. Carolinian Affairs Office $37,500.00

SECTION 3. EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY.

The expenditure authority for the funds under Section 2(a) of this Act shall be the Resident Executive of the Indigenous Affairs Office. The expenditure authority for the funds under Section 2(b) of this Act shall be the Chairman of the Refaluwasch Advisory Council.

SECTION 4. REPROGRAMING.

Notwithstanding any laws, provisions or regulations to the contrary, funds appropriated under this Act shall not be reprogrammed for any other purpose.

SECTION 5. REPORTING.

The expenditure authority shall submit to the Chairperson of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation a detail report showing the expenditure of the funds at the completion of appropriations in Section 2 of this Act.
SECTION 6. FUND DISTRIBUTION.

Funds appropriated under Section 2 of this Act shall be distributed accordingly to the intended purpose and or entity upon this Act becoming law.

SECTION 7. FISCAL YEAR.

The funds allocated under this Act shall be without fiscal year limitation(s).

SECTION 8. 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 9. 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 10. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the Governor or it becoming law without such approval.
Saipan Local Law No. 23-05

HOUSE LOCAL BILL NO. 23-17, S1

CERTIFIED BY:

John Paul P. Sablan
Chairman
Saipan & Northern Islands Legislative Delegation

Edmund S. Villagomez
Speaker
23rd House of Representatives

Approved this 10th day of August, 2023.

Arnold I. Palacios
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands