

NINTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

H. B. NO. 472, H. D. 3

FOURTH REGULAR SESSION, 1995

AN ACT

To make appropriations for the operations and activities of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, its agencies, instrumentalities and independent programs and to provide budget authority for Government Corporations for Fiscal Year 1996; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE NINTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:

Section 101. Short Title. This Act may be cited as the “Appropriations and Budget Authority Act of 1996”.

Section 102. Purpose. This Act appropriates local funds for the operations and activities of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands, its agencies, instrumentalities, independent agencies and political subdivisions, and provides budget authority for government corporations for Fiscal Year 1996 commencing October 1, 1995 and ending September 30, 1996.

Section 103. Definitions. As used in this Act:

- (a) Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands includes:
 - (1) Legislative Branch, which includes the following:
 - (A) Senate
 - (B) House of Representatives
 - (C) Legislative Bureau
 - (2) Judiciary Branch, which includes the following:
 - (A) Supreme Court
 - (B) Superior Court
 - (C) Law Revision Commission
 - (3) Executive Branch, which includes the following departments and offices:
 - (A) Office of the Governor
 - 1. Governor's Representative, Rota
 - 2. Governor's Representative, Tinian
 - (B) Office of the Attorney General
 - (C) Department of Community and Cultural Affairs
 - (D) Department of Public Works
 - (E) Department of Commerce

- (F) Department of Public Safety
 - (G) Department of Finance
 - (H) Department of Public Health Services
 - (I) Department of Lands and Natural Resources
 - (J) Department of Labor and Immigration
 - (K) Public Defender
- (4) Office of the Resident Representative to the United States
- (5) First Senatorial District (the senatorial district of Rota) which includes the following government offices and resident departments:
- (A) Office of the Mayor
 - (B) Office of the Municipal Council
 - (C) Office of Personnel
 - (D) Resident Department of Community and Cultural Affairs
 - (E) Resident Department of Public Works
 - (F) Resident Department of Finance
 - (G) Resident Department of Public Health Services
 - (H) Resident Department of Lands and Natural Resources
 - (I) Resident Department of Public Safety
 - (J) Resident Department of Commerce
 - (K) Resident Department of Labor and Immigration
- (6) Second Senatorial District (the senatorial district of Tinian and Aguiguan) which includes the following governmental offices and resident departments:
- (A) Office of the Mayor
 - (B) Office of the Municipal Council
 - (C) Office of Personnel
 - (D) Resident Department of Community and Cultural Affairs
 - (E) Resident Department of Public Works
 - (F) Resident Department of Finance
 - (G) Resident Department of Public Health Services
 - (H) Resident Department of Lands and Natural Resources
 - (I) Resident Department of Public Safety
 - (J) Resident Department of Commerce
 - (K) Resident Department of Labor and Immigration
- (7) Third Senatorial District (Senatorial District of Saipan and the Northern Islands) which includes the following governmental offices:
- (A) Mayor of Saipan
 - (B) Mayor of the Northern Islands
 - (C) Saipan Municipal Council
- (8) All government corporations, as defined in 1 CMC §7103(n), for which budget authority is herein provided including the following:
- (A) Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
 - (B) Mariana Islands Housing Authority
 - (C) Commonwealth Ports Authority
 - (D) Commonwealth Development Authority
 - (E) Northern Marianas Retirement Fund

(F) Marianas Public Land Trust

(G) Public Auditor's Office

(9) All other public and quasi-public entities, boards or commissions incorporated or established pursuant to the Commonwealth Constitution or Commonwealth law and including the following agencies and instrumentalities;

(A) Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

(B) Board of Elections

(C) Board of Parole

(D) Board of Professional Licensing

(E) Chamorro and Carolinian Language Commission

(F) Civil Service Commission

(G) Northern Marianas College

(H) Public School System

(I) Worker's Compensation Commission

(b) "Independent programs" means those non-profit corporations and associations or organizations established outside of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to which the Commonwealth Government provides financial assistance such as the:

(1) Agricultural Fair

(2) American Red Cross, CNMI Chapter

(3) APIL

(4) APPU

(5) CNMI Flame Tree Arts Festival

(6) Covenant Section 902 Consultation

(7) Criminal Justice Planning Agency (CJPA)

(8) Developmental Disabilities Planning Agency

(9) Ground Management Protection Act.

(10) Joeten/Kiyu Public Library

(11) Karidat (Marianas Bound)

(12) Micronesian Legal Services Corporation

(13) National Council of State Legislatures

(14) National Governors Association

(15) NMI OICC

(16) NM Protection & Advocacy Program

(17) Pacific Basin Development Council

(18) Retirement Pension

(19) Retirement PL 5-3

(20) South Pacific Commission

(21) Youth Congress

(22) Ayuda Network

(c) "Local funds" means locally generated revenues and revenues received pursuant to Section 702(a) of the Covenant.

(d) "Operations" means appropriations for all lawful activities other than personnel.

(e) "Personnel" means appropriations for the salaries, employer's contribution to the Northern Marianas Retirement Fund, overtime, night differential, hazardous pay and other

employee wages and benefits.

(f) "Position" or "Full Time Equivalent" (FTE) means full time employment position.

CHAPTER II. ESTIMATED REVENUES

Section 201. Estimated Revenues.

a) Local Funds:

1) Internal Revenues (per Governor's Communication dated 4/4/95, revised 4/5/95 and 6/30/95)	\$223,429,900 ¹
2) Covenant Funds (Operations)	-0-
Total Local Funds	<u>\$223,429,900</u>
3) Non-Resident Workers Fee Fund (Public Law 5-32)	\$ 2,000,000
4) Division of Public Lands	\$ 4,806,800 ²
c) Total Local Revenue and Resources available for appropriation	<u>\$230,236,700</u>

CHAPTER III. APPROPRIATIONS

Section 301. Appropriations for all Activities of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands. Funds for the programs and activities of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands are hereby appropriated as per the attached appropriation and personnel worksheets, which are incorporated by reference in this Act. The FTEs identified are the maximum number of positions approved and authorized and shall not be exceeded unless authorized in accordance with Article X, Section 7 of the Commonwealth Constitution.

CHAPTER IV. - BUDGET ADOPTION

Section 401. Government Corporations. Pursuant to 1 CMC Section 7206, budget authority for the following activities is hereby approved. Expenditures in excess of the budget authority approved herein for agencies to which public funds are appropriated shall not be incurred or committed, and FTE ceilings approved shall not be exceeded without specific approval of the Legislature by joint resolution in accordance with Article X, Section 7 of the Commonwealth Constitution.

	<u>ACTIVITIES</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>PERSONNEL</u>	<u>OPERATIONS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1.	CUC	404	\$12,876,019	\$33,982,243	\$46,858,262
2.	CPA	196	6,642,378	3,294,080	9,936,458
3.	CDA	15	884,900	558,700	1,443,600
	(a)MIHA	20	756,978	1,613,378	2,370,356
4.	NMRF	25	980,200	23,431,200	24,411,400
5.	MPLT	-0-	-0-	50,000	50,000

This total amount is inclusive of \$3,650,900 transferred from the Non Resident Worker Fee Fund (PL. 5-32) which is hereby amended accordingly for Fiscal Year 1996.

Land permits and fees, including moneys from the leasing of public lands.

6. OPA	<u>31</u>	<u>990,200</u>	<u>421,300</u>	<u>1,411,500</u>
Grand Total:	<u>691</u>	<u>23,130,675</u>	<u>63,350,901</u>	<u>86,481,576</u>

CHAPTER V. ADMINISTRATION OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS

Section 501. Administrative Guidelines. The funds available for appropriation under Chapter II of this Act shall be distributed and allotted by the Office of Management and Budget in accordance with the expenditure Class Code approved in the individual activities' budget worksheets which are attached hereto. The funds appropriated shall be allotted at the beginning of each quarter to each budget activity at a rate not to exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the amount appropriated, except:

(a) Quarterly Allotments in Excess of Twenty-Five Percent (25%). The following governmental officials may approve a quarterly allotment in excess of the twenty-five percent (25%) of the total approved operation budget, and the Office of Management and Budget shall authorize the allotment to the expenditure authority consistent with the nature and need of the activity:

- (1) The Speaker of the House in the case of the House of Representatives;
- (2) The President of the Senate in the case of the Senate;
- (3) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in the case of the Judicial Branch;
- (4) The Governor in the case of the Executive Branch;
- (5) The Resident Representative in the case of the Office of the Resident Representative to the United States;
- (6) The President of the College, with the written approval of the Board of Regents, in the case of the Northern Marianas College; and
- (7) The Commissioner of Education, with the written approval of the Board of Education, in the case of the Public School System.

(b) Quarterly Allotments Under Continuing Resolution. Consistent with the nature and need of each activity, the following government officials may approve a quarterly allotment in excess of the twenty-five percent (25%) authorized in accordance with the provisions of 1 CMC Subsection 7204(d):

- (1) The Speaker of the House in the case of the House of Representatives;
- (2) The President of the Senate in the case of the Senate;
- (3) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in the case of the Judicial Branch;
- (4) The Resident Representative in the case of the Office of the Resident Representative to the United States; and
- (5) The Governor in the case of the Executive Branch.
- (6) The President of the College, with the written approval of the Board of Regents, in the case of the Northern Marianas College
- (7) The Commissioner of Education, with the written approval of the Board of Education, in the case of the Public School System.

Section 502. Appropriation and Personnel Worksheets. Unless otherwise provided in this Act, the funds appropriated pursuant to Section 301 hereof shall be expended in compliance with the appropriation and personnel worksheets attached hereto and incorporated by reference herein, and in accordance with the fiscal authority the listed agencies have pursuant to statute and the

administrative provisions of this act.

Section 503. Legislative Budget Authority. The budget authority for funds appropriated to the Legislature shall be vested in the Senate President for funds allocated to the Senate, and in the Speaker of the House for funds allocated to the House of Representatives. The President of the Senate shall allocate the \$1,400,000 allocated to the Senate in accordance with the Senate's Official Rules of Procedure and shall cause the establishment of allotted accounts over which each individual senator shall have expenditure authority. The Speaker of the House shall allocate the \$1,400,000 allocated to House of Representatives among its members and shall cause the establishment of allotment accounts over which the individual representatives shall have expenditure authority. Provided, however, that each Minority member of the House shall be allocated not less than \$60,000 exclusive of that member's salary; and provided further that the remainder of the fund appropriated for operations and activities of the House of Representatives shall be divided equally among the members of the House. The spending authority for the Legislative Bureau shall be vested in the Director of the Bureau. Funds appropriated to the Legislative Bureau shall not be expended other than for the activities and operations of the Legislative Bureau.

Section 504. Legislative Staff Exemption. Legislative staff employed by individual legislators may be compensated out of each legislator's allotment share, or out of any joint account established by several legislators, derived from the funding appropriated to the Legislature in accordance with Article II, Section 16 of the Constitution. The restriction on reprogramming from operations to personnel pursuant to 1 CMC Section 7402(c)(3) shall not be applicable to the personnel costs associated with employing such staff.

Section 505. Expenditure of Appropriated Funds. The funds appropriated pursuant to this Act shall be expended by the expenditure authority provided in 1 CMC Section 7401(a) (b), (c) (4) and (d) through (r), and 3 CMC Section 1323(c) except as provided below:

~~(a) The Mayor and the Chairmen of the Municipal Councils of the respective Senatorial Districts shall have the expenditure authority for appropriations for their respective offices. In the First and Second Senatorial Districts, expenditure authority over all local Executive Branch expenditures including capital improvement projects, shall be with the respective mayor. Such expenditure authority shall be with the mayors notwithstanding language to the contrary in Public Law 9-1 and 9-24.~~

(b) For the Public School System, expenditure authority shall rest with the Commissioner of Education, or his designee, for all funds appropriated for administration. Expenditure authority for funds appropriated to the Board of Education shall rest with the Chairman of the Board. The principals of each school in all three senatorial districts shall be vested with expenditure authority for the funds appropriated to each of their respective schools. The school principals shall reprogram funds only in consultation with the Commissioner of Education.

(c) For the Covenant Section 902 Consultations, expenditure authority shall rest with the Chairman of the Special Representatives to the 902 Consultations.

(d) For the Ground Water Management and Protection Act Fund, the Chief of the Division of Environmental Quality shall have the expenditure authority.

(e) For the CNMI Flame Tree Arts Festival, expenditure authority shall rest with the

Executive Director of the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture.

(f) For the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC), expenditure authority shall rest with the Commissioner of Education or his designee.

(g) For the NM Protection and Advocacy Program, expenditure authority shall rest with the Chairman of the Board of Directors or her designee.

(h) For the Youth Congress, the expenditure authority shall rest with the Speaker of the Youth Congress with the concurrence of the Director of the Legislative Bureau.

(i) For the APIL, the expenditure authority shall rest with the Secretary of the Department of Finance.

(j) For the APPU, the expenditure authority shall rest with the Secretary of the Department of Finance.

(k) For the Developmental Disabilities Planning Agency, the expenditure authority shall rest with the Executive Director of the Agency.

(l) For the Marianas Bound (KARIDAT), the expenditure authority shall rest with the Chairman of the Board of Directors.

(m) For the Micronesian Legal Services Corporation, the expenditure authority shall rest with the Executive Director of the Micronesian Legal Services Corporation.

(n) For the Ayuda Network, the expenditure authority shall rest with the Chairman of the Board of Directors.

(o) For all government agencies receiving appropriated funds for personnel or staff housing, administrative authority over housing and expenditure authority over housing funds, including but not limited to approval of lease agreements, shall rest with the appropriate agency officials designated by law as having expenditure authority.

Section 506. Appropriation Provisions.

~~(a) \$5,000 is appropriated to the Tinian Little League Baseball Association. Funds appropriated to the Association shall be expended for teams' and officials' travel, ground transportation, food, lodging, supplies, equipment and other related needs of the Association under the expenditure authority of the Resident Director of Community and Cultural Affairs.~~

~~(b) \$5,000 is appropriated to the Rota Little League Baseball Association. Funds appropriated to the Association shall be expended for teams' and officials' travel, ground transportation, food, lodging, supplies, equipment and other related needs of the Association under the expenditure authority of the Resident Director of Community and Cultural Affairs.~~

~~(c) \$10,000 is appropriated to the Saipan Little League Baseball Association. Funds appropriated for the Association shall be expended for teams' and officials' travel, ground transportation, food, lodging, supplies, equipment, uniforms and other related needs of the Association, under the expenditure authority of the District Administrator. Allocation of funds to the Little League, the Senior League and the Big League shall be determined by the District Administrator.~~

~~(e) \$1,000 is appropriated for the CNMI Boy Scouts for the purchase of supplies and materials under the expenditure authority of the Scouts Coordinator.~~

~~(f) \$1,000 is appropriated for the CNMI Girl Scouts for the purchase of supplies and materials under the expenditure authority of the Scouts Coordinator.~~

~~(h) \$502,800 is appropriated out of the Non-Resident Worker Fee Fund to the Department of Labor and Immigration for the Commonwealth wide enforcement of the~~

~~Nonresident Workers Act in addition to the \$60,000 mandated by 3 CMC section 4424 (c) (1) for a total of \$562,800, under the expenditure authority of the Secretary of Labor and Immigration. An additional \$25,000 each is mandated for Tinian and Rota by 3 CMC section 4424 (c) (1). Expenditure authority of these funds for the islands of Tinian and Rota shall rest with the Mayor of Tinian and the Mayor of Rota.~~

(j) \$347,732 is appropriated to the Joeten-Kiyu Library Council as a lump sum grant for the operations, activities, including personnel costs, of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library. Expenditure authority for these funds shall rest with the Chairman of the Joeten-Kiyu Library Council or his designee.

~~(k) \$150,000 is appropriated to Class Code 6535 (Judgments Against the Government) for the Office of the Attorney General. Expenditure authority for these funds shall rest with the Secretary of the Department of Finance.~~

Section 507. Management of Funds. The Secretary of Finance shall regulate and control the expenditure of Public Funds that are appropriated and allocated by this Act, so that no activity may expend appropriated funds contrary to the law or fiscal management policies and practices of the Commonwealth.

Section 508. Reprogramming of Funds. Reprogramming of funds appropriated under this Act shall be in accordance with 1 CMC Section 7402 except as follows:

(a) Reprogramming is not authorized on funds appropriated under expenditure class codes 6222, 6223, 6226, 6404, 6405, 6406, 6430, 6431, 6440, 6450, 6451, 6535, 6540 and any expenditure line item included in the detailed budget worksheets and not assigned specific class codes.

(b) An employee may not receive salaries from more than one local account. Public Law No. 7-31 Public Law No. 8-6, Public Law 8-15 and Public Law No. 9-25 and Senate Joint Resolution No. 7-16 for PSS and House Joint Resolution No. 8-12 for NMI College with reference to salaries of ungraded positions or classified positions shall be strictly adhered to.

(c) Notwithstanding the reprogramming restrictions of 1 CMC Section 7402 (c) (3), funds appropriated under this Act for housing rental (Class Code 6222) and housing allowance (6120) may be used interchangeably. Affected offices and activities are encouraged to utilize the housing allowance method to fulfill their employees' housing requirements.

Section 509. Amendment. 1 CMC Section 7405 is permanently amended to read as follows:

"Section 7405. Certification Required Before Appropriated Funds May be Used for Salary Adjustment and Reclassifications. No person, including the Civil Service Commission, may reclassify or adjust the salary of a government employee whose salary is paid from appropriations from the general funds without first receiving from the Office of Management and Budget and the Department of Finance certification that lawful and sufficient funds for that purpose are available. Likewise, no new or vacant position may be filled without first receiving from the Office of Management and Budget and the Department of Finance a certification that an FTE and personnel funds for that position are available."

Section 510. Lapsed Appropriations.

a) At the end of each quarter, the Secretary of Finance shall determine the amount of lapsed funds from new or vacant positions for the Department of Public Health and Environmental Services, and from those funds allocated to "professional services" for medical referral purposes, and these lapsed funds shall then be reprogrammed to the Medical Referral Account. Lapsed funds so reprogrammed to the Medical Referral Account may be spent without further appropriation, and, such funds shall not revert to the general fund if not spent by the end of the fiscal year, but shall be available without fiscal year limitation.

b) At the end of each quarter, the Secretary of Finance shall also determine the amount of lapsed funds from all new or vacant positions not covered in section 510 (a), and such lapsed funds shall be reprogrammed to a special deficit reduction account. Lapsed funds so reprogrammed to the deficit reduction account shall be spent without further appropriation, shall be available without fiscal year limitation, and shall be spent in the following manner:

1) reprogrammed funds from Sec. 510 (b) shall be used to retire the deficits of fiscal years 1992, 1993, 1994 (being \$13,404,426; \$5,618,410 and \$25,673,405 respectively) and so that deficits from earlier years will be retired first in their entirety, and then later years' fiscal debts shall be retired after the preceding year's debt has been retired in full.

c) Funds appropriated for other categories or purposes not included in Sec. 510 (a) or (b) and not obligated as of September 30, 1996 shall revert to the General Fund.

Section 511. Salary Adjustment. No employee shall receive a retroactive salary adjustment for any period earlier than thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of this Act. This limitation shall not be applicable to civil service within-grade increases.

Section 512. Lateral Transfer. An employee moving from one position to another position within the same pay level, shall be paid at the same pay level and step as the former position and be treated as a lateral transfer, not as a promotion.

~~Section 513. Contract Renewal. Government employees who are employed pursuant to a written employment contract may only receive a higher salary than that provided in the contract which is being renewed during the 1996 FY if: a) they have already been employed under contract for the same position for at least one year; and, b) they have not received any wage or salary increases during the prior year of contracted employment; and, c) there are sufficient funds for any such increase provided and available in the annual appropriation for that agency, department, or government entity; and, d) increases in salary or wages so authorized herein shall be limited to a 5% increase from the salary or wages of the contract being renewed.~~

~~Section 514. Liquidation of Deficits. Article X, Section 6 of the Commonwealth Constitution mandates liquidation of the CNMI's operations deficit. Accordingly, in the case of the operations deficits for fiscal years (FY) 92, 93 and 94, such deficits shall be retired in the following manner: operations fiscal year 1992 deficit, being \$13,404,426, shall be retired in the amount of \$9,300,000 from the \$9,300,000 that is appropriated in this Act for the retirement of deficits.~~

~~The remainder of the FY 1992 deficit shall be retired from those funds reprogrammed for deficit reduction purposes from Sec. 510 (b) of this Act, and upon the FY 1992 deficit being fully~~

~~retired from said reprogrammed funds, the deficit of FY 1993 shall be retired by the funds reprogrammed in Sec. 510 (b) of this Act and then upon full retirement of FY 1993 deficit, such reprogrammed funds shall be spent to retire FY 1994 deficit.~~

Section 515. Amendment. 1 CMC Division 7 Chapter 3 § 7831 is permanently amended to read as follows:

§ 7831 Budgeting and Funding for the Public Auditor and Authorization for Funding by Commonwealth Agencies.

(a) The Secretary of Finance shall withhold one percent (1%) of all amounts appropriated by Commonwealth law for all Commonwealth Government agencies' operations and activities as well as for all capital improvement projects. The term "appropriated by law" includes appropriations pursuant to the continuing spending authority provided for in Article III, Section 9(a) of the Commonwealth Constitution. The withheld amounts shall be deposited in a special account in the General Fund and may be expended without further appropriation solely by the Public Auditor or his designee for the operations and activities of his office.

(b) The Executive Director of all corporations or other autonomous agencies of the Commonwealth which are not funded primarily by legislative appropriations shall pay to the Commonwealth Treasurer an amount not less than the greater of one percent (1%) of its total operations budget from sources other than legislative appropriations or pursuant to any other formula upon which the Public Auditor and the agency may agree. The Commonwealth Treasurer shall deposit the funds in a special account in the General Fund and such funds may be expended without further appropriation solely by the Public Auditor for the operation and activities of his office.

(c) No funds paid into the special account in the General Fund, for the Public Auditor, shall be reprogrammed for any other purpose and all funds paid into said special account shall remain available for expenditure by the Public Auditor without fiscal year limitation.

(d) Notwithstanding any provision(s) of this Act or existing statute(s) the Secretary of Finance shall, upon written request from the Public Auditor, transfer any funds for the Public Auditor, not obligated by September 30, 1996, to the Medical Referral and Scholarship Accounts, in equal parts, and such transferred funds shall be available without fiscal year limitation. Such written requests for transfer of excess funds, if any, shall be made in the discretion of the Public Auditor.

(e) The Legislature shall be exempt from the requirement of a 1% (one-percent) contribution of legislative funds to the Office of the Public Auditor.

~~Section 516. Continuing Appropriation. If the annual appropriation act(s) for the subsequent fiscal year(s) not enacted into law prior to the beginning of such fiscal year, the appropriation levels, criminal penalties, and administrative provisions for government operations and obligations provided under this Act shall continue to apply. With respect to the appropriation amounts, the funds appropriated under expenditure class codes 6405, 6406, 6430, 6431, 6440, 6450, 6451, and any other expenditure line item included in the detailed budget worksheets and not assigned specific class codes shall not be subject to continuing appropriation.~~

~~Section 517. Revenue Shortfall Provision. The Legislature hereby approves the total resources projected and identified by the Governor for appropriation for Fiscal Year 1996. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, however, if the actual collection for the fiscal year falls below the amount anticipated in any one quarter, then the Secretary of Finance shall reduce the budget allocation to each executive department, agency, and program in an amount proportionately equal to the revenue shortfall. This determination by the Secretary of Finance shall be made at the beginning of each quarter.~~

Section 518. Severability. If any provision of this Act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or applications, and to this end the provisions of this Act are severable.

Section 519. 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 this Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying, any liability civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence at the date this Act becomes effective.

Section 520. Effective Date. This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the Governor, or upon its becoming law without such approval.

CERTIFIED BY:

ATTESTED BY:

/s/ Diego T. Benavente
DIEGO T. BENAVENTE
Speaker
House of Representatives

/s/ Evelyn C. Fleming
EVELYN C. FLEMING
House Clerk

Approved this 19th day of October, 1995.
subject to line item veto.

/s/ Froilan C. Tenorio
FROILAN C. TENORIO
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands