



## COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

**Eloy S. Inos**  
Governor

**Ralph DLG. Torres**  
Lieutenant Governor

**23 JAN 2015**

Honorable Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Nineteenth Northern Marianas  
Commonwealth Legislature  
Saipan, MP 96950

Honorable Victor B. Hocog  
Senate President, The Senate  
Nineteenth 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. 18-125, HD1, SD1 entitled, "To increase the salary level for the Secretary of the Department of Finance, the Secretary of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs and the Secretary of the Department of Commerce; and correcting the titles of the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety and the Secretary of the Department of Public Works," which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Eighteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 18-72**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eloy S. Inos", written over a horizontal line.

ELOY S. INOS

cc: Lt. Governor; Attorney General's Office; Department of Finance; Department of Community and Cultural Affairs; Department of Commerce; Department of Public Safety; Department of Public Works; Public Auditor; Special Assistant for Administration; Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review



# *House of Representatives*

18<sup>th</sup> NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 500586  
SAIPAN, MP 96950

January 6, 2015

The Honorable Eloy S. Inos  
Governor  
Commonwealth of the Northern  
Mariana Islands  
Capitol Hill  
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Governor Inos:

I have the honor of transmitting herewith for your action **H. B. No. 18-125, HD1, SD1**, entitled: "To increase the salary level for the Secretary of the Department of Finance, the Secretary of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs and the Secretary of the Department of Commerce; and correcting the titles of the commissioner of the Department of Public Safety and the Secretary of the Department of Public works.", which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Eighteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Sincerely yours,

  
Linda B. Muña  
House Clerk

Attachment



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

**Second Regular Session**

**September 23, 2013**

Representative Antonio P. Sablan, of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*), in an open and public meeting with an opportunity for the public to comment, introduced the following Bill:

**H. B. No. 18-125, HD1, SD1**

**AN ACT**

**TO INCREASE THE SALARY LEVEL FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE; AND CORRECTING THE TITLES OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.**

The Bill was referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means, which submitted Standing Committee Report 18-92; adopted January 21, 2014.

**THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON FIRST AND FINAL READING, FEBRUARY 11, 2014;**  
*with amendments* in the form of H. B. 18-125, HD1 and transmitted to the  
**THE SENATE.**

The Bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Fiscal Affairs.  
**THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE SENATE ON FIRST AND FINAL READING, DECEMBER 23, 2014;**  
*with amendments* in the form of H. B. 18-125, HD1, SD1  
and returned to  
**THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**

The House of Representatives accepted the Senate amendments and passed H. B. 125, HD1, SD1, during its 8th Day, Fourth Regular Session on December 30, 2014.

**THE BILL WAS FINALLY PASSED ON DECEMBER 30, 2014.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "L. Muña", written over a horizontal line.

**Linda B. Muña, House Clerk**



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

**Eighth Day, Fourth Regular Session**

**December 30, 2014**

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**H. B. 18-125, HD1, SD1**

**AN ACT**

**TO INCREASE THE SALARY LEVEL FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE; AND CORRECTING THE TITLES OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.**

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

1           **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature finds that certain department  
2 heads' salaries have been stagnant for many years, despite the increasing responsibilities and  
3 difficulties of their positions. The Secretary of Commerce is responsible for growing the  
4 CNMI economy and continuously looking for new investors, especially during these  
5 economically challenging times. The Secretary of the Department of Community and  
6 Cultural Affairs manages the biggest executive branch department with important functions  
7 including but not limited to the NAP program, youth programs, manamko programs, and  
8 social programs. Yet, these secretaries are paid a salary much lower than other cabinet

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**HOUSE BILL 18-125, HD1, SD1**


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1 members. Therefore, it is intent of this measure to increase their salaries to the same level as  
 2 other cabinet members.

3 **Section 2. Amendment.** 1 CMC §8245 (a) is amended as follows:

4 “(a) Department secretary/activity head:

5 <i>Title</i>	6 <i>Annual Salary (Not to Exceed)</i>
7 Secretary, Community 8 and Cultural Affairs	\$54,000
9 Secretary, Commerce	\$54,000
10 Commissioner, Public Safety	\$54,000
11 Secretary, Finance	\$70,000
12 Secretary, Public Works	\$54,000”

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

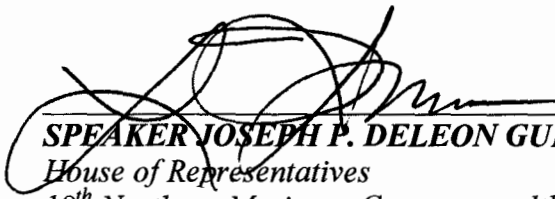
17 **Section 4. Savings Clause.** This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be  
 18 construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes  
 19 repealed or under any rule, regulation, or order adopted under the statutes. Repealers  
 20 contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding instituted under or pursuant to prior law.  
 21 The enactment of the Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying,  
 22 any liability, civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence on the date this Act  
 becomes effective.

**HOUSE BILL 18-125, HD1, SD1**

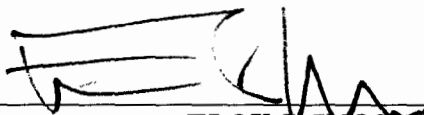
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**Section 5. Effective Date.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the Governor, or its becoming law without such approval.

Attested to by:   
**Linda B. Muña, House Clerk**

Certified by:   
**SPEAKER JOSEPH P. DELEON GUERRERO**  
House of Representatives  
18<sup>th</sup> Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

**APPROVED** this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of JANUARY, 2014

  
**ELOY S. INOS**  
Governor  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands