

Arnold I. Palacios Governor



David M. Apatang
Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

June 25, 2025

LT 2025-054

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

The Honorable Edmund S. Villagomez Speaker House of Representatives Twenty-Fourth 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. 24-12**, entitled "To appropriate \$2,500,000.00 from revenues collected pursuant to Saipan Local Law 11-2 as amended; and for other purposes.," which was passed by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation of the Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This Bill becomes Saipan Local Law 24-04. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

DAVID M. APATANG Acting Governor

cc: Governor; Attorney General; Commonwealth Law Revision Commission; Public Auditor; Acting Special Assistant for Administration; Secretary of Finance; SHEFA; Mayor of Saipan; Mayor of SNI; Municipal Council, SNI; Secretary, DPW; Director, Saipan Zoning; Executive Director, VAO; CNMI Scholarship; CEO, CHCC; Programs and Legislative Review Office



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

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION, 2025

HOUSE LOCAL BILL NO. 24-12

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

To appropriate \$2,500,000.00 from revenues collected pursuant to Saipan Local Law 11-2 as amended; and for other purposes.

OFFERED BY

Representatives Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Joel C. Camacho, John Paul P. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul

Introduced on June 11, 2025

HOUSE ACTION

Transmitted to Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation for action on **June 11, 2025**

DELEGATION ACTION

Referred to:

None

Comments Solicited:

6/12/25 Mayor of Saipan [Del. Matters 24-30]

Mayor of the Northern Islands [Del. Matters 24-31]

18th SNIMC [Del. Matters 24-32]

Comments Received:

6/16/25 18th SNIMC [Misc. Comm. 24-63]

6/18/25 Mayor of Saipan & Mayor of the Northern Islands

commented on Public Comments.

Standing Committee Report:

None

Passed First & Final Reading:

June 18, 2025

Acting Delegation Clerk



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

THIRD SPECIAL SESSION, 2025

H. L. B. NO. 24-12

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

To appropriate \$2,500,000.00 from revenues collected pursuant to Saipan Local Law 11-2 as amended; 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.

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The purpose of this Act is to appropriate local funds from the revenues collected pursuant to Saipan Local Law 11-2 (poker fees).

SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.

Notwithstanding any provision(s) of law, statutes, rules or regulations to the contrary and pursuant to funds allocated to the Third Senatorial District the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation (SNILD) hereby appropriates \$2,500,000.00 of the revenues collected pursuant to Saipan Local Law 11-2 as amended as follows:

(A) \$1,700,000.00 to Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance (SHEFA), provided however that \$250,000 of the \$1,700,000.00 shall be reserved for SHEFA personnel and

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operations, the expenditure authority under 2(A) shall be the SHEFA Board Chairperson in concurrence with the SHEFA Board.

- (B) \$800,000.00 shall be allocated as follows:
- (1) \$150,000.00 for the Saipan Mayors Office for personnel and/or operations (to include costs associated with the annual Liberation Day festivities), expenditure authority shall be the Mayor of Saipan or his/her designee;
- (2) \$50,000.00 for the Northern Islands Mayors Office personnel and/or operations, expenditure authority shall be the Mayor of the Northern Islands or his/her designee;
- (3) \$30,000.00 for the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council, expenditure authority shall be the Chairperson of the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council his/her designee;
- (4) \$60,000.00 for the Northern Marianas Sports Association (NMSA), expenditure authority shall be the Secretary of the Department of Finance or his/her designee;
- (5) \$75,000.00 for the Saipan Zoning Office, expenditure authority shall be the Director of the Saipan Zoning Office or his/her designee;
- (6) \$40,000.00 for the Saipan Little League Baseball program, expenditure authority shall be the Secretary of the Department of Finance or his/her designee;
- (7) \$ 10,000.00 for the Saipan Fishermen's Association for the 41st Annual Saipan International Fishing Derby, expenditure authority shall be the Secretary of the Department of Finance or his/her designee;

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- (8) \$10,000.00 for the Marianas Racing Association, expenditure authority shall be the Secretary of the Department of Finance or his/her designee;
- (9) \$5,000.00 for the 39th Anniversary of the 13 Fishermen Monument, expenditure authority shall be the Secretary of the Department of Finance or his/her designee;
- (10) \$20,000.00 for the Save The Music-CNMI Foundation, expenditure authority shall be the Secretary of the Department of Finance or his/her designee;
- (11) \$3,000.00 for the U10 and U12 Paire Football Club for 2nd Annual Pacific Grassroots Football Fellowship Tournament in Guam, expenditure authority shall be the Secretary of the Department of Finance;
- (12) \$47,000.00 for the Division of Financial Services under the Department of Finance to outfit the Division's facility, expenditure authority shall be the Secretary of the Department of Finance or his/her designee;
- (13) \$25,000.00 for the Veterans Affairs Office, expenditure authority shall be the Executive Director of the CNMI Veterans Affairs Office or his/her designee;
- (14) \$25,000.00 for the CNMI Womens Association operations, expenditure authority shall be the Secretary of Finance or his/her designee;
- (16) \$20,000.00 for the Navy Hill ponding basin and its surrounding areas, expenditure authority shall be the Secretary of the Department of the Public Works or his/her designee;
- (17) \$50,000.00 for the CNMI Scholarship Office, expenditure authority shall be the Chairperson of the Board or his/her designee; and

(18) \$180,000.00 for the Health Network Program (HNP), expenditure authority shall be the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Commonwealth Health Care Corporation (CHCC).

SECTION 3. REPROGRAMMING.

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

SECTION 4. REPORTING OF EXPENDITURES.

Expenditure authorities of the funds allocated under Section 2 of this Act shall be responsible to report all expenses to the Secretary of the Department of Finance and the Chairperson of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation upon exhaustion of all funds allocated to each respective entity. Provided further that failure to provide all expenses entities that were afforded funds under this Act shall not be able to avail to any future funds appropriated by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation.

SECTION 5. 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 6. 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 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

CERTIFIED BY:

John Paul P. Sablan Chairman

Saipan & Northern Islands Legislative Delegation

Edmund S. Villagomez

Speaker

24th House of Representatives

Approved this 25th day of Jone

DAVID M. APATANG ACTING GOVERNOR

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands