



Hse. Comm. No. 24-83

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH
LEGISLATURE**

*Vice Speaker Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building
Capitol Hill
Saipan, MP 96950
cnmileg.net*

September 29, 2025

The Honorable Karl R. King-Nabors
President
The Senate
Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Capitol Hill
Saipan, MP 96950


Dear Senate President King-Nabors:

This is to inform you that the House of Representatives *accepted* the Senate amendments to **H. B. No. 24-46, HD1, SS1**, entitled “To Define and Identify General Revenues and approve revenues and resources of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands as identified pursuant to Article III, Section 9 (a) of the CNMI Constitution, as amended, and 1 CMC Division 7, for Fiscal Year 2026 and 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 2026; and for other purposes.”, by the majority vote of the members, a quorum being present, during its Fourth Day, Second Regular Session September 27, 2025.

Sincerely yours,


Linda B. Muña, MPA
House Clerk

TRANSMITTAL TO THE SENATE

Received by:  Date: 9/29/25 Time: 10:40 am

COPY



THE SENATE

Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature
P. O. Box 500129
Saipan, MP 96950


September 26, 2025

The Honorable Edmund S. Villagomez
Speaker
House of Representatives
24th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Speaker Villagomez:


I have the honor of returning with amendments House Bill No. 24-46, HD1 entitled, "To Define and Identify General Revenues and approve revenues and resources of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands as identified pursuant to Article III, Section 9 (a) of the CNMI Constitution, as amended, and 1 CMC Division 7, for Fiscal Year 2026 and 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 2026; and for other purposes. The Senate passed by the unanimous vote on Final Reading, H.B. No. 24-46, HD1, SS1, entitled, "Appropriations and Budget Act of 2026" in its 4th Day, Second Regular Session on September 26, 2025.

Sincerely,


Frances Joan P. Kaipat
Acting Senate Clerk

attachment

Transmitted to **HOUSE**:

Received by: 

Date: 9/26/2025

Time: 7:15pm

TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH

LEGISLATURE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 15, 2025

Second Regular Session, 2025

H. B. 24-46, HD1, SS1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

To Define and Identify General Revenues and approve revenues and resources of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands as identified pursuant to Article III, Section 9 (a) of the CNMI Constitution, as amended, and 1 CMC Division 7, for Fiscal Year 2026 and 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 2026; and for other purposes.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE 24TH NORTHERN MARIANAS
COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:**

1 **CHAPTER 1. PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS.**

2 **Section 101. Short Title.** This Act may be cited as the “Appropriations and
3 Budget Authority Act of 2026”.

4 **Section 102. Purpose.** This Act appropriates local funds for the operations
5 and activities of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands, its agencies,
6 instrumentalities, independent agencies, and political subdivisions, and provides
7 authority for government corporations for Fiscal Year 2026 commencing
8 October 1, 2025, and ending September 30, 2026.

1 **Section 103. Definitions.** As used in this Act:

2 (a) “ORG” means Organization Code.

3 (b) “NEW” means that the Legislature hereby authorizes the Secretary of
4 Finance to establish an organization code as set forth therein for the named entity.

5 (c) Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
6 includes:

7 (1) Judicial Branch, which includes the following organization codes:

8 11510600 Justices and Judges

9 11510400 Supreme Court

10 11510300 Superior Court

11 11510100 Judiciary Administrative Office

12 11510500 Law Revision Commission

13 11510700 Drug Court

14 11511000 Mental Health Court

15 (2) Legislative Branch, which includes the following organization codes:

16 11620100 House of Representatives Salaries

17 11620200 House Members Allocation

18 11620300 House Leadership Account

19 11620400 Senator Salaries

20 11620500 Senate Members Allocation

21 11620600 Senate Leadership Account

- 1 11620700 Legislative Bureau
- 2 11620800 CNMI Youth Congress
- 3 (3) Executive Branch, which includes the following departments and offices:
- 4 (A) Offices of the Governor, which includes the following organization
- 5 codes:
- 6 11261100 Governor’s Office
- 7 11269000 Governor’s Discretionary Account
- 8 (B) Office of the Lt. Governor
- 9 11262000 Lt. Governor's Office
- 10 11269100 Lt. Governor’s Discretionary Account
- 11 (C) Other Offices of the Governor and Lt. Governor
- 12 11260900 Management and Budget
- 13 11260100 Administrative Services
- 14 11260700 CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management
- 15 Office
- 16 11261800 Office of Youth Affairs
- 17 11260500 Office of Planning & Development
- 18 11261300 Board of Parole
- 19 11261000 Office of Grants Management
- 20 11261200 Public Defender
- 21 11260200 Carolinian Affairs Office

HOUSE BILL 24-46, HD1, SS1

1	11260800	Indigenous Affairs Office
2	11261400	Veterans Affairs Office
3	11261600	Women's Affairs Office
4	11261900	Environmental Quality Saipan
5	11262200	Saipan Zoning Board
6	11260400	Criminal Justice Planning Agency
7	11261500	Vocational Rehabilitation Service
8	11882200	Medicaid Reimbursement
9	11880300	Medicaid Agency
10	11850400	Medicaid Enterprise Systems & Health Information
11		Technology
12		(D) Department of Commerce, which includes the following organization
13		codes:
14	11160100	Secretary of Commerce
15	11160300	Economic Development – Saipan
16	11160400	Statistical Research
17	11160200	Alcoholic Beverage & Tobacco Control
18	11160500	Enforcement & Compliance
19	11160600	Workers Compensation Commission
20	Unassigned	Office of Foreign Corporation Liaison

1 (E) Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, which includes the
2 following organization codes:

3 11120100 Secretary of DCCA
4 11120800 Youth Services – Saipan
5 11120900 Child Care Licensing Program
6 11120600 Historic Preservation – Saipan
7 11120700 Office on Aging – Saipan
8 11120200 Council for Arts & Culture
9 11121000 Low Income Home Energy Asst. Program
10 11121200 Chamorro/Carolinian Language Commission
11 11121400 Nutrition Assistance Program

12 (F) Department of Corrections, which includes the following organization
13 codes:

14 11130100 Corrections Commissioner
15 11130200 Juvenile Detention Unit

16 (G) Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, which includes
17 the following organization codes:

18 11140100 Administration
19 11140300 Emergency Services
20 11140200 Fire Prevention & Arson Investigation
21 11140400 Emergency Medical Services

1 11140500 Logistics and Support

2 11140600 DFEMS Training Section

3 11140700 DFEMS Dispatch Section

4 (H) Department of Finance, which includes the following organization

5 codes:

6 11170100 Secretary of Finance

7 11170800 Finance and Accounting – Saipan

8 11170700 Treasury

9 11170500 Revenue and Taxation – Saipan

10 11170400 Procurement & Supply – Saipan

11 11170900 Customs Services – Saipan

12 11170200 Office of Information Technology

13 11171000 Passport Office

14 (I) Department of Labor, which includes business codes:

15 11180100 Secretary of Labor

16 11180400 Administrative Hearing Office

17 11180500 Employment Services

18 11180700 Labor Enforcement Fund

19 (J) Department of Lands and Natural Resources, which includes the

20 following organization codes:

21 11190100 Secretary of DLNR

- 1 11190700 Agriculture
- 2 11190800 Fish & Wildlife – Saipan
- 3 11190400 Parks & Recreation – Saipan
- 4 11190500 Soil & Water (SPN & NI) District
- 5 11190900 Land Registration & Survey – Saipan
- 6 (K) Department of Public Safety, which includes the following organization
- 7 codes:
- 8 11150400 DPS Commissioner
- 9 N/A Executive Protection Services
- 10 11150500 Police – Saipan
- 11 11150100 Administrative Division
- 12 11150300 Motor Vehicles Division
- 13 (L) Department of Public Works, which includes the following
- 14 organization codes:
- 15 11200100 Secretary of DPW
- 16 11200200 Building Safety Code
- 17 11200500 Roads and Grounds Division
- 18 11200600 Solid Waste Management
- 19 11200700 Technical Services Division
- 20 (4) First Senatorial District (Rota) which includes the following the
- 21 following organization codes:

1	12270100	Mayor Rota
2	12710100	Municipal Council – Rota
3	12170800	Finance & Accounting – Rota
4	12170500	Revenue & Taxation – Rota
5	12170400	Procurement & Supply – Rota
6	12170900	Customs Service – Rota
7	12120600	Historic Preservation – Rota
8	12120400	Sports & Recreation – Rota
9	12180100	Labor – Rota
10	12160300	Commerce - Rota (Economic Development Rota)
11	12150500	Police - Rota (DPS)
12	12140100	Fire & EMS – Rota
13	12190700	Agriculture – Rota
14	12190800	Fish & Wildlife – Rota
15	12190400	Parks & Recreation – Rota
16	12190500	Soil and Water Conservation – Rota
17	12190900	Land Registration & Survey – Rota
18	12200100	Public Works - Rota (Operations and Maintenance Rota)
19	12880900	Public Library – Rota
20	(5)	Second Senatorial District (Tinian and Aguiguan) which includes the
21		following organization codes:

1	13270100	Mayor Tinian
2	13710100	Municipal Council – Tinian
3	13170800	Finance & Accounting – Tinian
4	13170500	Revenue & Taxation – Tinian
5	13170400	Procurement & Supply – Tinian
6	13170900	Customs Service – Tinian
7	13120600	Historic Preservation – Tinian
8	13120700	Aging – Tinian
9	13120400	Sports & Recreation – Tinian
10	13180100	Labor – Tinian
11	13160300	Commerce-Tinian (Economic Development Tinian)
12	13150500	Police - Tinian (DPS)
13	13140100	Fire and EMS – Tinian
14	13190700	Agriculture – Tinian
15	13190800	Fish & Wildlife – Tinian
16	13190400	Parks & Recreation – Tinian
17	13190500	Soil & Water Conservation -Tinian
18	13200100	Public Works-Tinian (Operations & Maintenance Tinian)
19	13880900	Public Library – Tinian
20	(6)	Third Senatorial District – Saipan & Northern Islands Mayors &
21		Municipal Council which includes the following organization codes:

- 1 11270100 Mayor Saipan
- 2 14270100 Mayor Northern Islands
- 3 11710100 Municipal Council Saipan
- 4 (7) Boards and Commissions which include the following the following
- 5 organization codes:
- 6 11110700 Board of Civil Service Commission
- 7 11111100 Office of Personnel Management – Saipan
- 8 13111100 Office of Personnel Management – Tinian
- 9 12111100 Office of Personnel Management – Rota
- 10 11110200 Commonwealth Election Commission
- 11 11110500 Board of Professional Licensing
- 12 11110800 Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)
- 13 11111200 Commonwealth Casino Commission
- 14 11110900 Commonwealth Cannabis Commission
- 15 11111000 CNMI Cannabis Commission Board
- 16 (8) “Independent Programs” means government programs under separate
- 17 boards established by law (unless receiving appropriations or budget authority
- 18 under another heading), specialized general items of appropriations, and those non-
- 19 profit corporations and associations or organizations established outside of the
- 20 Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to which the

1 Commonwealth Government provides financial assistance includes the following
2 organization codes:

- | | | |
|----|------------|--|
| 3 | 11881400 | CNMI Scholarship and Financial Assistance Office |
| 4 | 11881500 | Substance Abuse Prevention |
| 5 | 11880500 | Elected Attorney General |
| 6 | 11884200 | 25% Retirees' Pension Benefits |
| 7 | 11881600 | NMI DC Employer Contributions |
| 8 | 11881700 | GHLI Retirees |
| 9 | 11883100 | Northern Marianas Sports Association |
| 10 | 11881800 | Gov't Health Insurance Employer Contribution (Active |
| 11 | | Employees) |
| 12 | Unassigned | Government Utilities |
| 13 | 11880900 | Joeten/Kiyu Public Library |
| 14 | 11884500 | General Fund Deficit Reduction |
| 15 | 11881900 | NMIRF - Gov/Lt. Gov Pension |
| 16 | 11884600 | Judgments Against Government |
| 17 | 11880200 | NMI Museum of History and Culture |
| 18 | 11882400 | Commonwealth Cancer Association |
| 19 | 11884400 | Government Operational Costs |
| 20 | | Public Assistance Matching |
| 21 | Unassigned | CNMI State Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Inc. |

- 1 (9) Other Programs:
- 2 11850100 Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. (CHCC Subsidy)
- 3 11850700 Health Network Program
- 4 11881000 Northern Marianas College
- 5 11882100 NMC Board of Regents
- 6 11881300 Marianas Visitors Authority
- 7 11881100 Public School System
- 8 11882000 PSS Board of Education
- 9 11883300 Micronesian Legal Services Corporation
- 10 11883500 Northern Marianas Technical Institute
- 11 (10) Public Corporations which include the following:
- 12 Commonwealth Economic Development Authority
- 13 Commonwealth Ports Authority
- 14 Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
- 15 Northern Marianas Housing Corporation
- 16 Office of the Public Auditor
- 17 Commonwealth Economic Incentive Authority
- 18 (d) “Earmark” means funds provided by the Legislature for specific projects
- 19 or programs.

1 (e) “General Revenue” means: Total available resources for FY 2026 less
2 Special Revenue, earmarked funds, debt service payments, other mandatory
3 obligations, and the Department of Public Lands.

4 (f) “Local funds” means locally generated revenues and revenues received
5 pursuant to Section 702 (a) of the Covenant.

6 (g) “Number of Positions”(NOP) means the maximum number of persons
7 that may be employed, pursuant to Article X, Section 7 of the Commonwealth
8 Constitution but does not include Workforce Investment Agency, substitute
9 teachers, summer trainees, teacher aides, physicians, licensed professional nurses
10 and licensed allied health providers working part-time and paid only for
11 instructional time, student-teacher trainees, or short terms specialized instructors,
12 such as visiting artists, performers, writers, and the like. For purposes of this
13 exception, “part-time” means employment not exceeding 40 hours in any biweekly
14 pay period, and “short-term” means not more than 90 instructional days of
15 employment within the Public School System during the fiscal year.

16 (h) “Operations” means appropriations for all lawful activities other than
17 personnel.

18 (i) “Personnel” means appropriations for salaries, employer’s contribution
19 to the Northern Marianas Retirement Fund, the Defined Contribution Plan,
20 overtime, night differential, hazardous pay, and other employee wages and benefits.

1 (j) “Special Account” means a limited special appropriation that sets aside
2 an amount for specific purposes. It is not a bank account but a mechanism to
3 increase or decrease an existing special appropriation. Special accounts are
4 established by legislation. They are managed as a subset of appropriations and are
5 used when other types of appropriations are not suitable.

6 (k) “Special Revenues” are revenues that bear a relationship or nexus
7 between the revenue source and the purpose for said revenues, to include but not
8 be limited to: licensing fees or certain tax revenues that may only be used for the
9 purposes designated by law.

10 **CHAPTER II. ESTIMATED REVENUES**

11 **Section 201. Estimated Revenues.** Pursuant to House Concurrent
12 Resolution No. 24-2, SS1 the total estimated revenues and resources approved and
13 identified for Fiscal Year 2026 are as follows:

14 I. The total identified budgetary resources for FY 2026 is:	<u>\$179,701,969</u>
15 Department of Public Lands:	\$4,892,548
16 Total Revenue Including DPL:	<u>\$184,594,517</u>

17 **II. This amount is subject to the following adjustments:**

18 (A) Less Earmarks:

19 (1) Special Earmarks

20 a) MVA – Hotel (80%) 4 CMC §1803	<u>(\$7,085,234)</u> ¹
-------------------------------------	--

¹ Notwithstanding 4 CMC § 2159, the Secretary of Finance shall remit the monthly share of the Hotel Occupancy Taxes to the respective mayors. The Secretary shall keep a record of the amounts

HOUSE BILL 24-46, HD1, SS1

1	(2) Unsuspended Earmarks	
2	a) IDC Reimbursement to Office of Grants Management	
3	35%, 1 CMC § 2893	(<u>\$937,843</u>)
4	b) Vehicle Registration Fees, PL 11-55	(<u>\$807,684</u>)
5	c) Admiralty and Maritime Fees, 4 CMC § 1222	(<u>\$4,323</u>)
6	d) Weapon Fees, PL19-73	(<u>\$23,925</u>)
7	e) Corporation Fees, 4 CMC § 4205	(<u>\$101,698</u>)
8	(3) General Earmarks	
9	a) Solid Waste Fund (7%) of Excise Tax, 4 CMC §1402(g)(1)	(\$1,140,458)
10	<u>Subtotal</u>	<u>(\$10,101,165)</u>
11	(B) Less Debt Services previously Appropriated:	
12	(1) 2007A Refunding Bond Payment	(<u>\$3,618,500</u>)
13	(2) 2007B Refunding Bond Payment	(<u>\$3,361,750</u>)
14	(3) 2024A Pension Obligation Note Payment (BOG)	(<u>\$5,892,000</u>)
15	(4) Settlement Fund Agreement, 468-1, PL 20-33	(<u>\$29,000,000</u>)
16	<u>Subtotal</u>	<u>(\$41,872,250)</u>
17	III. Total local revenue and resources:	\$132,621,102
18	Department of Public Lands:	(\$4,892,548)
19	General Revenue: Total available resources for FY 2026	
20	remaining after deductions for debt service, revenue transfers,	

remitted and ensure that the respective mayors received not less than \$175,000 before the end of the fiscal year.

1 and other mandatory obligations, and the Department of Public

2 Lands: \$127,728,554

3 Notwithstanding 1 CMC § 7204, funds for Fiscal Year 2026 shall be allotted
4 monthly; except programs and agencies that require one-time payments shall
5 receive advance allotments. These programs include, but shall not be limited to: the
6 CNMI Scholarship and Financial Assistance Office, the Commonwealth
7 Healthcare Corporation, the Commonwealth Medicaid Agency, the CNMI Public
8 School System, the Northern Marianas College, and the Northern Marianas
9 Technical Institute.

10 **Section 202. Advanced Allotment.**

11 Provided further, notwithstanding any law to the contrary, all government
12 entities subject to appropriations shall be expressly permitted to receive their first
13 quarter allotment in its entirety, prior to January 1, 2026.

14 **Section 203. Suspension of Earmarked Funds.**

15 Except for debt service obligations and other earmarking of funds as
16 permitted in Section 201 of this Chapter, the earmarking, reservation, commitment,
17 allotment, or allocation of funds pursuant to the following public laws are hereby
18 suspended for the Fiscal Year 2026:

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 19 a) Tobacco Control – Cigarette Tax, Public Law 13-38: | \$2,443,534 |
| 20 b) CIQ Overtime Revolving Fund: | \$1,498,413 |
| 21 c) GHLI – 50% Cigarette 4 CMC §1402(g)(3) – PL 18-64: | \$4,072,557 |

HOUSE BILL 24-46, HD1, SS1

1	d) Cancer Fund – Cigarette Tax, 4 CMC § 1402(g)(2):	\$681,198
2	e) PSS Technical Education – 4 CMC § 1503(f):	\$67,546
3	f) MVA – Alcohol Container (20%), 4 CMC § 1803:	\$103,457
4	g) Foreign Worker Fee Fund, PL 17-01; 2 CMC §4968:	\$0
5	h) NMIRF – Hotel Tax (20%), 4 CMC § 1803:	\$1,771,309
6	i) NMIRF – Alcohol Container (30%), 4 CMC § 1803:	\$155,186
7	j) NMIRF DB Plan Fund – 15% E-gaming, Public Law 18-30,	
8	4 CMC § 1511 (a):	\$288,847
9	k) NMIRF – 60% E-gaming, Public Law 18-30,	
10	4 CMC § 1511 (b):	\$1,155,387
11	l) Developers Infrastructure Tax (100%):	\$232,590

12 Provided further, notwithstanding any Commonwealth laws to the contrary,
13 in the event that actual collections exceed the projected amounts as identified by
14 the Department of Finance on April 1, 2025, any excess amount shall not be subject
15 to suspension and shall be automatically transferred to the beneficiary entity
16 without further legislative action.

17 **Section 204. Reporting Requirements for the Secretary of Finance.**

18 (a) Comparison of Actual Revenues Collected and Revenues Estimated.
19 Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the Secretary of Finance shall submit to
20 the Presiding Officers of the Legislature, Chairperson of the Senate Committee on
21 Fiscal Affairs and the Chairperson of the House Committee on Ways and Means,

1 at the end of each quarter, a fund status report 1) comparing the actual revenues
2 collected and the revenues estimated of all funds appropriated for the operations
3 and activities of the Commonwealth Government in this Act and 2) all the funds
4 that have been reprogrammed. The Secretary of Finance shall meet with the
5 Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Fiscal Affairs and the Chairperson of the
6 House Committee on Ways and Means in mid-February, mid-May and mid-August
7 to discuss actual revenues collected versus the revenues estimated.

8 (b) Comparison of Actual Expenditures and Appropriated Expenditures.
9 Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the Secretary of Finance shall submit to
10 the Presiding Officers of the Legislature, Chairperson of the Senate Committee on
11 Fiscal Affairs and the Chairperson of the House Committee on Ways and Means,
12 at the end of each quarter, a fund status report comparing the actual expenditures
13 and appropriated expenditures of all funds appropriated for the operations and
14 activities of the Commonwealth Government in this Act.

15 (c) Transfer In and Out Funds. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the
16 Secretary of Finance shall submit to the Presiding Officers of the Legislature, at the
17 end of each quarter, a fund status report on the funds transferred in and out each
18 quarter pursuant to Section 201 of this Act.

19 (d) All Other Source. The Secretary of Finance shall report revenues in
20 excess of \$200,000.00 received from other sources that are not identified in this
21 Act.

1 (e) Violation. The salary of the Secretary of Finance or designee shall be
2 suspended for at least 30 days and the salary shall not be restored until the Secretary
3 of Finance provides all the reports under this section to the Presiding Officers of
4 the Legislature, Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Fiscal Affairs, and the
5 Chairperson of the House Committee on Ways and Means. Provided that the
6 Secretary of Finance shall not be entitled to indemnification, defense, or
7 reimbursement under the Government Liability Act or any other Commonwealth
8 Law.

9 **CHAPTER III.**

10 **GOVERNMENT CORPORATIONS AND DESIGNATED**

11 **AGENCIES/ACTIVITIES**

12 **Section 301. Appropriation and Budget Authority.**

13 Pursuant to 1 CMC § 7206 and as provided herein, budget and expenditure
14 authority for the following activities is hereby approved. Expenditures in excess of
15 the budget authority approved herein for agencies to which General Funds are
16 appropriated shall not be incurred or committed and hiring in excess of the number
17 of positions authorized by this Act is prohibited, unless authorized by a legislative
18 joint resolution in accordance with Section 7, Article X of the N.M.I. Constitution.

19	<u>ACTIVITIES</u>	<u>NOP</u>	<u>PERSONNEL</u>	<u>OPERATIONS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
20	(a) Commonwealth Economic Development Authority	13	\$1,157,389	\$305,920	\$1,463,309
21	(b) Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation	1,041	\$86,225,460	\$54,928,966	\$141,154,426
22	(c) Commonwealth Ports Authority	237	\$6,709,276	\$11,636,965	\$18,346,241

HOUSE BILL 24-46, HD1, SS1

1	(d) Commonwealth Utilities Corporation	572	\$22,287,194	\$80,207,856	\$102,495,050
2	(e) Marianas Public Land Trust	6	\$460,317	\$1,301,971	\$1,762,288
3	f) Marianas Visitors Authority	31	\$1,620,967	\$5,464,267	\$7,085,234
4	(g) Northern Marianas College	166	\$10,762,153	\$4,450,000	\$15,212,153
5	(h) Northern Marianas Housing Corporation	67	\$5,338,598	\$2,601,002	\$7,939,600
6	(i) Northern Marianas Technical Institute	35	\$722,572	\$198,372	\$920,944
7	(j) Office of the Public Auditor	17	\$1,328,415	\$400,493	\$1,728,908
8	(k) Public Utilities Commission	1	\$47,097	\$471	\$47,568
9	Grand Total:	<u>2,186</u>	<u>\$136,659,438</u>	<u>\$161,496,283</u>	<u>\$298,155,721</u>

10 Notwithstanding the above dollar amounts, the entities above shall expend
11 only the lesser of funds actually generated, collected, or received, or the amounts
12 indicated above.

13 **Section 302. Prior Certification of Funds.**

14 No contract shall be entered into with the Commonwealth or any
15 government entity therein without first receiving from the Secretary of the
16 Department of Finance certification that lawful and sufficient funds have been
17 appropriated. Notwithstanding any Commonwealth laws, regulations, or provisions
18 to the contrary, this section shall not apply to the Judicial Branch, Legislative
19 Branch, the Public School System, and the Northern Marianas College.

20 **Section 303. Reporting Requirement.**

21 In Fiscal Year 2026, the expenditure authorities of the foregoing activities
22 listed in Section 301, shall submit to the Presiding Officers of the Legislature,
23 Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Fiscal Affairs and the Chairperson of the

1 House Committee on Ways and Means, a fund status report on the expenditures for
2 personnel and operations of each government entity, and the payments of the public
3 auditor's fee, for the quarter ended and, if applicable, year-to-date totals as of the
4 close of the reporting period.

5 Furthermore, notwithstanding any provisions or laws to the contrary, all
6 additional resources realized within the fiscal year outside of those specified and
7 identified under this Act shall be reported in detail to the Legislature for
8 appropriation purposes.

9 **CHAPTER IV. ADMINISTRATION OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS**

10 **Section 401. Management of Funds.**

11 The expenditure of the funds appropriated and allocated under this Act shall
12 be regulated and controlled by the Secretary of Finance so that no agency,
13 department, instrumentality, program, or activity may expend the funds contrary to
14 the law or fiscal management policies and practices of the Commonwealth.

15 **Section 402. Number of Position(s) (NOP) Ceiling.**

16 Employment Ceilings. Pursuant to Article X, § 7 of the Commonwealth
17 Constitution, the employment ceilings relative to the number of positions are
18 hereby established as set forth in this Act.

19 **Section 403. Donation of Sick Leave.**

20 Notwithstanding any laws to the contrary, when an employee donates sick
21 leave, each hour of donated sick leave shall be counted as 1.0 hour regardless of

1 the hourly rate that was earned by the donor or recipient. Provided that the donated
2 sick leave hours shall not exceed 1040 hours.

3 **Section 404. Expenditure Authority.**

4 The distribution and expenditure of funds shall be in compliance with the
5 fiscal expenditure authority that the listed agencies have pursuant to the statute and
6 the administrative provisions of this Act.

7 **CHAPTER V. REPROGRAMMING AUTHORITY**

8 **Section 501. Reprogramming Authority**

9 (a) The Governor shall have up to 25% reprogramming authority for the
10 departments, agencies, and offices of the executive branch, provided that the
11 municipal entities shall not be subject to this reprogramming authority without the
12 consent of the mayor. Provided further that the reprogramming authority shall not
13 apply to Section 604 of this Act. Reprogramming shall not be used for the hiring
14 of new personnel or for the salary adjustment of active personnel. This authority to
15 reprogram shall not apply to the funds appropriated to the Legislative or Judicial
16 Branches as well as to those funds appropriated by the respective legislative
17 delegations.

18 (b) Pursuant to 1 CMC § 7402(e), all reprogramming shall be reported in
19 writing to the Presiding Officers of the Legislature, the Chairperson of the House
20 Committee on Ways and Means, or the Chairperson of the Senate Committee on
21 Fiscal Affairs within 30 days after the end of each quarter of the fiscal year. Such

1 report shall include a description of each item reprogrammed, the reason for each
2 reprogramming, the change in the approved budget caused by the reprogramming,
3 the cumulative amount of all reprogramming during the fiscal year, and such other
4 information as may be requested by the Chairpersons. The Governor shall submit
5 to the Presiding Officers and Chairpersons an annual summary of all
6 reprogramming activity within 60 days after the end of a fiscal year.

7 (c) Notwithstanding 1 CMC 7401(f), the mayors of all three Senatorial
8 Districts shall have 25% reprogramming authority.

9 **CHAPTER VI. SUPPLEMENTAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS**

10 **Section 601. Utilities.**

11 (a) The CUC monthly utility billings for all departments and agencies shall
12 be paid by the central government after all the funds in the general revolving
13 accounts are exhausted.

14 (b) For prepaid meter accounts, the authorized designee of the respective
15 government agencies or offices shall follow the protocol of the Department of
16 Finance for timely payment.

17 (c) No funds appropriated for utilities shall be reprogrammed.

18 **Section 602. Hiring Restriction.**

19 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, no new or vacant
20 position shall be filled in the executive branch, except for positions that are essential
21 for the delivery of public services such as the Department of Public Safety and the

1 Department of Fire and Emergency Services personnel for each respective
2 Senatorial District and other essential positions as determined by the Governor and
3 approved by the Legislature via joint resolution.

4 (b) Notwithstanding any law or regulation to the contrary, if a Notice of
5 Personnel Action has been executed by the hiring agency or a candidate to fill the
6 vacancy has been selected or action has been initiated to fill the position by any
7 department or agency and filed at the Office of Personnel Management on Rota,
8 Tinian, or Saipan, the vacant position shall be considered as processed and to be
9 filled. The renewal of the contract for an existing employee shall not be considered
10 as creating a vacant position.

11 **Section 603. Salary Cap.**

12 (a) For Fiscal Year 2026, the compensation of certain appointed officials
13 shall be compensated as set forth in the attached Schedule A and pursuant to 1 CMC
14 § 8245 and 1 CMC § 28003.

15 (b) For Fiscal Year 2026, notwithstanding 1 CMC § 8245(c), the annual
16 salary of the Resident Department Heads of the First and Second Senatorial
17 Districts shall be \$40,000.

18 (c) For Fiscal Year 2026, notwithstanding any provision of law to the
19 contrary, all Resident Department Heads of the First and Second Senatorial
20 Districts and CNMI Department Heads shall be subject to austerity measures as
21 provided for by law.

1 (d) For Fiscal Year 2026, notwithstanding any provision of law to the
2 contrary, federal and/or non-General Revenue funds may be utilized to fund salaries
3 in excess of the caps set forth in 1 CMC § 8245 (a), (f), (h) and (j) and 1 CMC §
4 8246.

5 **Section 604. Revolving Accounts.**

6 Subject to constitutional limits, notwithstanding any CNMI and/or local
7 laws, regulations, and rules to the contrary and except for the suspended accounts
8 as provided in Section 203 and special revenue accounts, all general revolving
9 account expenditure limitations and restrictions relating to the scope of application
10 or other subject matter requirements are hereby suspended in FY 2026.

11 Accordingly, all legally established general and/or special revolving
12 accounts and the funds therein may be expended by their respective expenditure
13 authorities for personnel and operational expenses; including fuel,
14 communications, operational office supplies, utilities, and travel for training
15 purposes. Provided further that Section 501 of this Act shall not apply to this
16 section.

17 **Section 605. Legal Holidays.**

18 Any employee required to work on a non-federal Commonwealth legal
19 holiday shall be paid at the basic salary rate for the hours worked on that day
20 without any additional adjustment for holiday leave with pay. This provision does
21 not apply to employees who are 100% or partially funded with federal funds.

1 **Section 606. Cell #1 and Cell #2 of the Marpi Landfill Closure Financial**
2 **Assurance Mechanism.**

3 In the event of any funding shortfalls caused by this Appropriations Act, the
4 CNMI Government shall commit its full faith and credit when necessary to
5 effectuate the closure of Cell #1 and Cell #2 of the Marpi Landfill.

6 **Section 607. Reduction of Work Hours.**

7 During Fiscal Year 2026, notwithstanding any laws or contractual
8 provisions to the contrary, a full pay period for the employment benefit of annual
9 leave, sick leave, or other benefits shall be earned despite the implementation of
10 austerity measures as provided for by law.

11 **Section 608. Vacant Positions.** Except as provided under Section 602(b),
12 notwithstanding any law to the contrary, any position that becomes vacant shall be
13 closed out. Unused funds for such position shall go to operation expenses within
14 that department or agency within 30 days upon vacancy unless a request is made to
15 the Legislature for reinstatement of the vacant position, which shall be approved by
16 a joint resolution.

17 **Section 609. Public Auditor's Fee.** The Public Auditor's Fee is 1% (one
18 percent) of the total appropriations for each instrumentality, department, agency,
19 corporation, and budget activity of the CNMI Government. Notwithstanding any
20 other provision of law, any funds in excess of the appropriated \$1,728,908 to the
21 Office of Public Auditor as set forth in Section 301 (j) herein, are hereby reserved

1 for the Group Health Life Insurance (GHLI). Agencies that are required by law to
2 allocate 1 % of their budgets to OPA, that are not funded by the general fund, shall
3 remit their respective fee on a monthly basis to the Department of Finance.

4 **Section 610. DPS Rota and DPS Tinian Detainees.** The Department of
5 Corrections shall be responsible for all costs and expenses associated with the
6 transportation of all detainees and inmates between the senatorial districts for all
7 courts appearances and other legally mandated activities.

8 **Section 611. OGM Funds in Excess of Office of Grants Management**
9 **Budget.** Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, if the OGM receives in excess
10 of \$937,843 that is allotted to OGM as provided under 1 CMC § 2893(a), the excess
11 shall be reserved for the Group Health Life Insurance (GHLI) and CNMI's
12 government's obligation to the retirees' 25% pension payment.

13 **Section 612. Hazardous Pay.** The Solid Waste Management shall pay the
14 amount of \$179,691 of hazardous pay owed to the Saipan, Tinian, and Rota
15 employees from the Solid Waste Management Revolving Fund collected under
16 Title 2 section 3551. This obligation shall be prioritized and fully satisfied before
17 any other funds are expended for other programs. With respect to the payment of
18 hazardous pay, there shall be a written report submitted by the Secretary of Finance
19 and the Department of Public Works to the Presiding Officers by the end of first
20 quarter of Fiscal Year 2026.

1 **Section 613. DCCA NAP Sun Bucks Program.** Of the amount
2 appropriated via Schedule A, attached and incorporated by reference hereto, to the
3 Nutritional Assistance Program, the amount of \$160,000 shall be allotted for the
4 50% matching of the NAP Sun Bucks Program. Notwithstanding any provision of
5 this Act to the contrary, the Sun Bucks Program shall not be subject to austerity
6 measures.

7 **Section 614. MVA Trust Funds.**

8 (a) Notwithstanding 4 CMC §2159, the Secretary of Finance shall transfer
9 the monthly share of the Hotel Occupancy Tax to the respective mayors.
10 Additionally, the Secretary shall account the transfers and ensure that the respective
11 mayors receive not less than \$175,000 before the end of the fiscal year.

12 (b) The funds shall be remitted on a quarterly basis in the amount of
13 \$43,750.

14 (c) Each mayor must submit a quarterly report within 30 days after the end
15 of each quarter.

16 **Section 615. Commonwealth Casino Members.** Notwithstanding 4 CMC
17 §§ 2308 and 2309 or any CNMI law to the contrary, the Secretary of Finance shall
18 reserve \$210,000 from the \$2.7 million received from the IPI Settlement
19 Agreement, as these special revenue funds have a clear nexus to said payment, to
20 pay a portion of the salaries owed to the former Commonwealth Casino members.
21 Payments shall be distributed as allocated in Schedule B.

1 Judicial Branch work schedule and operating hours that are consistent with
2 available funds for personnel and operations.

3 (c) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in the event of
4 austerity measures, the Chief Justice and the Presiding Judge may use any available
5 non-General Revenue source funds, including revolving accounts, to restore the
6 reduced work hours of the Judicial Branch personnel and operations.
7 Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the expenditure authority for the
8 Judicial Branch shall have reprogramming authority to move funding from
9 Personnel to Operations and from Operations to Personnel.

10 (d) Notwithstanding any Commonwealth law to the contrary, there shall be
11 no reduction of allotments and or proportionate cuts to the Judicial Branch absent
12 a new annual budget submission and corresponding enactment of an amended
13 annual budget.

14 **Section 704. Legislative Branch.**

15 The Number of Personnel and allocations for personnel, operations, and
16 utilities for the Legislative Branch shall be as shown in Schedule A.

17 (a) Art. II Sec. 16(e) of the Commonwealth Constitution provides:

18 e) Beginning the second Monday of January 1998, the amount of the
19 ceiling and all other dollar amounts stated in this section shall be adjusted
20 every two years by the same percentage as the percentage change in the
21 United States Department of Commerce composite price index during the

1 two preceding fiscal years using the beginning of the fiscal year 1996 as
2 the base.

3 The allocation ceilings have automatically increased every two years,
4 beginning in January 1998. Using the price composite indexes developed by the
5 Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis for State and Local
6 Government Consumption Expenditures and Gross Investment, the allocation
7 ceilings for the Legislature for fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024 are as follows:

8 Price Index for All Government Consumption Expenditures and Gross Investment

9 Legislative Branch	Base Ceiling 10 Oct. 1, 1995	Change in Price Index Jan 1, 2020	Ceiling Jan. 1, 2020 Based on Change
11 Members Allocation	\$155,000	60.335%	\$248,519.25
12 Presiding Officers Allocation	\$400,000	60.335%	\$641,340.00
13 Legislative Bureau	\$2,000,000	60.335%	\$3,206,700.00

14 (b) Notwithstanding any laws to the contrary, the Legislative Bureau
15 Director may adjust the Legislative Branch work schedule and operating hours that
16 are consistent with available funds for personnel and operations.

17 (c) The Legislative Bureau Director may use any available non-General
18 Revenue funds to restore the reduced work hours of the LB personnel.

19 (d) Salaries of Legislative Members.

20 (1) The amount appropriated under this section to the House of
21 Representatives under “personnel” shall be used to fund the salaries and benefits of
22 the members of the House of Representatives. The expenditure authority for the
23 amounts appropriated shall be the Speaker of the House.

1 (2) The amount appropriated under this section to the Senate under
2 “personnel” shall be used to fund the salaries and benefits of the members of the
3 Senate. The expenditure authority for the amounts appropriated shall be the
4 President of the Senate.

5 (e) Members’ Office Accounts and Employees.

6 (1) Notwithstanding 1 CMC § 7401(c) to the contrary, each member shall
7 be the expenditure authority of the funds appropriated to their individual sub-
8 account;

9 (2) Funds appropriated for the operation of the member’s office, including,
10 but not limited to, the personnel costs of the member’s employees and expenditures
11 as authorized by the adopted rules of the Senate in the case of the Senate member,
12 or the adopted rules of the House of Representatives in the case of a House member,
13 or the Legislative Bureau, may be expended to defray travel and incidental expenses
14 for the purpose of attending to legislative business; provided that a member may
15 receive a one-month advancement of funds appropriated to his or her office for
16 expenditures;

17 (3) Allocation of the maximum number of positions among House members
18 shall be governed by the rules of the House; and

19 (4) Allocation of the maximum number of positions among Senate members
20 shall be governed by the rules of the Senate.

1 (f) Senate and House Leadership Accounts. The leadership account of each
2 house shall be \$200,000. The Presiding Officer of each respective house, or his
3 lawfully authorized designee, shall be the expenditure authority and shall use such
4 funds to support the operations and activities of the House of Representatives and
5 Senate in accordance with its rules, provided that the Presiding Officer distributes
6 a portion of the total allocation in equal amounts to all the standing committees for
7 their operations and activities.

8 (g) Legislative Bureau, ORG 11620700. The Number of Personnel and
9 allocations for personnel, operations, and utilities for the Legislative Bureau shall
10 be as shown in Schedule A. The expenditure authority of the funds appropriated for
11 the Legislative Bureau shall be the Director of the Legislative Bureau or authorized
12 designee. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, including any provision
13 of this Act, the expenditure authority for the Legislative Bureau shall have
14 unrestricted reprogramming authority to move funding from Personnel to
15 Operations, which includes Utilities, and from said Operations to Personnel.

16 (h) Northern Marianas Youth Congress, ORG 11620800. The Number of
17 Personnel and allocations for personnel and operations for Youth Congress shall be
18 as shown in Schedule A. The expenditure authority is vested in the Director of the
19 Legislative Bureau with the consent of the Speaker of the Northern Mariana Islands
20 Youth Congress.

1 (i) Notwithstanding any Commonwealth law to the contrary, there shall be
2 no reduction of allotments and or proportionate cuts to the Legislative Branch
3 absent a new annual budget submission and corresponding enactment of an
4 amended annual budget.

5 **Section 705. Executive Branch.**

6 The allocation for the Executive Branch shall be as shown in Schedule A.

7 (a) The Governor shall have authority to expend, obligate, encumber, or
8 otherwise commit, all the funds appropriated to the Office of the Governor and all
9 Other Offices of the Governor.

10 (b) The Lt. Governor shall be the expenditure authority of the funds
11 appropriated to the Office of the Lt. Governor.

12 (c) Law enforcement officers of the Department of Public Safety and the
13 Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services eligible for overtime shall be
14 funded by non-General Revenue sources.

15 (d) Of the collections received by the CNMI Passport Office, no less than
16 \$50,000 of the General Revenue funds shall be reserved for the CNMI Passport
17 Office's personnel and operations. This does not affect the Schedule "A"
18 appropriation of \$96,485.

19 (e) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, for Fiscal Year
20 2026, indirect costs shall remain with Department of Community and Cultural

1 Affairs for purposes of funding operations and utilities and shall not be transferred
2 to the Office of Grants Management.

3 (f) Of the collections received by the Registrar of Corporations Revolving
4 Account, under the Department of Commerce, funds shall be reserved for NOPs for
5 personnel in the amount of \$149,236 and the amount of \$30,000 for operations.

6 Under the Department of Commerce, there shall be 7 NOPs to include three
7 ABTC Officers I, one Director for the Foreign Corporation Office, one
8 Administrative Specialist, one Admin Clerk, and one Economist.

9 (g) **Department of Labor.** Of the amount appropriated to the CNMI
10 Department of Labor, the sum of \$10,000 shall be remitted to the Rota Department
11 of Labor (DOL) under the expenditure authority of the Rota DOL Resident
12 Director, in consultation of the Mayor of Rota, to fund apprenticeship and training
13 programs of U.S. citizens to augment Rota's workforce; and \$10,000 shall be
14 remitted to the Tinian Department of Labor (DOL) under the expenditure authority
15 of the Tinian DOL Resident Director, in consultation of the Mayor of Tinian, fund
16 apprenticeship and training programs of U.S. citizens to augment Tinian's
17 workforce.

18 **Section 706. First Senatorial District – Mayor of Rota and Rota**
19 **Municipal Council.**

20 The Number of Personnel and allocations for personnel, operations, and
21 utilities for the First Senatorial District shall be as shown in Schedule A.

1 (a) Except as provided in this section, the Mayor of Rota shall have
2 authority to expend, obligate, encumber, and otherwise commit, all the funds
3 appropriated to the First Senatorial District. Additionally, except as provided in this
4 section, in accord with the Superior Court’s decision in the case of *Inos v. Tenorio*,
5 the Mayors shall also have expenditure authority over resident government
6 departments in the First and Second Senatorial districts respectively unless the
7 Governor revokes expenditure authority in a manner consistent with the Superior
8 Court’s holding in *Inos v. Tenorio*, to wit: expenditure authority over resident
9 departments that are primarily concerned with the delivery of public services can
10 be revoked only on a prior showing of just cause, but the Governor has the
11 discretion to revoke expenditure authority over those departments that are primarily
12 concerned with enforcing the law.

13 (b) Any shortfall in the appropriated funds as a result or due to payment of
14 overtime, retirement, or benefits shall be borne by the municipality. Provided that
15 law enforcement officers of the Department of Public Safety – Rota and the
16 Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services – Rota eligible for overtime
17 shall be funded by non-General Revenue sources.

18 (c) **Rota Municipal Council.** Appropriations to the Municipal Council
19 shall be divided and distributed equally to each member of the Municipal Council
20 in separate accounts. Each Municipal Council member shall be the expenditure
21 authority of funds distributed to him/her.

1 **Section 707. Second Senatorial District – Mayor of Tinian & Aguiguan**
2 **and Tinian Municipal Council.**

3 The Number of Personnel and allocations for personnel, operations, and
4 utilities for the Second Senatorial District shall be as shown in Schedule A.

5 (a) Except as provided in this section, the Mayor of Tinian and
6 Aguiguan shall have authority to expend, obligate, encumber, or otherwise commit
7 or reprogram, all the funds appropriated to the Second Senatorial District.
8 Additionally, in accord with the Superior Court’s decision in the case of *Inos v.*
9 *Tenorio*, the Mayors shall also have expenditure authority over resident
10 government departments in the First and Second senatorial districts respectively
11 unless the Governor revokes expenditure authority in a manner consistent with the
12 Superior Court’s holding in *Inos v. Tenorio*, to wit: expenditure authority over
13 resident departments that are primarily concerned with the delivery of public
14 services can be revoked only on a prior showing of just cause, but the Governor
15 has the discretion to revoke expenditure authority over those departments that are
16 primarily concerned with enforcing the law.

17 (b) Any shortfall in the appropriated funds as a result of or due to
18 payment of overtime, retirement, or benefits shall be borne by the municipality.
19 Provided that law enforcement officers of the Department of Public Safety –

1 Tinian and the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services – Tinian
2 eligible for overtime shall be funded by non-General Revenue sources.

3 (c) Tinian Municipal Council. Appropriations to the Municipal Council
4 shall be divided and distributed equally to each member of the Municipal Council
5 in separate accounts. Each Municipal Council member shall be the expenditure
6 authority of funds distributed to him/her. Of the \$27,729 appropriated to the
7 Municipal Council under Operations, the amount of \$10,000 shall be reserved for
8 utilities and operations and the remainder shall be divided equally among the
9 council members.

10 (d) Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, the funds
11 appropriated under Tinian Local laws 24-6 and 24-7 shall be re-appropriated to
12 fund personnel of the Office of the Mayor of Tinian & Aguiguan under the
13 expenditure authority of the Mayor of Tinian & Aguiguan.

14 **Section 708. Third Senatorial District – Mayor of Saipan; Mayor of the**
15 **Northern Islands; and Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council.**

16 The Number of Personnel and allocations for personnel, operations, and
17 utilities for the Office of the Mayor of Saipan, Office of the Mayor of the Northern
18 Islands, and the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council shall be as shown
19 in Schedule A.

20 (a) The Mayor of Saipan, the Mayor of the Northern Islands, and the
21 Chairperson of the Municipal Council for Saipan and the Northern Islands or each

1 of their respective designees shall be the expenditure authority for allocations for
2 their respective offices.

3 (b) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the Mayor of the Northern
4 Islands, may promulgate rules and regulations to generate revenue in his or her
5 respective municipality, consistent with such authority exercised by other
6 municipalities to include not be limited to package tour fees, fishing fees, and
7 hunting fees. Said revenue shall be locally appropriated by the Saipan and Northern
8 Islands Legislative Delegation after establishment of a revolving fund.

9 **Section 709. Other Programs.**

10 The Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Appropriation for the programs under this
11 section shall be as shown in Schedule A.

12 (a) **Northern Marianas College.** The President of the Northern Marianas
13 College or designee shall be the expenditure authority of the funds under ORG
14 11881000.

15 (b) **NMC Board of Regents.** The Chairperson of the Board of Regents of
16 the Northern Marianas College or designee shall be the expenditure authority of the
17 appropriated funds under ORG 11882100.

18 (c) **Public School System.** The Commissioner of Education or designee
19 shall be the expenditure authority of the appropriated funds under ORG 11881100.
20 Funds appropriated to PSS shall not be used for the following: 1) personnel and
21 operations of the Board of Education, 2) pay raises for central administrative

1 directors until or unless all austerity measures such as teacher furloughs or other
2 curriculum/program cuts and or restrictions are rescinded or no longer in effect;
3 and 3) legal fees and costs of litigation including but not limited to any payments
4 for settlements and/or judgments and/or legal representation.

5 Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no budget cuts or austerity
6 measures shall be applied to teacher salaries, instructional positions, or essential
7 student programs (e.g., meals, counseling, special education, and Chamorro
8 Carolinian Language Heritage Studies) until all non-instructional administrative
9 cost reductions have been exhausted. 96% of all PSS funds must be allocated
10 directly to instructional expenditures. Austerity measures shall not apply to
11 federally funded positions and programs or those programs that receive a CNMI
12 match from the General Fund.

13 Provided further, of the appropriated funds under ORG 11881100, \$400,000
14 shall be reserved for inter-island travel and lodging accommodations within the
15 CNMI for the students, coaches, teachers, support staff, and chaperones
16 participating in the PSS interscholastic sports leagues, cultural competitions, and
17 off-island academic competitions for School Year 2025-2026 to include Moot
18 Court and Mock Trial. In addition, \$100,000 shall be reserved for the teacher and
19 support staff incentives and rewards program. These funds shall be in addition to
20 any other amounts provided via federal grants.

1 Provided further that the expenditure authority shall provide a detailed
2 expense report in writing to the Presiding Officers of the Legislature, the
3 Chairperson of the House Standing Committee on Ways and Means, and the
4 Chairperson of the Senate Standing Committee on Fiscal Affairs within 30 days
5 after the end of Fiscal Year 2026.

6 Notwithstanding any law to the contrary PSS shall be exempt from 3 CMC
7 1132. Provided further, PSS personnel assigned directly to schools, such as,
8 administrative personnel and support staff inclusive of principals, vice principals,
9 instructors, teachers (including those assigned to CCLHS), teacher aides, librarians,
10 pupil transportation personnel and bus drivers, janitors and counselors, shall be
11 exempt from any austerity measures such as furloughs and reductions in force.

12 The protection established by this section, shall take precedence over
13 administrative or management positions which may be subject to austerity
14 measures before any school level personnel.

15 (d) **Board of Education.** The Chairperson of the Board of Education or
16 his/her designee shall be the expenditure authority of the appropriated funds under
17 ORG 11882000. The funds appropriated to the Board of Education shall include
18 the cost and expenses of the student and teacher representatives to the Board of
19 Education.

20 (e) The CNMI Health Network Program (hereinafter, “HNP”) (formerly
21 known as CNMI Medical Referral Program). The Commonwealth Healthcare

1 Corporation shall administer the HNP or its successor, including both inter-island
2 and off-island referrals, consistent with its duties and responsibilities under 3 CMC
3 § 2821 *et seq.* More specifically, the inter-island medical referral services shall
4 include stipends, airfare, and lodging for patients and escorts, which is consistent
5 with the off-island medical referral program. The expenditure authority for all funds
6 appropriated to inter-island and off-island medical referral services and
7 administration (inclusive of ORG 11850100, 11850700, and any new organizations
8 codes established for CHCC Medical Referral) shall be the CEO of the
9 Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation or designee. Provided further that
10 \$150,000 of the funds appropriated to the HNP, ORG 11850700, shall be used
11 exclusively for inter-island medical referral.

12 (f) Northern Marianas Technical Institute. The Chairperson of the Board of
13 Trustees or designee in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer shall be the
14 expenditure authority of the appropriated funds for the Northern Marianas
15 Technical Institute.

16 **Section 710. Independent Programs.**

17 The Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Appropriation for the agencies under this
18 section shall be as shown in Schedule A.

19 (a) Joeten-Kiyu Public Library. The Chairperson of the Commonwealth
20 Library Council or designee shall be the expenditure authority of the appropriated
21 funds.

1 (b) NMI Museum of History and Culture. The Chairperson of the Board of
2 Governors of the NMI Museum of History and Culture or designee shall be the
3 expenditure authority of the appropriated funds.

4 (c) Elected Attorney General. The Attorney General or designee shall be the
5 expenditure authority of the appropriated funds.

6 (d) The expenditure authority of the funds appropriated for the Public
7 Assistance Program shall be the Governor's Authorized Representative.

8 (e) Medicaid Program. The funds appropriated in this Act for the Medicaid
9 Program, including Medicaid Reimbursement, ORG 11882200, Medicaid Agency,
10 ORG 11880300, and Medicaid Enterprise Systems & Health Information
11 Technology, ORG 11850400 shall be deemed a single budget reserved for the
12 purposes of Medicaid Agency, Medicaid Reimbursement, and Medicaid Enterprise
13 Systems & Health Information Technology. The Director of the Commonwealth
14 Medicaid Agency may reallocate the funds appropriated in this Act to any of the
15 expenditure categories, including, but not limited to, Medicaid Agency, Medicaid
16 Reimbursement, and Medicaid Enterprise Systems & Health Information
17 Technology. Provided further, notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, for
18 Fiscal Year 2026, pursuant to the request of Commonwealth Medicaid Agency,
19 with the concurrence of the Office of Personnel Management, all of the 12 NOPs
20 for the Medicaid Enterprise Systems & Health Information Technology funded
21 under ORG 11850400 shall be excepted service contract employees.

1 (f) CNMI Scholarship and Financial Assistance Office. Of the funds
2 appropriated to the CNMI Scholarship and Financial Assistance Office, \$50,000
3 shall be used to fund the Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP)
4 established under 3 CMC § 11101, as shown in Schedule A.

5 (g) For programs and activities not specifically mentioned, the expenditure
6 authority shall be the Secretary of Finance.

7 **Section 711. Department of Public Lands.**

8 (a) Pursuant to 1 CMC § 2803 of the Commonwealth Code, Department of
9 Public Lands (DPL) submitted a budget of \$4,892,548. The DPL, pursuant to the
10 Memorandum of Agreement between DPL and the Department of Lands and
11 Natural Resources (DLNR) is authorized to pay for professional services provided
12 by the personnel of the DLNR Division of Parks and Recreation of all three
13 senatorial districts. Provided further, DPL shall provide payments for the
14 landscaping and ground maintenance of all properties that fall under the purview of
15 Parks and Recreation.

16 (b) Pursuant to a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between
17 the Department of Public Lands and the Department of Lands and Natural
18 Resources (DLNR) and the Mayors of Rota and Tinian & Aguiguan, DPL is
19 authorized to expend up to \$800,000 annually for maintenance and security of
20 public lands, including designated parks, recreational areas, and other real estate

1 properties, inclusive of the former Rota Resort, the former Tinian Dynasty, the
2 former Kanoa Resort, and the former Marianas Resort, under DPL's jurisdiction.

3 (c) Of the funds within the DPL Holding Account, the sum of \$4,000,000
4 shall be remitted to the Marianas Public Lands Trust on or before October 15, 2025,
5 in addition to the other constitutional and statutory remittance.

6 **Section 712. Financial Data and Transparency Information Access.**

7 (a) Access Provided to Legislative Fiscal Analysts.

8 Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, training and access
9 to the following shall be provided:

10 (1) The Munis Financial Management Information System or other
11 financial and accounting system to obtain the following: monthly
12 collections and expenditures, including but not limited to funds status, and
13 detailed expenditure reports in a format that is exportable or convertible to
14 Excel files; and

15 (2) The following reports in a format that is exportable or
16 convertible to Excel files shall be provided to the CNMI Legislative Fiscal
17 Analysts 30 days after the effective date of this Act:

18 (A) All revolving accounts;

19 (B) All business activities listed in Schedule A;

20 (C) All accounts listed as earmarks in the Budget Authority Act;

1 (D) All debt service payments, including payments to the Settlement
2 Fund, and Series A and Series B Funds;

3 (E) All revenue accounts in the First, Second, and Third Senatorial
4 Districts that are identified as budgetary resources in the Budget
5 Authority Act;

6 (3) Any other financial information, not legally privileged or
7 protected, relating to the CNMI Government's expenditure of public funds,
8 as needed and requested, in writing, within 10 days of said request.

9 **Section 713. Violations of Spending Limits.**

10 The expenditure of funds in excess of allocations and reprogramming
11 established by this Act is a violation of the Planning and Budget Act, 1 CMC §7101
12 *et seq.* Any expenditure authority that violates The Planning and Budget Act shall
13 be suspended without salary for at least 30 days and the salary shall not be restored
14 until a fiscal plan is submitted to the Presiding Officers of the Legislature,
15 Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Fiscal Affairs, and the Chairperson of the
16 House Committee on Ways and Means, and accepted by both houses of the
17 Legislature to retire the over-expenditure. Provided, they also shall not be entitled
18 to indemnification, defense, or reimbursement under the Government Liability Act
19 or any other Commonwealth Law.

20 **Section 714. Reporting Requirement.**

1 In Fiscal Year 2026, the expenditure authorities of the foregoing activities
2 listed in Chapter 7 and the CNMI Public School System, shall submit to the
3 Presiding Officers of the Legislature, Chairperson of the Senate Committee on
4 Fiscal Affairs and the Chairperson of the House Committee on Ways and Means, a
5 fund status report on the expenditures for personnel and operations of each
6 government entity, and the payments of the public auditor’s fee, for the quarter
7 ended and, if applicable, year-to-date totals as of the close of the reporting period.

8 **CHAPTER VIII. NON GENERAL REVENUE SOURCES**

9 **Section 801. Administrative Provisions.**

10 (a) Notwithstanding 1 CMC § 7204, the non-General Revenue source funds
11 appropriated for Fiscal Year 2026 shall be allotted monthly; except programs that
12 require one-time payments may receive advance allotments.

13 (b) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the Secretary of Finance shall
14 submit to the Presiding Officers of the Legislature, at the end of each quarter, a
15 fund status report on the non-General Revenue sourced funds that are transferred
16 in and out of government organizational codes and their respective accounts,
17 pursuant to Section 802 of this Act.

18 (c) All salaries of elected officials that are waived under 1 CMC § 8442
19 shall be transferred by the Secretary of Finance to the Scholarship Trust Account
20 and the funds from the account shall be spent for scholarship purposes only, without
21 further appropriation, and without fiscal year limitation. The Administrator of the

1 CNMI Scholarship and Financial Assistance Office shall provide a report to the
2 Presiding Officers of the legislature within 30 days after the end of each quarter.

3 **Section 802. Non General Revenue Sources.**

4 (a) **Tobacco Settlement Funds.** Pursuant to 3 CMC § 2173 and the funds
5 allocated in this section pursuant to the submittal of a program and expenditure plan
6 to the Secretary of Finance, the Tobacco Settlement funds in the amount of
7 \$541,597.00, not subject to reprogramming or fiscal year limitation, shall be
8 allocated as follows:

9	(1) Division of Public Health 40%:	\$216,638.80
10	(2) Public School System 20%:	\$108,319.40
11	(3) Youth Affairs Office 12.5%:	\$67,699.62
12	(4) Coalition of Private Schools 7.5%:	\$40,619.78
13	(5) Rota Mayor 10%:	\$54,159.70
14	(6) Tinian and Aguiguan Mayor 10%:	\$54,159.70

15 The expenditure authorities of the funds allocated pursuant to this Section
16 802(a) shall be the persons authorized by law for each respective office or agency.
17 The expenditure authorities shall provide accountability and transparency by
18 providing within 30 days after the end of each quarter an expenditure report of the
19 funds to the governor and the Presiding Officers of the Legislature.

20 (b) **Commonwealth Worker Fund** (Source: U.S.P.L. 115-218).

HOUSE BILL 24-46, HD1, SS1

1 In accordance with U.S. Public Law 115-218, the sum of \$1,300,000 in
2 Commonwealth Worker Fee Funds shall be available for the sole and exclusive
3 purpose of funding vocational education, apprenticeships, or other training
4 programs for United States workers by Commonwealth educational entities for
5 Fiscal Year 2026. Provided that out of the \$1,300,000 the following amounts shall
6 be allocated for the sole and exclusive purpose of funding vocational education,
7 apprenticeships, or other vocational training programs for United States workers:

8 (1) NMTech 60%:	\$780,000.00
9 (2) NMC 15%:	\$195,000.00
10 (3) CNMI PSS 4%:	\$52,000.00
11 (4) CNMI DOL:	\$273,000.00

12 The expenditure authorities of all Commonwealth educational entities that
13 receive Commonwealth Worker Fee Funds shall submit to the Presiding Officers
14 of the Legislature, Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Fiscal Affairs and the
15 Chairperson of the House Committee on Ways and Means, at the end of each
16 quarter, a fund status report of the funds allocated under this subsection. Provided
17 further, for purposes of data collection, all expenditure authorities shall 1) require
18 all expenditure authorities of CW funds to register with the Department of Labor
19 and 2) report on the status of all recipient placement into the workforce (or non-
20 placement) of said funding.

