

Twenty -Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

July 31, 2025

Fifth Spec

SESSION, 2025

H. L. B. 24- 21

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

To appropriate \$2,000,000.00 of the dividends collected by the Commonwealth Economic Development Authority (CEDA) from the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) to assist the Department of Finance and Commonwealth Economic Development Authority with funding related to the Third Senatorial District.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT DELEGATION

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 4, DIVISION 1, TITLE 1 OF THE

COMMONWEALTH CODE:

1 **SECTION 1. PURPOSE.**

2 The Delegation finds that the Central Government of the Commonwealth
3 of the Northern Mariana Islands is in dire need of revenue to pay for its
4 obligations to its employees and inherited arrears to contracts that the government
5 had entered into. Additionally, the Delegation finds that the Administration has
6 been using its reprogramming authority to pay for the constitutional obligation to
7 the Public School System (PSS). Therefore, the intent of this Act is to appropriate
8 dividends collected by the Commonwealth Economic Development Authority
9 (CEDA) from the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) to the Department

1 of Finance and the Commonwealth Economic Development Authority for funding
2 assistance within the Third Senatorial District.

3 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.**

4 Notwithstanding any provision(s) of law, statutes, rules or regulations to
5 the contrary and pursuant to the authority vested to the Saipan and Northern
6 Islands Legislative Delegation (SNILD) to appropriate dividends collected by
7 CEDA from CUC, the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation
8 (SNILD) hereby appropriates \$2,000,000.00 of the dividends collected by CEDA
9 from CUC to the following:

- 10 1) \$1,000,000 for the Department of Finance to pay for various
11 obligations and/or local projects within the Third Senatorial District;
12 and
13 2) 1,000,000 for the Commonwealth Economic Development Authority
14 for economic development relating to local projects within the Third
15 Senatorial District.

16 **SECTION 3. REPROGRAMMING.**

17 Funds appropriated under this act may be reprogrammed for any other
18 purpose and notwithstanding any provision of law, all funds appropriated under
19 this Act shall be without fiscal year limitation.

20 **SECTION 4. EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY.**

21 The expenditure authority of the funds allocated under Section 2 of this

1 Act shall be the Secretary of the Department of Finance or his/her designee.
2 Furthermore, the Secretary of the Department of Finance shall be responsible to
3 report all expenses to the Chairperson of the Saipan and Northern Islands
4 Legislative Delegation (SNILD) upon the exhaustion of the funds appropriated
5 under this Act.

6

7 **SECTION 5. SEVERABILITY.**

8 If any provision of this Act or the application of any such provision to any
9 person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent
10 jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to
11 persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be
12 affected thereby.

13 **SECTION 6. SAVINGS CLAUSE.**

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

21

1 **SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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

Prefiled: 7/31/2025

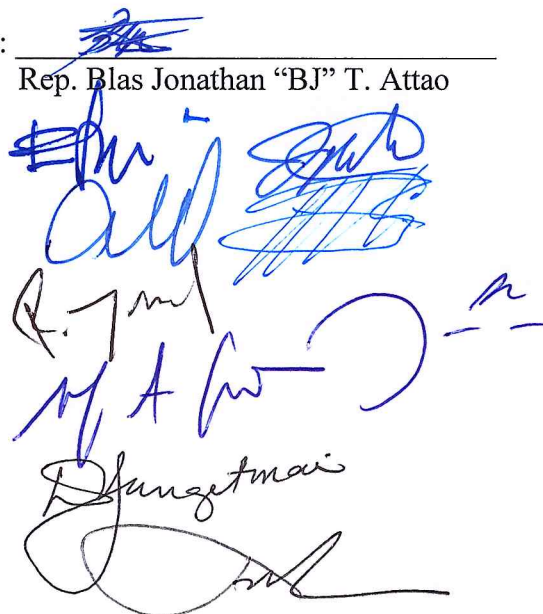
Date: _____

Introduced By: _____

Rep. Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:

Joshua Day 7/31/25
House Legal Counsel

A collection of handwritten signatures in blue ink. At the top is a signature that appears to be "BJ". Below it is a large, stylized signature that looks like "all". To the right of "all" is another signature. Below "all" is a signature that looks like "R. T. M.". Below that is a signature that looks like "M. A. W.". At the bottom is a signature that looks like "Djangetman".