



TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

P.O. BOX 500586 SAIPAN, MP 96950

**RALPH N. YUMUL**

CHAIRMAN

*Adopted - 4/14/2023*  
STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 23-10  
DATE: April 4, 2023  
RE: House Local Bill No. 23-9

The Honorable Edmund S. Villagomez  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
Twenty-Third Northern Marianas  
Commonwealth Legislature  
Capitol Hill  
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Ways and Means to which was referred:

**House Local Bill No. 23-9:** "To appropriate un-obligated funds under Saipan Local Law 23-01; and for other purposes."

begs leave to report as follows:

### **I. RECOMMENDATION:**

After conducting financial due diligence, your Committee recommends that House Local Bill No. 23-9 be transmitted to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation for action.

HOUSE CLERK'S OFC  
RECEIVED BY *Emb*  
DATE *4/11/2023* TIME *8:45a*

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## II. ANALYSIS:

### A. Purpose:

To appropriate un-obligated funds under Saipan Local Law 23-01.

### B. Committee Findings:

Your Committee on Ways and Means to which House Local Bill No. 23-9: "To appropriate un-obligated funds under Saipan Local Law No. 23-1; and for other purposes." was referred to verify and confirm that the amount specified in the local appropriation act is accurate and available for appropriation. The Committee received notice from Governor Arnold I. Palacios (Gov. Comm. 23-05) informing the legislature that he signed into law, with the exception of the disapproval of the appropriation to the Board of Parole, House Local Bill 23-1, S1 entitled "To appropriate \$800,000.00 from revenues collected for the Third Senatorial District pursuant to Public Law 20-59; and for other purposes." enacted into Saipan Local Law 23-01. House Local Bill 23-9 will appropriate the un-obligated funds in the amount of \$30,000.00 under Section 2(E) of SLL 23-1 that was line item vetoed by the Governor. The Governor stated that the provision contravenes 6 CMC § 4207, a Commonwealth statute that takes precedence over local law.

Your Committee recommends that House Local Bill No. 23-9 be transmitted to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation for action. Gov. Comm. 23-05 has been attached as part of this committee report.

### C. Legislative History:

House Local Bill 23-9 was introduced by Representative Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao on March 31, 2023 and was subsequently referred to the House Standing Committee on Ways and Means for disposition.

## III. CONCLUSION:

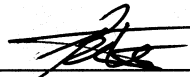
The Committee is content and confident with Governors Communication 23-05 with respect to House Local Bill No. 23-9, and therefore recommends that it be transmitted to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation for action.

Respectfully submitted,



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Rep. Ralph N. Yumul, Chairman




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Rep. Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Vice Chair


  
Rep. Roman C. Benavente, Member

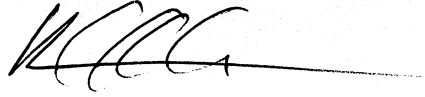
  
Rep. Joel C. Camacho, Member

  
Rep. Manny Gregory T. Castro, Member

  
Rep. Thomas John DLC. Manglona, Member

  
Rep. John Paul P. Sablan, Member

  
Rep. Angelo A. Camacho, Member

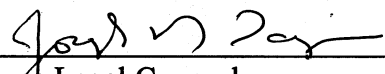
  
Rep. Vicente C. Camacho, Member

Rep. Joseph A. Flores, Member

Rep. Julie Marie A. Ogo, Member

Rep. Patrick H. San Nicolas, Member

Reviewed by:

  
House Legal Counsel

Attachment: Gov. Comm. 23-05 dated March 10, 2023



Gov. Comm.

23 05

(SNILD)

**Arnold I. Palacios**  
Governor

**David M. Apatang**  
Lieutenant Governor

**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

March 10, 2023

GOV 2023-396

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

The Honorable Edmund S. Villagomez  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Third Northern Marianas  
Commonwealth Legislature  
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Mr. Chairman and Mr. Speaker:


This is to inform you that I have signed into law, with the exception of the disapproval of the appropriation to the Board of Parole, **House Local Bill 23-1, S1** entitled "To appropriate \$800,000.00 from revenues collected for the Third Senatorial District pursuant to Public Law 20-59; and for other purposes." The bill was passed by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation of the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Based on the Attorney General's review, the expenditure authority for the Board of Parole is the Chief Parole Officer with the approval of the chairperson of the Board of Parole pursuant to 6 CMC § 4207. The language in Section 2(E) proposes to make the Chief Parole Officer the expenditure authority in consultation with the members of the Board of Parole. The provision contravenes 6 CMC § 4207, a Commonwealth statute that takes precedence over local law. As such, I am exercising my authority under the Constitution to line item veto, this appropriation in HLB 23-1, S1.

This local bill, with the exception of the aforementioned vetoed portion, becomes **Saipan Local Law No. 23-01**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

  
**ARNOLD I. PALACIOS**  
Governor

  
**RECEIVED**  
03/10/2023  
@ 5:40 pm

cc: Lt. Governor; Attorney General; Public Auditor; Commonwealth Law Revision;  
Acting Secretary of Finance; Mayor of Saipan; Saipan & Northern Island Municipal Council;  
CEO, CHCC; Board of Parole; Special Assistant for Administration; Programs and  
Legislative Review Office



**SAIPAN AND NORTHERN ISLANDS LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION  
THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT  
TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2023**

**HOUSE LOCAL BILL NO. 23-01, S1**

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

To appropriate \$800,000.00 from revenues collected for the Third Senatorial District pursuant to Public Law 20-59; and for other purposes.

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**OFFERED BY**

**Representatives Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Vincent R. S. Aldan, Roman C. Benavente, Diego V. F. Camacho, Joel C. Camacho, Manny G. T. Castro, Joseph A. Flores, Marissa A. Flores, Malcom J. Omar, Edwin K. Propst, Joh Paul P. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita K. Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul.**

Prefiled on January 31, 2023 and Introduced on February 03, 2023

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**HOUSE ACTION**

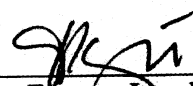
Transmitted to Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation for action on

February 15, 2023

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**DELEGATION ACTION**

<b>Referred to:</b>	None
<b>Comments Solicited:</b>	2/15/23: Mayor of Saipan [Del. Matters 23-20] Mayor of Northern Island [Del. Matters 23-21]
<b>Comments Received:</b>	2/16/23: Mayors Comm. 23-01 (MOS) 2/17/23: Mayors Comm. 23-02 (MONI)
<b>Standing Committee Report:</b>	None
<b>Passed First &amp; Final Reading:</b>	February 24, 2023 w/Substitute 1

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Frances Joan P. Kaipat**  
Delegation Clerk



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

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2023**

**H. L. B. NO. 23-01, S1**

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

To appropriate \$800,000.00 from revenues collected for the Third Senatorial District pursuant to Public Law 20-59; 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:**

3 **SECTION 1. PURPOSE.**

4           The purpose of this Act is to appropriate local funds from the revenues collected for the  
5 Third Senatorial District pursuant to Public Law 20-59.

6 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.**

7           Notwithstanding any provision(s) of law, statutes, rules or regulations to the contrary and  
8 pursuant to funds allocated to the Third Senatorial District the Saipan and Northern Islands  
9 Legislative Delegation (SNILD) hereby appropriates \$800,000.00 of the revenues collected for the  
10 Third Senatorial District pursuant to Public Law 20-59 as follows:

11           (A) \$150,000.00 to Saipan Mayors Office for personnel/operations, the expenditure  
12 authority under 2(A) shall be the Mayor of Saipan or his/her designee;

1 (B) \$50,000.00 for the Northern Islands Mayors Office for personnel/operations,  
2 expenditure authority under 2(B) shall be the Mayor of the Northern Islands or his/her designee

3 (C) \$240,000.00 for the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation (operations),  
4 expenditure authority under 2(C) shall be the Chairperson of the Delegation or his/her designee;

5 (D) \$60,000.00 for the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council for the matching  
6 cost associated to the new Municipal Building, expenditure authority under 2(D) shall be the  
7 Chairperson of the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council or his/her designee in  
8 consultation with the other Members of the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council;

9 ~~(E) \$30,000.00 for the Board of Parole Saipan Office for personnel/operations, expenditure~~  
10 ~~authority under 2(E) shall be the Chief of Parole or his/her designee in consultation with the~~  
11 ~~members of the Board of Parole;~~

12 (F) \$20,000.00 for the Chamolinian Cultural Village Inc. (CCVI) (for the Mariana Islands  
13 International Dance & Arts Festival (MIIDAF)), expenditure authority under 2(F) shall be the  
14 Secretary of the Department of Finance or his/her designee.

15 (G) \$250,000.00 for stipends for medical referral patients from the Third Senatorial  
16 District, expenditure authority under 2(G) shall be the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the  
17 Commonwealth Health Care Corporations (CHCC) or his/her designee.

18 **SECTION 3. REPROGRAMMING.**

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

22 **SECTION 4. REPORTING OF EXPENDITURES.**

1 Expenditures of the funds allocated under Section 2 of this Act shall be responsible to  
2 report all expenses to the Secretary of the Department of Finance by the end of the 2023 calendar  
3 year. Provided further that failure to provide all expenses, entities (Government, non-profits  
4 entities, etc... excluding specific projects) that were afforded funds under this Act shall not be able  
5 to avail to any future funds appropriated by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative  
6 Delegation.

7 **SECTION 5. SEVERABILITY.**

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

12 **SECTION 6. SAVINGS CLAUSE.**

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

19 **SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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

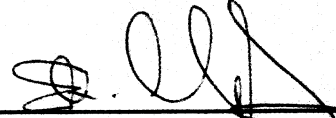


CERTIFIED BY:



**John Paul P. Sablan**  
Chairman


Saipan & Northern Islands Legislative Delegation



**Edmund S. Villagomez**  
Speaker

23<sup>rd</sup> House of Representatives

Approved this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023.



**Arnold I. Palacios**  
Governor  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

**TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH**

**LEGISLATURE**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**MARCH 31, 2023**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2023**

**H. L. B. 23-9**

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

To appropriate un-obligated funds under Saipan Local Law 23-01; 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:**

1 **SECTION 1. PURPOSE.**

2           The Delegation finds that Governor Arnold I. Palacios line-item vetoed  
3 House Local Bill 23-01, S1 on March 10, 2023 un-obligating funds that had been  
4 appropriated to the Board of Parole (Specifically Section 2(E)), citing 6 CMC  
5 § 4207. Therefore, the intent of this Act is to appropriate un-obligated funds under  
6 Saipan Local Law 23-01 (in the amount of \$30,000.00) from the fees collected  
7 pursuant to Public Law 20-59.

8 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.**

9           Notwithstanding any provision(s) of law, statutes, rules or regulations to  
10 the contrary and pursuant to funds allocated to the Third Senatorial District the

1 Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation (SNILD) hereby appropriates  
2 \$30,000.00 of un-obligated funds under Saipan Local Law 23-01(Specifically  
3 Section 2(E)) for the Board of Parole Saipan Office for personnel/operations,  
4 expenditure authority shall be the Chief Parole Officer with the approval of the  
5 Chairperson of the Board of Parole pursuant to 6 CMC § 4207.

6 **SECTION 3. REPROGRAMMING.**

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

10 **SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY.**

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

16 **SECTION 5. SAVINGS CLAUSE.**

17 This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be construed as  
18 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  
21 prior law. The enactment of the Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in

1 any way modifying, any liability, civil or criminal, which shall already be in  
2 existence on the date this Act becomes effective.

3 **SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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

Prefiled: 3/30/2023

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Introduced by: /s/ Rep. Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao  
/s/ Rep. Roman C. Benavente  
/s/ Rep. Angelo A. Camacho  
/s/ Rep. Joel C. Camacho  
/s/ Rep. Marissa R. Flores  
/s/ Rep. John Paul P. Sablan  
/s/ Rep. Edmund S. Villagomez  
/s/ Rep. Ralph N. Yumul

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:

/s/ John M. Bradley  
House Legal Counsel