



GOV. COMM: 23-69  
(HOUSE)

**Arnold I. Palacios**  
Governor

**David M. Apatang**  
Lieutenant Governor

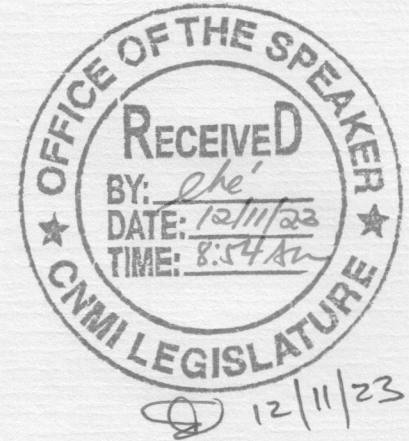
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

December 7, 2023

GOV2024-125

The Honorable Donald M. Manglona  
Chairman  
Rota 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 **House Local Bill No. 23-28, S1**, entitled "To re-appropriate Twenty-One Thousand Four Hundred and Forty-Eight Dollars (\$21,448.00) allotted under Rota Local Law 22-04; and Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) allotted under Rota Local Law 22-09; and for other purposes," which was passed by the Rota Legislative Delegation of the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

From the second constitutional convention in 1985 until HLI 10-8 in 1997, there was a constitutional legislative budget ceiling with a specified dollar amount.

HLI 10-8 changed the language to "the budget ceiling provided in this section" and provided a formula for calculation of the ceiling. The constitutional budget ceiling is now the aggregate of: \$150,000 per member; plus \$400,000 to the presiding officer for operations; plus \$2 million for the Legislative Bureau; all adjusted for inflation on a biannual basis from a baseline of January 1996 per the US DOC composite price index. See NMI CONST. art. II, § 16.

With 20 current House members, this yields a figure of \$5,400,000, adjusted for inflation from 1996 to 2022 to \$9,832,896.37.

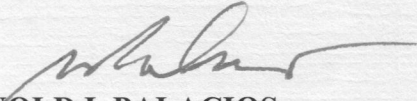
The constitutional legislative budget ceiling is distinct from, and higher than, the amount appropriated for the legislature in the annual appropriations bill, in this instance \$6,791,324.

HOUSE CLERK'S OFC  
RECEIVED BY [signature]  
DATE 12/11/2023  
TIME 11:34am

As the text of this bill notes, this is a re-appropriation of local funds by the local delegation pursuant to its powers under NMI CONST. art. II, § 6 and 1 CMC §§ 1402(b), 1403, and 1407.

This Bill becomes **Rota Local Law 23-08**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

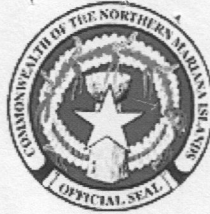


**ARNOLD I. PALACIOS**

Governor

cc: Lieutenant Governor; Attorney General; Commonwealth Law Revision Commission;  
Special Assistant for Administration; Public Auditor; Secretary of Finance;  
Mayor of Rota; Programs and Legislative Review Office





**ROTA LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION  
FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT  
TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 2023**

**HOUSE LOCAL BILL NO. 23-28, S1**

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

To re-appropriate Twenty-One Thousand Four Hundred and Forty-Eight Dollars (\$21,448.00) allotted under Rota Local Law 22-04; and Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) allotted under Rota Local Law 22-09; and for other purposes.

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**OFFERED BY**

**Representative Julie Marie A. Ogo**

Introduced on September 7, 2023

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**HOUSE ACTION**

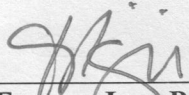
Referred to House Ways and Means Committee on September 7, 2023  
Transmitted to Rota Legislative Delegation for action on October 12, 2023

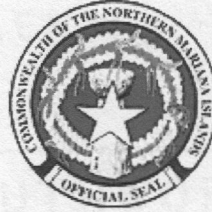
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**DELEGATION ACTION**

<b>Referred to:</b>	None
<b>Comments Solicited:</b>	10/12/23: Mayor of Rota [Del. Matters 23-26] & 19 <sup>th</sup> Rota Municipal Council [Del. Matters 23-27]
<b>Comments Received:</b>	10/18/23: Mayors Comm. No. 23-09
<b>Standing Committee Report:</b>	None
<b>Passed Final Reading:</b>	October 23, 2023 transmitted to Governor 10/24/23
<b>Recalled from Governor:</b>	November 9, 2023
<b>Passed Final Reading:</b>	November 20, 2023 w/Substitute 1

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



**ROTA LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION  
FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT  
TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 2023**

**H. L. B. NO. 23-28, S1**

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

To re-appropriate Twenty-One Thousand Four Hundred and Forty-Eight Dollars (\$21,448.00) allotted under Rota Local Law 22-04; and Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) allotted under Rota Local Law 22-09; and for other purposes.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT DELEGATION PURSUANT TO  
CHAPTER 4, DIVISION 1, TITLE 1 OF THE COMMONWEALTH CODE:**

1 **SECTION 1. PURPOSE.**

2           The purpose of this Act is to re-appropriate Five Thousand One Dollars (\$5,001.00)  
3 allotted under Rota Local Law 22-04, § 2(d); Sixteen Thousand Four Hundred Forty-Seven Dollars  
4 (\$16,447.00) allotted under Rota Local Law 22-04, § 2(c); and Forty Thousand Dollars  
5 (\$40,000.00) from Rota Local Law 22-09, § 2(a) for a combined total of Sixty-One Thousand Four  
6 Hundred Forty-Eight Dollars (\$61,448.00).

7 **SECTION 2. RE-APPROPRIATIONS.**

8           Notwithstanding any provision(s) of law, statutes, rules or regulations to the contrary, the  
9 Rota Legislative Delegation hereby re-appropriates the combined total in the amount of Sixty-One



1 Thousand Four Hundred Forty-Eight Dollars (\$61,448.00). from the following Rota Local Laws:  
2 Five Thousand One Dollars (\$5,001.00) allotted under Rota Local Law 22-04, § 2(d); Sixteen  
3 Thousand Four Hundred Forty-Seven Dollars (\$16,447.00) allotted under Rota Local Law 22-04,  
4 § 2(c); and Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) from Rota Local Law 22-09, § 2(a) to the  
5 following:

6 (a) Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) to the Office of the Mayor of Rota for personnel  
7 and operations.

8 (b) Twenty-one thousand Four Hundred Forty-Eight Dollars (\$21,448.00) to the Rota  
9 Legislative Delegation. The justification for this appropriation is based on the following:

10 The funds re-appropriated under this subsection are strictly local funds of the First  
11 Senatorial, not General Funds. Therefore, this re-appropriation of the local funds is not part of the  
12 FY 2024 Budget Act. Accordingly, this re-appropriation of local funds does not contravene 1 CMC  
13 § 7401 and 1 CMC § 7204(d).

14 **SECTION 3. EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY.**

15 The expenditure authority for funds under Section 2 (a) shall be the Mayor of Rota and  
16 funds under Section 2 (b) shall be the Chairman of the Rota Legislative Delegation.

17 **SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY.**

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

1 **SECTION 5. SAVINGS CLAUSE.**

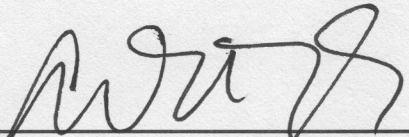
2           This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be construed as affecting any existing  
3 right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation or  
4 order adopted under the statutes. Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding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

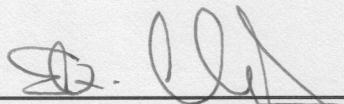
8 **SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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

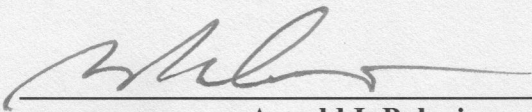


CERTIFIED BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Donald M. Manglona  
Chairman  
Rota Legislative Delegation

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Edmund S. Villagomez  
Speaker  
23<sup>rd</sup> House of Representatives

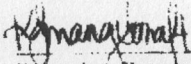
Approved this 7<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023.

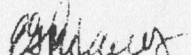
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Arnold I. Palacios  
Governor  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

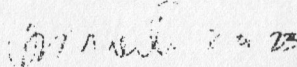
**FUND CERTIFICATION  
VARIOUS ROTA PROJECTS  
AS OF 08/28/2023  
Prepared on 08/25/23**

		FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032	FY 2033
7657	Mayor of Rota	\$ 376,942	\$ 197,425	\$ 179,517.00	\$ 179,517.00	\$ 179,517.00	\$ 179,517.00	\$ 179,517.00	\$ 9,957.58	\$ 24,197.85	\$ 145,361.57			
2304R	RL 22-04 2(D) DPS - Rota C.I.D.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 44,999.00	\$ 5,001.00	\$ 5,001.00			\$ 5,001.00		\$ 5,001.00	
2208R	RL 22-08 2(A) Medical Subsistence	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 95,000.00	\$ 86,850.00	\$ 8,150.00	\$ 8,150.00		\$ 8,150.00	\$ -		\$ -	
2311U	RL 19-02 2(B) Rota Scholarship *	\$ 13,350	\$ 13,476	\$ (126.00)	\$ (126.00)	\$ (126.00)	\$ (126.00)	\$ (126.00)			\$ -		\$ (126.00)	
2312M	RL 20-10 2(C) Medical Subsistence	\$ 100,000	\$ 81,750	\$ 18,250.00	\$ 18,250.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00		\$ 250.00	\$ -		\$ -	
2312O	RL 21-01 Student House Asst.	\$ 127,209	\$ 38,700	\$ 88,509.00	\$ 88,509.00	\$ 32,000.00	\$ 56,509.00	\$ 56,509.00		\$ 56,000.00	\$ -		\$ 509.00	
2312Q	RL 22-02 2(A) Medical Subsistence	\$ 40,000	\$ 35,300	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00		\$ 200.00	\$ -		\$ -	
2701G	RL 22-09 2(A) Rota Municipal Scholarship	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00		\$ -			\$ -	
2701H	RL 22-12 2(A) Medical Subsistence *	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 8,200.00	\$ -		\$ 1,800.00	
2701R	RL 22-04 2(C) Rota Liaison Office	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 68,000.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 65,500.00	\$ 65,500.00		\$ 49,052.62	\$ -		\$ 16,447.38	
7183G	RL 20-08 2(C) Rota Scholarship	\$ 58,000	\$ 56,093	\$ 1,907.00	\$ 1,907.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 307.00	\$ 307.00		\$ -	\$ -		\$ 307.00	
7184Y	PL 20-61 2(C)(1)(E) OPS Academy Rota	\$ 55,000	\$ 8,857	\$ 25,992	\$ 20,151.00	\$ 6,749.50	\$ 13,401.50	\$ 13,401.50		\$ -	\$ -		\$ 13,401.50	
7185B	PL 20-61 2(C)(1)(J) Municipal Scholarship	\$ 100,000	\$ 99,846	\$ 154.00	\$ 154.00	\$ -	\$ 154.00	\$ 154.00		\$ -	\$ -		\$ 154.00	
7192Y	PL 21-10 2(A)(2)(B)(iv)(D) ROP Municipal Scholarship Fund	\$ 100,000	\$ 76,916	\$ 23,084.00	\$ 23,084.00	\$ 22,920.00	\$ 164.00	\$ 164.00		\$ -	\$ -		\$ 164.00	
7193D	PL 21-10 2(A)(2)(B)(iv)(H) ROP Health Center	\$ 25,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00		\$ -	\$ -		\$ 10,000.00	
7193F	PL 21-10 2(A)(2)(B)(iv)(K) ROP Mayor's Office Operations	\$ 85,000	\$ 139	\$ 84,708	\$ 155.00	\$ -	\$ 155.00	\$ 155.00		\$ -	\$ -		\$ 155.00	

**TOTAL REMAINING BAL. \$ 343,174.45**

Prepared by   
Karla Martinez, Financial Analyst

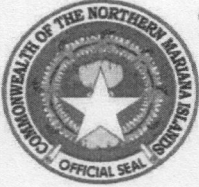
Reviewed by   
Euterio A. Palacios Jr., Senior Financial Analyst

Approved by  8/25/23  
Iney B. Norita, Secretary of Finance

**NOTES:**

- \*2311U - A/E ending balance for FY 2021 is in deficit FY 22' 23' minus is showing surplus. This should be a deficit ending FY 23
- \*\*2701H - Adjustments needed to be made to carry forward balance from FY 22 to FY 23. Balance carryforward should be \$10,000 for FY 23





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 - 10/12/2023*  
STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 23-47

DATE: October 3, 2023

RE: House Local Bill No. 23-28

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. 23-28:** "To re-appropriate Twenty-One Thousand Four Hundred and Forty-Eight Dollars (\$21,448.00) allotted under Rota Local Law 22-04; and Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) allotted under Rota Local Law 22-09; 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. 23-28 be transmitted to the Rota Legislative Delegation for action.

RECEIVED BY *[Signature]*  
DATE *10/3/2023* TIME *2:32p*

## II. ANALYSIS:

### A. Purpose:

The purpose of this Act is to re-appropriate Five Thousand One Dollars (\$5,001.00) allotted under Rota Local Law 22-04, §2(d); Sixteen Thousand Four Hundred Forty-Seven Dollars (\$16,447.00) allotted under Rota Local Law 22-04, §2(c); and Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) from Rota Local Law 22-09, §2(a) for a combined total of Sixty-One Thousand Four Hundred Forty-Eight Dollars (\$61,448.00) for the following:

- (1) Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) to the Office of the Mayor of Rota for personnel and operations.
- (2) Twenty-One Thousand Four Hundred Forty-Eight Dollars (\$21,448.00) to the Rota Legislative Delegation.

### B. Committee Findings:

Your Committee on Ways and Means to which House Local Bill No. 23-28: "To re-appropriate Twenty-One Thousand Four Hundred and Forty-Eight Dollars (\$21,448.00) allotted under Rota Local Law 22-04; and Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) allotted under Rota Local Law 22-09; 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 the Fund Certification as of August 28, 2023 that was verified and approved by the Secretary of Finance, Mrs. Tracy B. Norita, certifying that Rota Local Law 22-04, §2(d), specifically under BU 2204R, has a remaining balance of **\$5,001.00**; that Rota Local Law 22-04, §2(c), specifically under BU 2701R, has a remaining balance of **\$16,447.38**; and that Rota Local Law 22-09, §2(a), specifically under BU 2701G, has a remaining balance of **\$150,000.00**; that is available for appropriation.

Therefore, the Committee recommends that House Local Bill No. 23-28 be transmitted to the Rota Legislative Delegation for action. Department of Finance Fund Certification as of August 28, 2023 has been attached as part of this committee report.

### C. Legislative History:


House Local Bill 23-28 was introduced by Representative Julie Marie A. Ogo on September 7, 2023 and was subsequently referred to the House Standing Committee on Ways and Means for disposition.

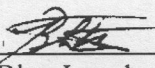


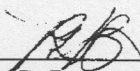
**III. CONCLUSION:**

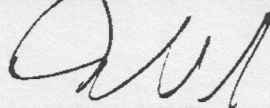
The Committee is content and confident with the Fund Certification provide by the Secretary of Finance with respect to House Local Bill No. 23-28, and therefore recommends that it be transmitted to the Rota Legislative Delegation for action.


Respectfully submitted,

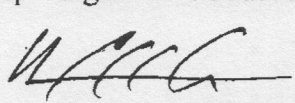
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rep. Ralph N. Yumul, Chairman

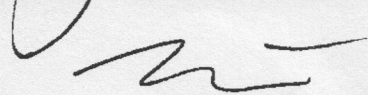
  
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Rep. Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Vice Chair


  
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Rep. Roman C. Benavente, Member

  
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Rep. Angelo A. Camacho, Member


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rep. Joel C. Camacho, Member

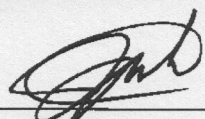
  
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Rep. Vicente C. Camacho, Member

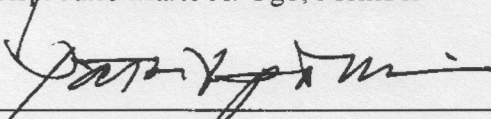
  
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Rep. Manny Gregory T. Castro, Member

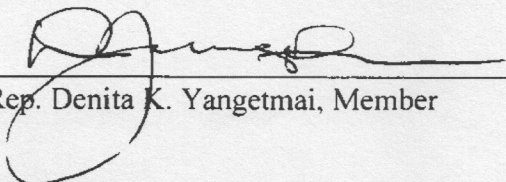
  
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Rep. Joseph A. Flores, Member

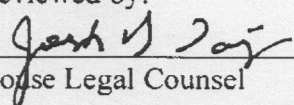
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Rep. Thomas John DLC. Manglona, Member

  
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Rep. Julie Marie A. Ogo, Member

  
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Rep. John Paul P. Sablan, Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rep. Patrick H. San Nicolas, Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rep. Denita K. Yangetmai, Member

Reviewed by:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
House Legal Counsel

Attachment: DOF Fund Certification as of August 28, 2023