



**Arnold I. Palacios**  
Governor

**David M. Apatang**  
Lieutenant Governor

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

September 03, 2024

GOV2024-649

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



*9/4/24*

Dear Mr. Chairman and Mr. Speaker:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law **House Local Bill No. 23-62**, entitled "To appropriate \$2,500,000.00 from revenues collected pursuant to Saipan Local Law 11-2 as amended; and for other purposes.," which was passed by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation of the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This Bill becomes **Saipan Local Law No. 23-21**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

*[Signature]*  
**ARNOLD I. PALACIOS**  
Governor

HOUSE CLERK'S OFFICE  
RECEIVED BY *[Signature]*  
DATE 9/5/2024 TIME 2:40 PM

*[Signature]*  
09042024  
@11:28 am

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



**SAIPAN AND NORTHERN ISLANDS LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION  
THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT  
TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE  
FOURTH REGULAR SESSION, 2024**

**HOUSE LOCAL BILL NO. 23-62**

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

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

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**OFFERED BY**

**Representatives Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Vincent R. S. Aldan, Diego V. F. Camacho, Marissa R. Flores, Malcom J. Omar, John Paul P. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomez, Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, and Ralph N. Yumul  
Prefiled on August 27, 2024  
Introduced on August 30, 2024**

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**HOUSE ACTION**

Transmitted to Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation for action on  
**August 30, 2024**

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**DELEGATION ACTION**

<b>Referred to:</b>	None
<b>Comments Solicited:</b>	8/30/24 Mayor of Saipan [Del. Matters 23-87] 8/27/24 Mayor of Northern Islands [Del. Matters 23-88] 17 <sup>th</sup> SNIMC [Del. Matters 23-86]]
<b>Comments Received:</b>	8/30/24 Mayor of Saipan [Mayors Comm. 23-25] 8/27/24 Mayor of Northern Islands [Mayors Comm. 23-24]
<b>Standing Committee Report:</b>	None
<b>Passed First &amp; Final Reading:</b>	September 3, 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frances Joan P. Kaipat".

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**Frances Joan P. Kaipat  
Delegation Clerk**



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

FOURTH REGULAR SESSION, 2024

H. L. B. NO. 23-62

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

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

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

1 **SECTION 1. PURPOSE.**

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

4 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.**

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

9           (A) \$1,650,000.00 to Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance (SHEFA), provided  
10 however that \$250,000 of the \$1,650,000.00 shall be reserved for SHEFA personnel and

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

3 (B) \$850,000.00 shall be allocated as follows:

4 (1) \$100,000.00 for the Saipan Mayors Office for personnel and/or operations,  
5 expenditure authority shall be the Mayor of Saipan or his/her designee;

6 (2) \$50,000.00 for the Northern Islands Mayors Office personnel and/or operations,  
7 expenditure authority shall be the Mayor of the Northern Islands or his/her designee;

8 (3) \$30,000.00 for the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council, expenditure  
9 authority shall be the Chairperson of the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council  
10 his/her designee;

11 (4) \$60,000.00 for the Cultural Heritage Month that should distributed as follow:

12 (a) \$30,000.00 to the Indigenous Affairs Office, expenditure authority shall  
13 be the Resident Executive Director or his/her designee;

14 (b) \$30,000.00 to the Carolinian Affairs Office, expenditure authority shall  
15 be the Chairperson of the Refaluwasch Advisory Council or his/her designee;

16 (5) \$75,000.00 for the Saipan Zoning Office, expenditure authority shall be the  
17 Director of the Saipan Zoning Office or his/her designee;

18 (6) \$15,000.00 for the FSM Independence Day Celebration, expenditure authority  
19 shall be the President of the Ach Chuuk CNMI Association or his/her designee;

1           (7) \$10,000.00 for the Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation,  
2           expenditure authority shall be the Secretary of the Department of Finance or his/her  
3           designee;

4           (8) \$10,000.00 for the Marianas Racing Association, expenditure authority shall be  
5           the Secretary of the Department of Finance or his/her designee;

6           (9) \$5,000.00 for the 38th Anniversary of the 13 Fishermen Monument,  
7           expenditure authority shall be the Secretary of the Department of Finance or his/her  
8           designee;

9           (10) \$50,000.00 for payment of arears to Hawaiian Rock Products, expenditure  
10          authority shall be the Secretary of the Department of Finance or his/her designee;

11          (11) \$50,000.00 for the Center for Living Independently, expenditure authority  
12          shall be the Secretary of the Department of Finance or his/her designee;

13          (12) \$50,000.00 for the Mariana Alliance of Non-Governmental Organizations,  
14          expenditure authority shall be the Secretary of the Department of Finance or his/her  
15          designee;

16          (13) \$25,000.00 for the Office of Management and Budget for capacity building,  
17          expenditure authority shall be the Special Assistant for Management and Budget;

18          (14) \$20,000.00 for the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services for  
19          the construction of a Tower and for the purchase of equipment and supplies for the training  
20          of personnel; and

1                   (15) \$300,000.00 for the Health Network Program (HNP), expenditure authority  
2                   shall be the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Commonwealth Health Care Corporation  
3                   (CHCC).

4                   **SECTION 3. REPROGRAMMING.**

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

8                   **SECTION 4. REPORTING OF EXPENDITURES.**

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

15                  **SECTION 5. SEVERABILITY.**

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

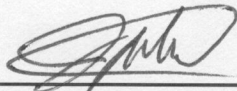
1 **SECTION 6. SAVINGS CLAUSE.**

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 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

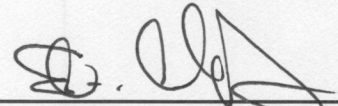
9 This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the Governor or it becoming law without such  
10 approval.

**CERTIFIED BY:**



**John Paul P. Sablan  
Chairman**

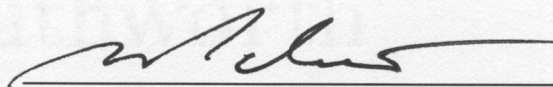
Saipan & Northern Islands Legislative Delegation



**Edmund S. Villagomez  
Speaker**

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

Approved this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2024.



**Arnold I. Palacios  
Governor**

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands