

**TWENTY SECOND NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH
LEGISLATURE**

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SESSION, 2021

H. J. R. 22- 10

A HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

To authorize the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, through its Governor, to submit to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant Application No. B-21-ST69-0001; the HOME Investment Partnership Grant Application No. M-21-ST69-0203; and, the Emergency Solutions Grant Application No. E-21-DC69-0001; to receive the funds requested therein, and to assume all responsibilities that may be imposed by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnership Program, and the Emergency Solutions Grant Programs.

1 **WHEREAS**, the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974,
2 Public Law 93-388, as amended, 42 USC Section 5301 et seq., extends the
3 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) assistance under Title I of the
4 Act to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI); and

5 **WHEREAS**, Title II of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable
6 Housing Act of 1990 (NAHA), was enacted for the purpose of meeting the needs
7 of low and moderate income households, such as acquisition or construction of
8 first-time home, tenant-based rental assistance, loan guarantee funds, interest rate
9 buy-down, on and off-site improvements, closing cost assistance, relocation,
10 rehabilitation of existing owner-occupied residential units, and homebuyer costs
11 for counseling of participating families; and

1 **WHEREAS**, NAHA extended the Home Investment Partnership Act
2 (HOME) to the CNMI; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992
4 provides assistance to homeless individuals and families in constructing,
5 renovating, maintaining and operating facilities, such as the existing Emergency
6 Solutions in the CNMI, because of Public Law 96-153; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) has
8 been officially designated as the “Lead Agency” responsible for submitting grant
9 applications to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
10 and monitoring the grants; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the CDBG provides eligible metropolitan cities and urban
12 counties with annual direct grants that can be used to revitalize neighborhoods,
13 expand affordable housing and economic opportunities, and/or improve
14 community facilities and public services, principally to benefit low and moderate-
15 income persons; and

16 **WHEREAS**, virtually every community in the CNMI is in need of such
17 assistance, thus demonstrating the Commonwealth’s dire need for CDBG
18 assistance; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the Commonwealth’s dire need for CDBG assistance is
20 supported by statistics which show that more than four-fifths of Commonwealth
21 residents are persons of low-and moderate-income under HUD standards; and

1 **WHEREAS**, HUD has allocated a total amount of \$1,514,000.00 for
2 Program Year 2018 for the CNMI for community development, HOME, and
3 emergency solutions activities; and

4 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to CDBG Application No. B-18-ST-69-0001, the
5 Commonwealth intends to use its allocation of \$970,416.00 in the manner
6 specified in its application, consistent with the intent of the CDBG; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature must
8 duly adopt, as an official act, a resolution authorizing the filing of these
9 applications and the receipt of the grant funds;

10 **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the House of
11 Representatives of the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature,
12 the Senate concurring, that the CNMI through the Governor, is hereby authorized
13 to submit CDBG Application for the Community Development Block Grant
14 Application No. B-21-ST69-0001 for the amount of \$970,416.00; HOME Grant
15 Application No. M-21-ST69-0203 for the amount of \$463,940.00; and the ESG
16 Application No. E-21-DC69-0001 for the amount of \$79,644.00; to receive the
17 grant funds requested therein; and to assume all responsibilities to be imposed by
18 HUD with respect to its assistance; and

19 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Speaker of the House and the
20 President of the Senate shall certify and the House Clerk and the Senate
21 Legislative Secretary shall attest to the adoption of this joint resolution and
22 thereafter, transmit copies to the Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern
23 Mariana Islands and to the Board and Corporate Director of the Northern

- 1 Marianas Housing Corporation for transmittal along with the Grant Application to
- 2 the HUD Honolulu Field Office.

Prefiled: 7/23/2021

Date: 7/23/2021

Introduced By: _____

John Paul P. Sablan
Rep. John Paul P. Sablan

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:

John S. Day
House Legal Counsel

[Handwritten signatures and initials]