



GOV. COMM. 20-101
(HOUSE)

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

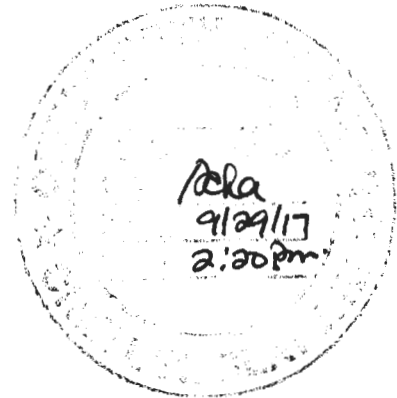
Ralph DLG. Torres
Governor

Victor B. Hocog
Lieutenant Governor

29 SEP 2017

The Honorable Rafael S. Demapan
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twentieth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

The Honorable Arnold I. Palacios
Senate President, The Senate
Twentieth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

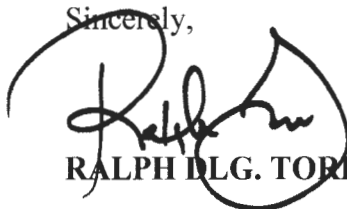


Dear Mr. Speaker and Mr. President:


This is to inform you that I have signed into law House Bill No. 20-108, HD1, HS1 entitled, "To appropriate the amount of One Million, Four Hundred Seventeen Thousand, Five Hundred Forty-Five Dollars (\$1,417,545.00) to pay for the outstanding retroactive lump-sum payment to active and inactive employees whose wages were frozen in Step 12." which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 20-16**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,


RALPH DLG. TORRES

cc: Lt. Governor; Press Secretary; Office of Personnel Management; Department of Finance; Public Auditor; Special Assistant for Administration; Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review

HOUSE CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED BY 
DATE 9/29/17 TIME 2:25pm



Twentieth Legislature
of the
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Second Regular Session

August 8, 2017

REPRESENTATIVE ANGEL A. DEMAPAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Edwin P. Aldan, Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero, Alice S. Igitol, Glenn L. Maratita, Janet U. Maratita, and John Paul P. Sablan,) in an open and public meeting with an opportunity for the public to comment, introduced the following Bill:

H. B. No. 20-108, HD1, HS1

AN ACT

TO APPROPRIATE THE AMOUNT OF ONE MILLION, FOUR HUNDRED SEVENTEEN THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED FORTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$1,417,545.00) TO PAY FOR THE OUTSTANDING RETROACTIVE LUMP-SUM PAYMENT TO ACTIVE AND INACTIVE EMPLOYEES WHOSE WAGES WERE FROZEN IN STEP 12.

The Bill was not referred to a House Committee.

THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON
FIRST AND FINAL READING, AUGUST 8, 2017;
with amendments in the form of H. B. No. 20-108, HD1.

THE BILL WAS RECALLED FROM THE GOVERNOR ON SEPTEMBER 5, 2017, WHICH WAS RECONSIDERED AND PASSED ON FIRST AND FINAL READING ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2017 WITH AMENDMENTS IN THE FORM OF H. B. 20-108, HD1, HS1 and transmitted to THE SENATE.

The Bill was not referred to a Senate Committee.

THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE SENATE ON FIRST AND FINAL READING, AUGUST 17, 2017;
THE BILL WAS RECONSIDERED AND PASSED ON FIRST AND FINAL READING ON SEPTEMBER 26, 2017, without amendments and was returned to THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THE BILL WAS FINALLY PASSED ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2017.



Linda B. Muña, House Clerk



Twentieth Legislature
of the
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEVENTH DAY, SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SEPTEMBER 20, 2017

H. B. No. 20-108, HD1, HS1

AN ACT

TO APPROPRIATE THE AMOUNT OF ONE MILLION, FOUR HUNDRED SEVENTEEN THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED FORTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$1,417,545.00) TO PAY FOR THE OUTSTANDING RETROACTIVE LUMP-SUM PAYMENT TO ACTIVE AND INACTIVE EMPLOYEES WHOSE WAGES WERE FROZEN IN STEP 12.

Be it enacted by the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature:

1 **Section 1. Findings.** The Legislature has been informed by the Governor's Office in
2 House Gov. Comm. 20-52 and 20-54, that the amount of more than One Million Four
3 Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,400,000.00) from the Saipan casino licensee's gross revenue
4 tax is available to pay the outstanding retroactive lump-sum payment, due pursuant to 1 CMC
5 §8213(g), to active and inactive employees, whose wages were frozen at Step 12. Senate
6 Dept. MSG No. 20-37 from the Office of Personnel Management advises that the actual
7 amount necessary to compensate the employees who were frozen in Step 12 is \$1,417,545.
8 This appropriation is in addition to payment authorized for the same purpose by Public Law

HOUSE BILL 20-108, HD1, HS1

1 19-75. In addition, the Governor advised the Legislature that “The Office of Personnel
2 Management (OPM), in collaboration with the Department of Finance, has provided me with
3 an update on the eligible employees, as well as the associated amounts that include Medicare,
4 FICA, and retirement benefits.” Accordingly, we hereby appropriate said funds to make
5 these funds available as soon as possible to employees who have waited patiently.

6 **Section 2. Appropriation.** Notwithstanding 4 CMC §2308 and 1 CMC §7201(d), the
7 amount of One Million, Four Hundred Seventeen Thousand, Five Hundred Forty-Five
8 Dollars (\$1,417,545.00) from the Saipan casino licensee’s gross revenue tax as identified in
9 House Gov. Comm. 20-52 and 20-54 is appropriated to pay the outstanding retroactive lump-
10 sum payment to active and inactive employees, whose wages were frozen at Step 12 pursuant
11 to 1 CMC §8213(g). The expenditure authority shall be the Secretary of Finance.

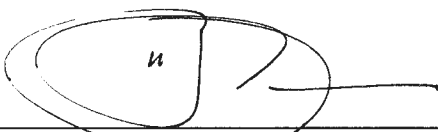
12 **Section 3. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or the application of any such
13 provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent
14 jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or
15 circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

16 **Section 4. Savings Clause.** This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be
17 construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes
18 repealed or under any rule, regulation or order adopted under the statutes. Repealers
19 contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding instituted under or pursuant to prior law.
20 The enactment of this Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying,
21 any liability civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence at the date this Act becomes
22 effective.

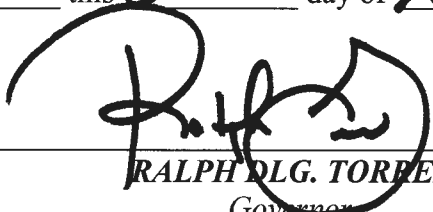
HOUSE BILL 20-108, HD1, HS1

1 **Section 5. Effective Date.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the
2 Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

Attested to by: 
Linda B. Muña, House Clerk

Certified by: 
SPEAKER RAFAEL S. DEMAPAN
House of Representatives
20th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

Approved this 29th day of September, 2017


RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands