

AN ACT

To give elected officials the right to waive their salary and instead receive their retirement benefits, and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:

Section 1. Purpose. The purpose of this Act is to give elected officials the right to waive their salary and instead receive their retirement benefits and their salaries so waived would be reappropriated to the Scholarship Trust Account.

Section 2. Elected Officials. Notwithstanding any other law or regulation to the contrary, elected officials shall have the option to waive their salaries and instead receive their retirement benefits, if they would be otherwise entitled to retire and receive such benefits, provided that such persons who so retire must have served a full twenty-five (25) years of actual and applicable government service.

Section 3. Waived Salaries. All salaries that are waived under the provisions of this Act shall hereby be reappropriated and transferred to a Scholarship Trust Account and funds from said account may be spent for scholarship purposes only, without further appropriation, and without fiscal year limitation.

Section 4. Severability. If any provision of this Act or the application of any such provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

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herein shall not be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation or order adopted under the statutes.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

Section 6. Effective Date. This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

CERTIFIED BY:

ATTESTED BY:

/s/ Diego T. Benavente

DIEGO T. BENAVENTE

Speaker

House of Representatives

/s/ Evelyn C. Fleming

EVELYN C. FLEMING

House Clerk

Approved this 20th day of February, 1998

/s/ Jesus R. Sablan

PEDRO P. TENORIO

Acting Governor

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands