



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Gov. Msg. No. 17-487

Benigno R. Fitial
Governor

Eloy S. Inos
Lt. Governor

DEC 20 2011

Honorable Paul A. Manglona
Senate President, The Senate
Seventeenth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

Honorable Eliceo D. Cabrera
Speaker, House of Representatives
Seventeenth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

Dec. 20, 2011
3:20pm
Petra

Dear Mr. President and Mr. Speaker:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law House Bill No. 17-77, HD2, SD2, entitled, "To amend 1 CMC § 8363; and for other purposes," which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Seventeenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 17-66**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

BENIGNO R. FITIAL

cc: Lt. Governor; Lt. Governor's Legal Counsel; Press Secretary; Department of Finance; Northern Mariana Island Retirement Fund; Commonwealth's Law Revision Commission, Special Assistant for Administration; Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review



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

Third Special Session

May 25, 2010

Representative Eliceo “Eli” D. Cabrera, of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*), in an open and public meeting with an opportunity for the public to comment, introduced the following Bill:

H. B. 17-77
AN ACT
TO AMEND 1 CMC § 8363; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Bill was referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means, and was withdrawn and placed on the Bill Calendar on June 18, 2010.

**THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON
FIRST AND FINAL READING, AUGUST 10, 2010;**
with amendments in the form of H. B. 17-77, HD1 and transmitted to the
THE SENATE.

The Bill was not referred to a Senate Committee.
THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE SENATE ON FIRST AND FINAL READING, OCTOBER 20, 2011;
with amendments in the form of H. B. 17-77, HD1, SD2
and returned to
TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OCTOBER 24, 2011.

The House of Representatives accepted the Senate amendments during its
11th Day, Fourth Regular Session.

THE BILL WAS FINALLY PASSED ON DECEMBER 5, 2011

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Muña".

Linda B. Muña, House Clerk



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

Fourth Regular Session

December 5, 2011

H. B. 17-77, HD1, SD2

AN ACT

TO AMEND 1 CMC §8363; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

**Be it enacted by the Seventeenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth
Legislature:**

1 **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature finds that the Northern Mariana
2 Island Retirement Fund (“Fund”) is in dire need of fiscal reforms in order to save the pension
3 program from an impending demise. These fiscal reforms will be in the form of legislative
4 amendments in order to ensure the long term fiscal solvency of the pension program in order
5 to meet its mandate of providing a pension for all its members. This amendment will be just
6 one of many cost saving measures that will provide the necessary step to save the CNMI’s
7 pension program. The legislature further finds that this act is necessary to support the
8 welfare of the residents of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and therefore
9 is a proper use of the legislative authority granted by Article II, Section 1 of the
10 Commonwealth Constitution.

HOUSE BILL 17-77, HD1, SD2

1 **Section 2. Amendment.** Section 8363(a) of Title 1 of the Commonwealth Code,
2 entitled: “*Retirement Funds Contribution to Life Insurances,*” is hereby repealed in its
3 entirety and reenacted as follows:

4 “(a) Annuitants shall be provided an option to continue their
5 Commonwealth government life insurance coverage under the same group terms
6 and conditions as that government coverage, if any, that is offered each fiscal
7 year to the Commonwealth government employees; provided that the annuitants
8 coverage shall not be reduced by more than thirty percent. The premium cost will
9 be divided between the fund and the annuitant in the same manner as the
10 premium is divided between the Commonwealth government and government
11 employees.”

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 the 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 on the date this Act
22 becomes effective.

PUBLIC LAW NO. 17-00
HOUSE BILL 17-77, HD1, SD2

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

Attested to by:



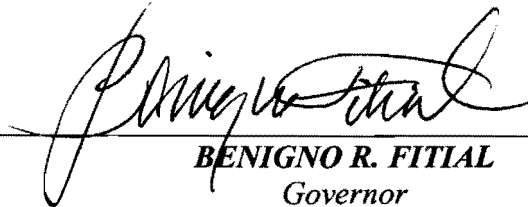
Linda B. Muña, House Clerk

Certified by:



SPEAKER ELICEO "ELI" D. CABRERA
House of Representatives
17th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

APPROVED this **20th** day of **DECEMBER**, 2011



BENIGNO R. FITIAL
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands