



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Ralph DLG. Torres
Governor

Victor B. Hocog
Lieutenant Governor

FEB 18 2016

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

Honorable Francisco M. Borja
Senate President, The Senate
Nineteenth 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. 19-136, SD1, entitled, "To amend Public Law No. 19-08 to specifically authorize the Governor to reprogram Executive Branch Appropriations to pay for the 25% pension payments; and for other purposes", which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Nineteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 19-35**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,


VICTOR B. HOCOG
Acting Governor

cc: Governor; Attorney General's Office; Special Assistant for Administration; Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review; All Branches, Municipalities, Departments & Agencies



House of Representatives

19th NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 500586
SAIPAN, MP 96950

February 18, 2016

The Honorable Victor B. Hocog
Acting Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern
Mariana Islands
Capitol Hill
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Acting Governor Hocog:

I have the honor of transmitting herewith for your action **H. B. No. 19-136, SD1**, entitled: "To amend Public Law No. 19-08 to specifically authorize the Governor to reprogram Executive Branch Appropriations to pay for the 25% pension payments; and for other purposes.", which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Nineteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Sincerely yours,



Linda B. Muña
House Clerk

Attachment



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

Third Regular Session

February 17, 2016

Representative Antonio P. Sablan, of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for himself*, Representatives George N. Camacho, Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, Angel A. Demapan, Felicidad T. Ogumoro, 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. 19-136, SD1

AN ACT

**TO AMEND PUBLIC LAW NO. 19-08 TO SPECIFICALLY
AUTHORIZE THE GOVERNOR TO REPROGRAM EXECUTIVE
BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS TO PAY FOR THE 25% PENSION
PAYMENTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

The Bill was not referred to a House Committee.

**THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON
FIRST AND FINAL READING, FEBRUARY 17, 2016;
without amendments 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, FEBRUARY 17, 2016;
with amendments in the form of H. B. 19-136, SD1; *and was returned to*
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**

The House of Representatives accepted the Senate amendments and passed H. B. 19-136, SD1 during its Emergency Session, Third Regular Session on February 18, 2016.

THE BILL WAS FINALLY PASSED ON FEBRUARY 18, 2016.



Linda B. Muña, House Clerk



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

Third Regular Session

February 18, 2016

H. B. No. 19-136, SD1

AN ACT

**TO AMEND PUBLIC LAW NO. 19-08 TO SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZE THE
GOVERNOR TO REPROGRAM EXECUTIVE BRANCH
APPROPRIATIONS TO PAY FOR THE 25% PENSION PAYMENTS;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

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

1 **Section 1. Findings and Purposes.** The Legislature finds that funding the 25%
2 pension payments for retirees is a public purpose for which the Governor can reprogram
3 funds. This Act is intended to remove any doubt regarding the Governor's authority to
4 reprogram funds for this purpose.

5 **Section 2. Amendments.**

6 (a) Section 501(b) of Public Law No. 19-08 is hereby amended to read as follows:

7 “(b) Except as provided herein, 1 CMC § 7402(a) and (b) are suspended to
8 provide the Governor with 100% reprogramming authority within the Executive
9 Branch. The Governor may reprogram funds for, among other things, the public
10 purpose of funding the 25% pension payments for retirees.

11 (b) Section 201(II)(6) and (7) of Public Law 19-08 are amended by deleting the
12 phrase ‘per court order’.”

HOUSE BILL 19-136, SD1

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

5 **Section 4. Savings Clause.** This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be
6 construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes
7 repealed or under any rule, regulation, or order adopted under the statutes. Repealers
8 contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding instituted under or pursuant to prior law.
9 The enactment of the Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying,
10 any liability, civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence on the date this Act
11 becomes effective.

HOUSE BILL 19-136, SD1

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

Attested to by:



Linda B. Muña, House Clerk

Certified by:



SPEAKER RAFAEL S. DEMAPAN
House of Representatives
19th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

APPROVED this **18th** day of **February**, 2016



VICTOR B. HOCOG
Acting Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands