

AN ACT

To increase benefits paid to retired members of the Retirement Fund, to restrict retirement benefits paid to active employees of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to amend Public Law 1-43, and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:

1 Section 1. Contributions by the Government. Section 20 of Public
2 Law 1-43 is hereby repealed and reenacted as follows:

3 "Section 20. Contributions by the Government.
4 Notwithstanding any previously enacted provision to the
5 contrary, the Government and its agencies and instrumentalities
6 shall contribute to the Fund only upon an immediate cash needs
7 basis. The Board shall determine the immediate cash needs of
8 the fund and the contributions required of each governmental
9 entity electing to contribute upon this basis. The Legislature
10 is hereby authorized to appropriate such sums as may be
11 necessary to meet the government's share of the Fund's balance
12 each year solely upon the need of the Fund to benefits
13 immediately due and any operation expenses incurred by
14 the Fund."

15 Section 2. Intent of Law. Section 42 of Public Law 1-43 is
16 hereby amended as follows:

17 "Section 2. Intent of Law. It is the intention of this
18 Act that the payment of the required contributions by any
19 governmental entity shall be an obligation of the Government
20 to the extent of any appropriation made, and all allowances,
21 annuities, benefits and administration, custodial and audit
22 fees shall be paid from the Fund."

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1 Section 3. Double Dipping.

2 (a) Notwithstanding any previously enacted provision to
3 the contrary, benefits shall not accumulate, become due, or be
4 paid by the Retirement Fund to any member of the Fund, so long
5 as the member is employed for more than 20 hours per week by any
6 entity of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern
7 Mariana Islands; Provided, that a member may choose to receive
8 his retirement benefits in lieu of a salary. This subsection
9 shall not apply to elected officials.

10 (b) Section 9 of Public Law 1-43 is amended by adding a
11 new subsection (e) as follows:

12 "(e) In the case of any member who is receiving
13 any monetary benefit from the United States Civil
14 Service System Retirement Fund, such member shall
15 receive benefits from the Fund reduced by the amount
16 of monetary benefit received from the United States
17 Civil Service Retirement Fund."

18 Section 4. Notwithstanding any other provision of law and upon
19 appropriation of sufficient funds by the Legislature, the Northern
20 Marianas Retirement Fund is directed to grant a 6% increase in benefits
21 to be paid in FY 1984 to those members of the Fund who are current
22 recipients of the Fund's benefits.

23 Section 5. Benefit Ceiling. Notwithstanding any other provision
24 of law, the Board may establish a maximum ceiling per year in benefits
25 that a member may receive from the Fund.

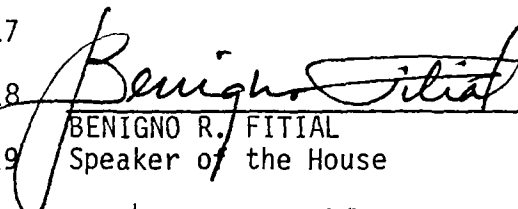
1 Section 6. Section 7 of Public Law 1-43 is amended to read as
2 follows:

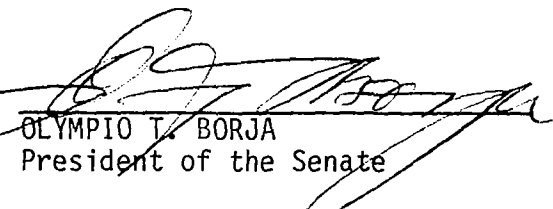
3 "(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
4 Retirement Fund shall provide by regulation for the optional
5 participation of prior service credit for employees and former
6 employees of the following government agencies, Community
7 Action Agency, MLSC, Headstart Program, and Saipan Credit
8 Union."


9 Section 7. Creditable Service. Section 11 of Public Law 1-43,
10 as amended by Public Law 2-18, is amended by adding a new subsection
11 (f)."

12 "(f) Accumulated sick leave shall be credited as actual
13 work experience in determining the number of years of service
14 of a member."


15 Section 8. Effective Date. This Act shall take effect upon its
16 approval by the Governor, or upon its becoming law without such approval.

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18 
19 BENIGNO R. FITIAL
Speaker of the House



OLYMPIO T. BORJA
President of the Senate

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21 
22 HERBERT S. DEL ROSARIO
Chief Clerk of the House

ATTEST:


IGNACIO K. QUICHOCHO
Senate Legislative Secretary

23 _____, 1984

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PEDRO P. TENORIO
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana
Islands