

**Arnold I. Palacios**  
Governor



**David M. Apatang**  
Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

June 02, 2023

**GOV 2023-691**

The Honorable Donald M. Manglona  
Chairman  
Rota Legislative Delegation  
Twenty-Third Northern Marianas  
Commonwealth Legislature  
Saipan, MP 96950

The Honorable Edmund S. Villagomez  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Third Northern Marianas  
Commonwealth Legislature  
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Mr. Chairman and Mr. Speaker:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law **House Local Bill No. 23-07, D1**, entitled, "To appropriate \$52,500 of the Rota Poker License Fees Account (specifically under BU 3302); and for other purposes," which was passed by the Rota Legislative Delegation of the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Rota Local Law No. 23-05**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

  
**ARNOLD I. PALACIOS**  
Governor

cc: Lieutenant Governor; Attorney General; Commonwealth Law Revision;  
Public Auditor; Secretary of Finance; Mayor of Rota;  
Special Assistant for Administration; Programs and Legislative Review Office



## ROTA LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

### First Senatorial District

### *Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature*

Senator Donald M. Manglona, Chairman  
Representative Julie A. Ogo, Vice Chair

Senator Dennis C. Mendiola, Floor Leader  
Senator Paul A. Manglona, Legislative Secretary

May 16, 2023

The Honorable Arnold I. Palacios  
Governor  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Honorable Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building  
Capitol Hill  
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Governor Palacios:

I am honored to transmit for your action **House Local Bill No. 23-07, D1**, entitled, "To appropriate \$52,500 of the Rota Poker License Fees Account (specifically under BU 3302); and for other purposes.", which was passed unanimously by the Rota Legislative Delegation, Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature on its First and Final Reading, a quorum duly present during its 1<sup>st</sup> Day, First Special Session held on May 15, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Frances Joan P. Kaipat".

Frances Joan P. Kaipat  
Delegation Clerk

Enclosure



**ROTA LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION  
FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT  
TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION, 2023**

**HOUSE LOCAL BILL NO. 23-07, D1**

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**A LOCAL APPROPRIATION BILL FOR AN ACT  
FOR THE FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT**

To appropriate \$52,500 of the Rota Poker License Fees Account (specifically under BU 3302); and for other purposes.

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**OFFERED BY**

**Representative Julie Marie A. Ogo**

Introduced on March 09, 2023

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**HOUSE ACTION**

Referred to House Ways and Means Committee on March 09, 2023  
Transmitted to Rota Legislative Delegation for action on

May 11, 2023

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**DELEGATION ACTION**

<b>Referred to:</b>	None
<b>Comments Solicited:</b>	3/28/23: Mayor of Rota [Del. Matters 23-15] & 19 <sup>th</sup> Rota Municipal Council [Del. Matters 23-16]
<b>Comments Received:</b>	5/11/23: Mayors Comm. 23-07
<b>Standing Committee Report:</b>	None
<b>Passed First &amp; Final Reading:</b>	May 15, 2023 w/Draft 1

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**Frances Joan P. Kaipat  
Delegation Clerk**





**ROTA LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION  
FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT  
TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION, 2023**

**H. L. B. NO. 23-07, D1**

**A LOCAL APPROPRIATION BILL FOR AN ACT  
FOR THE FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT**

To appropriate \$52,500 of the Rota Poker License Fees Account (specifically under BU 3302); and for other purposes.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT DELEGATION PURSUANT TO  
CHAPTER 4, DIVISION 1, TITLE 1 OF THE COMMONWEALTH CODE:**

**SECTION 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

The Rota Legislative Delegation (Delegation) learned from the Mayor of Rota that 25 employees were not paid for two pay periods in December 2022 amounting to \$29,340.00 of unpaid wages. The employees are no longer with the Office of the Mayor, but the Rota Mayor sought the assistance of the Delegation to fund at least one pay period in the amount of \$17,270.

The Delegation finds it necessary to appropriate the Rota Poker License Fees to support the Rota Office of the Mayor to fund the cost of the one pay period obligation to the former employees, provide for the Rota Medical Subsistence Allowance, and for the operations of the Rota Legislative Delegation.

Therefore, the purpose of this Act is appropriate \$52,500 under Business Unit 3302 and for other

purposes.

**SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.**

Notwithstanding 10 CMC §1901, \$52,5000 of the Rota Poker Licensing Fee Account, Business Unit 3302, is appropriated as follows:

(a) \$17,270 to fund pay period 26 of 2022, for 25 employees of the Rota Office of the Mayor. The expenditure of the funds under this subsection is the Secretary of Department of Finance.

(b) \$20,700 for the Rota Medical Subsistence Allowance. The expenditure authority of the funds under this subsection is the Secretary of the Department of Finance.

(c) \$9,250 for the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, Rota Man Amko travel to Saipan, under the expenditure authority of the Program Coordinator on Aging.

(d) \$5,280 for Rota Legislative Delegation to fund the Military Medical Services on Rota and for public purpose operation of the Rota Legislative Delegation. The expenditure authority under this subsection is the Chairman of the Rota Legislative Delegation.

**SECTION 3. 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 4. SAVINGS CLAUSE.**

This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be construed as affecting any existing

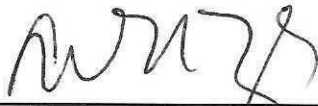
HOUSE LOCAL BILL No. 23-07, D1

1 right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation or  
2 order adopted under the statutes. Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding  
3 instituted under or pursuant to prior law. The enactment of the Act shall not have the effect of  
4 terminating, or in any way modifying, any liability, civil or criminal, which shall already be in  
5 existence on the date this Act becomes effective.

6 **SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

7 This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the Governor or its becoming law without  
8 such approval.


**CERTIFIED BY:**

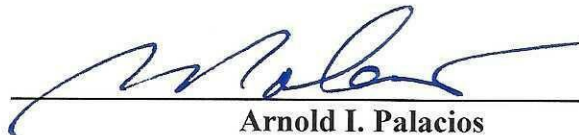


Donald M. Manglona  
Chairman  
Rota Legislative Delegation



Edmund S. Villagomez  
Speaker  
23<sup>rd</sup> House of Representatives

 this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2023.



Arnold I. Palacios  
Governor  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands



TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

P.O. BOX 500586 SAIPAN, MP 96950

RALPH N. YUMUL

CHAIRMAN

*Adopted - 5/10/2023*

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 23-9, S1

DATE: April 21, 2023

RE: House Local Bill No. 23-7

The Honorable Edmund S. Villagomez  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
Twenty-Third Northern Marianas  
Commonwealth Legislature  
Capitol Hill  
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Ways and Means to which was referred:

House Local Bill No. 23-7, "To appropriate \$65,000 of the Rota Poker License Fees Account (specifically under BU 3302) and for other purposes."

begs leave to report as follows:

### I. RECOMMENDATION:

After conducting financial due diligence, your committee recommends that House Local Bill No. 23-7 be transmitted to the Rota Legislative Delegation for action.

HOUSE CLERK'S OFFICE  
RECEIVED BY *EMV*  
DATE *4/27/2023* TIME *8:07a*



## II. ANALYSIS:

### A. Purpose:

To appropriate \$65,000 of the Rota Poker License Fees Account (specifically under BU 3302) and will be appropriated as follows:

(a) \$17,270 to pay for December 1 to 17, 2022, pay period 26, for 25 employees of the Rota Office of the Mayor. The expenditure of the funds under this subsection is the Secretary of Department of Finance.

(b) \$47,730 for the Rota Medical Subsistence Allowance. The expenditure authority of the funds under this subsection is the Secretary of the Department of Finance.

### B. Committee Findings:

Your Committee on Ways and Means to which House Local Bill No. 23-7: "To appropriate \$65,000 of the Rota Poker License Fees Account (specifically under BU 3302); and for other purposes." was referred to verify and confirm that the amount specified in the local appropriation act is accurate and available for appropriation. The Committee received SFL Communication 2023-182 dated March 28, 2023 from Acting Secretary of Finance, Mrs. Tracy B. Norita, certifying that as of March 28, 2023, for Business Unit 3302, the account has a fund balance of **\$52,500** that is available for appropriation. Therefore, your Committee recommends that the Rota Legislative Delegation amend HLB 23-7 to reflect the accurate amount identified for appropriation under BU 3302 by the Secretary of Finance and adjust the amounts accordingly.

Your Committee recommends that House Local Bill No. 23-7 be transmitted to the Rota Legislative Delegation for proper action. SFL Communication 2023-182 has been attached as part of this committee report.

### C. Legislative History:

House Local Bill 23-7 was introduced by Representative Julie Marie A. Ogo on March 9, 2023 and was subsequently referred to the House Standing Committee on Ways and Means for disposition.


Standing Committee Report No. 23-9 recommended that House Local Bill No. 23-7 be transmitted to the Rota Legislative Delegation in the form of House Local Bill No. 23-7, Draft 1 for action. However, SCR No. 23-9 was recommitted back to the Committee for further review on the 1<sup>st</sup> Day, Special Session on Friday, April 14, 2023 in the House Chamber.

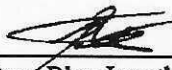


**III. CONCLUSION:**

The Committee is content and confident with the Fund Status Report – BU 3302 provided by the Acting Secretary of Finance with respect to House Local Bill No. 23-7 and therefore recommends that it be transmitted to the Rota Legislative Delegation for proper action.

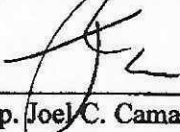
Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rep. Ralph N. Yumul, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rep. Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Vice Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rep. Roman C. Benavente, Member

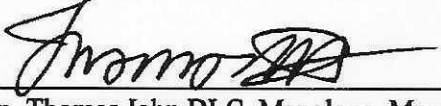
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Rep. Angelo A. Camacho, Member


  
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Rep. Joel C. Camacho, Member

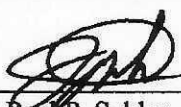
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Rep. Vicente C. Camacho, Member

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Rep. Manny Gregory T. Castro, Member

  
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Rep. Joseph A. Flores, Member

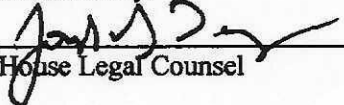
  
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Rep. Thomas John DLC. Manglona, Member

  
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Rep. Julie Marie A. Ogo, Member

  
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Rep. John Paul P. Sablan, Member

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Rep. Patrick H. San Nicolas, Member

Reviewed by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
House Legal Counsel

Attachment: Fund Status Report – BU 3302; SFL 2023-182 dated March 28, 2023



Office of the Secretary  
Department of Finance

P. O. Box 5234 CHRB SAIPAN, MP 96950

TEL: (670) 664-1100 FAX: (670) 664-1115



March 28, 2023

SFL 2023-182

The Honorable Donald M. Manglona  
Vice President  
The Senate  
Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature  
P.O. Box 500586  
Saipan, MP 96950

**RE: Fund Status Report – BU 3302**

Dear Vice President Manglona,

This letter is in response to your email dated March 08, 2023, requesting a fund status for BU 3302. The Poker Machine Fees collected for BU 3302 "*Other Appropriations (current)*" for Rota respectively per 10 CMC § 1901. The beginning balance from September 30, 2022, was carried forward in the amount of \$17,500.00.

As of March 28, 2023, for BU 3302, the account has a fund balance of \$52,500.00. Please see attached the latest funds certification of fees collected for BU 3302.

Should you have any questions or require additional information regarding these accounts, please feel free to contact me via phone at 664-1100 or via email at [t.norita@dof.gov.mp](mailto:t.norita@dof.gov.mp)

Sincerely,

Tracy B. Norita  
Acting Secretary of Finance  
ATTACHMENT

## FY 2023 Local Poker Machine Fees Collections (BU 3302)

AS OF 03/17/23

Prepared Date: 3/28/2023


		TOTAL	BU 3302
Balance as of 9/30/22	Machines Renewed	49,999.74	17,500.00
Unaccounted Revenue			
Revenue Collections as of 10/31/22	0	-	-
Revenue Collections as of 11/30/22	2	10,000.00	5,000.00
Revenue Collections as of 12/31/22	8	30,000.00	15,000.00
Revenue Collections as of 01/31/23	1	5,000.00	2,500.00
Revenue Collections as of 2/28/23	0	-	-
Revenue Collections as of 3/31/23	5	25,000.00	12,500.00
Revenue Collections as of 4/30/23	0	-	-
Revenue Collections as of 5/31/23	0	-	-
Revenue Collections as of 6/30/23	0	-	-
Revenue Collections as of 7/31/23	0	-	-
Revenue Collections as of 8/31/23	0	-	-
Revenue Collections as of 9/30/23	0	-	-
Total Revenues		119,999.74	52,500.00
Less Appropriations		-	-
FUND BALANCE		119,999.74	52,500.00

## Other Appropriations (Current) (BU 3302) per 10 C.R.S. § 5553


Starting Balance	17,500.00
Current Year collections	35,000.00
Adjustments FROM Scholarship Reserve	-
	-
	-
	-
	-

Account Balance	52,500.00
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Prepared by:

  
 Kartrinalynn Henriquez  
 FINANCIAL ANALYST

Reviewed by:

  
 Eleuterio G. Palacios Jr.  
 SENIOR FINANCIAL ANALYST

Approved by:

  
 Tracy B. Norita  
 ACTING SECRETARY OF FINANCE