The Honorable Blas Jonathan “BJ” T. Attao  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-First Northern Marianas  
Commonwealth Legislature  
Saipan, MP 96950 

The Honorable Victor B. Hocog  
Senate President, The Senate  
Twenty-First 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. 21-66**, entitled, “To amend 1 CMC § 3809 (c) to allow the Commonwealth Law Revision Commission to use its revolving fund for personnel cost for good cause and with the approval of the expenditure authority and concurrence of three-fifths of the commission,” which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Twenty-First Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 21-22**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

Ralph DLG. Torres  
Governor

cc: Lt. Governor; Press Secretary; Secretary of Finance; NMI Judiciary; Law Revision Commission; Public Auditor; Special Assistant for Administration; Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review
Twenty-First Legislature
of the
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIFTH SPECIAL SESSION

JULY 18, 2019

REPRESENTATIVE JOEL C. CAMACHO of Saipan, Precinct 4 (for himself,) in an open and public meeting with an opportunity for the public to comment, introduced the following Bill:

H. B. No. 21-66

AN ACT

TO AMEND 1 CMC § 3809(C) TO ALLOW THE COMMONWEALTH LAW REVISION COMMISSION TO USE ITS REVOLVING FUND FOR PERSONNEL COSTS FOR GOOD CAUSE AND WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY AND CONCURRENCE OF THREE-FIFTHS OF THE COMMISSION.

The Bill was not referred to a House Committee.

THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON FIRST AND FINAL READING, AUGUST 2, 2019; without amendments and transmitted to the
THE SENATE.

The Bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Fiscal Affairs, which submitted Standing Committee Report 21-86; adopted 3/13/2020.

THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE SENATE ON FIRST AND FINAL READING, MARCH 13, 2020; without amendments and was returned to
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THE BILL WAS FINALLY PASSED ON AUGUST 2, 2019.

Linda B. Muña, House Clerk
AN ACT

TO AMEND 1 CMC § 3809(c) TO ALLOW THE COMMONWEALTH LAW REVISION COMMISSION TO USE ITS REVOLVING FUND FOR PERSONNEL COSTS FOR GOOD CAUSE AND WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY AND CONCURRENCE OF THREE-FIFTHS OF THE COMMISSION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TWENTY-FIRST NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:

SECTION 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

The Commonwealth Legislature finds that Public Law 8-22 established the Commonwealth Law Revision Commission tasked with the sole responsibility of codifying Commonwealth laws of a permanent nature and publishing, in a reporter system, decisions of the Commonwealth judiciary as well as producing, publishing and periodically revising a Commonwealth Administrative Code consisting of Commonwealth administrative rules which is to the benefit of all branches of government in the CNMI. However, the Commonwealth Legislature recognizes that budgetary shortfalls and fiscal declines in the CNMI inadvertently
affects the Law Revision Commission's ability to effectively and efficiently carry out their
duties as set forth in Public Law 8-22.

Therefore, the Commonwealth Legislature further finds that in times of extreme need, the Law Revision Commission Revolving Fund should be available not only for printing and publication costs, but also for the Commission's personnel costs to provide the needed flexibility to fully implement their mandate. To ensure that this authority is used only when necessary, the Commonwealth Legislature further finds that a good cause requirement and a three-fifths vote should be met before the revolving fund may be reprogrammed to fund personnel.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.

1 CMC § 3809(c) of the Commonwealth Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

“(c) Moneys in the revolving fund shall be used to pay for printing or photocopying commission publications or for compiling such publications in electronic media, and may be used with the approval of the expenditure authority and concurrence of three-fifths of the commission, to pay for personnel costs necessary for carrying out this chapter. With respect to managing the revolving fund and expending moneys from it, the commission is exempt from title 1, division 7, part 1, chapters 1 through 7.”

SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY.

If any provisions 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 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 the Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying, any liability, civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence on the date this Act becomes effective.
SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

Attested to by:

Linda B. Muña, House Clerk

Certified by:

SPEAKER BLAS JONATHAN “BJ” T. ATTAO
House of Representatives
21st Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

Approval this 8th day of April, 2020

RALPH D.G. TORRES
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands