



Arnold I. Palacios
Governor

David M. Apatang
Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

20 MAY 2024

GOV2024-412

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

The Honorable Edith E. Deleon Guerrero
President of the Senate
Twenty-Third Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Mr. Speaker and Madame President:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law **House Bill No. 23-89, SD1**, entitled, "To appropriate \$517,868.14 generated under 4 CMC § 53036; and for other purposes.", which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 23-20**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,


ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
Governor

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



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

P.O. BOX 500586
SAIPAN, MP 96950
cnmileg.net

May 14, 2024

The Honorable Arnold I. Palacios
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern
Mariana Islands
Capitol Hill
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Governor Palacios:

I have the honor of transmitting herewith for your action **H. B. No. 23-89, SD1**, entitled: "To appropriate \$517,868.14 generated under 4 CMC § 53036; and for other purposes.", which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Sincerely yours,


Linda B. Muña
House Clerk

Attachment



**TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANA COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

DECEMBER 14, 2023

REPRESENTATIVE DIEGO V. F. CAMACHO OF SAIPAN, PRECINCT 1 (*for himself*, Representatives Vincent R.S. Aldan, Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Angelo A. Camacho, Marissa R. Flores, and Edwin K. Propst) in an open and public meeting with an opportunity for the public to comment, introduced the following Bill:

H. B. No. 23-89, SD1

AN ACT

**TO APPROPRIATE \$517,868.14 GENERATED UNDER
4 CMC § 53036; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Bill was referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means, which submitted Standing Committee Report 23-65; adopted 2/1/2024.

**THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON
FIRST AND FINAL READING, FEBRUARY 1, 2024;**
without amendments and transmitted to **THE SENATE.**

IN THE SENATE

The Bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Fiscal Affairs, which submitted Standing Committee Report 23-78; 4/8/2024.

THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE SENATE ON FIRST AND FINAL READING, APRIL 8, 2024;
with amendments in the form of H. B. No. 23-89, SD1 and returned to **THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES.**

The House of Representatives accepted the Senate amendments and passed H. B. No. 23-89, SD1 during its Second Day, Second Special Session on May 10, 2024.

**H. B. NO. 23-89, SD1 IS DULY PASSED BY THE TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS
COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE.**



Linda B. Muña, House Clerk



TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SECOND DAY, SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

MAY 10, 2024

H. B. No. 23-89, SD1

AN ACT

**TO APPROPRIATE \$517,868.14 GENERATED UNDER
4 CMC § 53036; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

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

1 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

2 The Legislature finds that pursuant to 4 CMC § 53036, the Commonwealth Cannabis
3 Commission is able to assess different types of license fees and application fees. However,
4 pursuant to subsection (g) of the specified statute, such fees shall be placed in an account
5 separate from the general fund to pay the expenses necessary for the operation of the
6 Commission subject to appropriation by the legislature. Such an account is under the
7 expenditure authority of the Chairman of the Commission. Cognizant of the Commission's
8 urgent need for funds, the Legislature finds that it is pertinent to exercise its power to
9 appropriate those funds to allow for the Commission to continue its day-to-day operations in
10 regulating the Commonwealth's Cannabis Industry.

HOUSE BILL 23-89, SD1

1 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate \$517,868.14 generated under
2 4 CMC § 53036 and for other purposes.

3 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.**

4 “(a) Notwithstanding 4 CMC § 1512, or any provisions, statutes, laws, regulations to
5 the contrary, \$517,868.14 generated under 4 CMC § 53036, specifically under
6 Business Unit/Department Code 1501S, is hereby appropriated, without fiscal year limitation,
7 to the Commonwealth Cannabis Commission for their operations/personnel.

8 (b) Notwithstanding 4 CMC § 53036(g), the expenditure authority of the funds
9 appropriated in this Act shall be the Managing Director of the Commonwealth Cannabis
10 Commission.”

11 **SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY.**

12 If any provisions of this Act or the application of any such provision to any person or
13 circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this
14 Act or the application of its provisions to persons or circumstances other than those to which
15 it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

16 **SECTION 4. SAVINGS CLAUSE.**

17 This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be construed as affecting any
18 existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes repealed or under any rule,
19 regulation, or order adopted under the statutes. Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect
20 any proceeding instituted under or pursuant to prior law. The enactment of the Act shall not
21 have the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying, any liability, civil or criminal, which
22 shall already be in existence on the date this Act becomes effective.


HOUSE BILL 23-89, SD1

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SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

Attested to by: 
Linda B. Muña, House Clerk

Certified by: 
SPEAKER EDMUND S. VILLAGOMEZ
House of Representatives
23rd Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

Approved this **20th** day of **May**, 2024


ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands