Guam Legislature Clerks <clerks@guamlegislature.org>

M&C Fwd: A Letter from Congressman Michael F.Q. San Nicolas

1 message

Speaker's Office <speaker@guamlegislature.org>
To: Clerks Office <clerks@guamlegislature.org>
Cc: Rennae Meno <rennae@guamlegislature.org>

04-04-20	7:43 AM	04-03-20	A Letter from Congressman Michael F.Q. San Nicolas.*	Office of US Congressman Michael F.Q. San Nico

Sinseru yan Minagåhet,

Office of the Speaker • Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Committee on Public Accountability, Human Resources & the Guam Buildup

35th Guam Legislature
I Mina'trentai Singko na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Guam Congress Building | 163 Chalan Santo Papa | Hagatna, GU 96910
T: (671) 477-2520/1
speaker@guamlegislature.org

This e-mail message is intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above and may contain confidential and privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying, distrib contained in this transmission is strictly PROHIBITED. If you have received this transmission in error, please immediately notify us by replying to speaker@guamlegislature.org and delete the message immediate

Gumai pribilehu yan konfedensia este siha na mensåhi. Solo espesiåtmente para hågu ma entensioña pat ma aturisa para unrisibi. Sen prubidu kumu ti un ma aturisa para manribisa, na'setbe, pat mandespåtcha. Yang mensåhi , put fabot ago' guatu gi I numa'huyong gi as speaker@guamlegislature.org yan despues destrosa todu siha I kopian mensåhi. Si Yu'os ma'åse'.

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **T'Nelta Mori** <michael.sannicolas@mail.house.gov>
Date: Sat, Apr 4, 2020 at 7:43 AM
Subject: A Letter from Congressman Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
To: <speaker@guamlegislature.org>

April 3, 2020

-KINDLY CONFIRM RECEIPT-

Hafa Adai!

Please find attached a letter from Congressman Michael San Nicolas addressed to Speaker Tina Muña-Barnes and all senators of I Mina' Trentai Singk Guåhan regarding COVID19 Relief Packages.

We can be reached at michael.sannicolas@mail.house.gov should you have any questions.

V/R,
T'Nelta Mori
Office of Congressman Michael F.Q. San Nicolas

04.03.2020_Letter to Guam Legislature_REcovid19reliefpkgs.pdf
207K

MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS
GUAM

1632 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-1188

330 HERNAN CORTEZ AVENUE SUITE 300
HAGATNA, GU 96910
(671) 475-6453

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-990

April 3, 2020

The Honorable Tina Rose Muña-Barnes
Speaker
I Mina' Trentai Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 35th Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, GU 96910

Dear 35th Guam Legislature,

As you are aware, the United States Congress passed three relief packages in response to COVID-19 pandemic, and I am more than pleased to share a summary of the information with you.

H.R. 6074

Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act provides $8.3 billion in emergency funding for federal agencies to respond to the coronavirus outbreak.

H.R. 6201

Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) provides free COVID-19 testing, expanded food assistance, increased Medicaid allotments for territories, and additional protections for health care workers.

H.R. 748

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, or "CARES Act," provides over $2 trillion in aid to schools, hospitals, laid-off workers, small businesses, and territory governments.

Direct Assistance to Impacted Individuals and Families in U.S. Territories

Cash Payments: To address unforeseen financial challenges, the CARES Act authorized direct payments of $1,200 ($2,400 for couples) to all individuals in the U.S. territories making less than $75,000 ($150,000 for couples). Above that threshold, benefits will be reduced by $5 for every $100 of income and phased out entirely for those making $99,000 or more ($198,000 for couples). Families are also eligible for an additional $500 per child (under age 17). These are the same "recovery rebates" provided nationwide. Individuals and families in the territories, however, will receive a direct payment or a check through their territorial government with funds provided by the U.S. Treasury.

Expanded Unemployment Assistance: The CARES Act takes care of those who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own as a result of COVID-19. The Act includes a dramatic expansion and reform of the unemployment insurance program in territories with existing systems and a new

MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS
GUAM

1632 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-1188

330 HERNAN CORTEZ AVENUE SUITE 300
HAGATNA, GU 96910
(671) 475-6453

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-990

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program in territories currently without unemployment insurance. Eligibility includes full-time and part-time employees, self-employed, and gig economy workers. An additional 13 weeks of unemployment benefits is added in territories with existing programs. In territories without unemployment insurance, benefits are available for up to 39 weeks, but not beyond the end of 2020; and the weekly Pandemic Unemployment Assistance will be a national average of unemployment benefits. In addition, persons receiving unemployment benefits in all the territories will get the same $600 per week in Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation offered to the unemployed nationwide through July 30, 2020. These programs will be administered by the territorial governments. All new funding is provided by the U.S. Treasury.

Supporting our Front-Line Healthcare Workers

Helping Hospitals and Healthcare Providers: Our economy cannot be healed until we stop the spread of COVID-19. The three new COVID-19 laws provide funding for hospitals and medical facilities in the U.S. territories, as in the rest of the U.S. This includes: $100 billion for hospitals and medical facilities to cover unreimbursed healthcare-related expenses or lost revenues attributable to the coronavirus and $950 million to support territories and states public health activities to address the COVID-19 pandemic via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Protecting Healthcare Workers: Healthcare professionals need all the equipment we can provide to protect themselves. The COVID-19 laws Congress has enacted aim to increase our domestic supply of masks, gloves, gowns, and other essential Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and include $16 billion for the Strategic National Stockpile, $4.3 billion for the CDC, and $1 billion for health agencies for this purpose.

Supporting Small Businesses

Payment Protection Program: The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) through the Small Business Administration (SBA) includes $350 billion in funding for zero-fee loans to employers who keep their workers on the payroll during this emergency.

Emergency Economic Injury Loans: To address immediate cash flow concerns, the CARES Act includes $10 billion for advances of $10,000 to small businesses and nonprofits that apply for an SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL). These low-interest loans, up to $2 million, may be used to pay for expenses that could have been met had the coronavirus crisis not occurred, including payroll and other operating expenses.

Funding for Territory Governments

Coronavirus Relief Fund: The CARES Act includes $3 billion for U.S. territory and the District of Columbia governments. The U.S. Treasury will automatically award each territory its share, based proportionally on population, within 30 days.

MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS
GUAM

1632 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-1188

330 HERNAN CORTEZ AVENUE SUITE 300
HAGATNA, GU 96910
(671) 475-6453

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-990

Additional Medicaid Funding: The FFCRA lowers the local Medicaid match for territories for the duration of the COVID-19 emergency. FFCRA, also, increases the amount of federal Medicaid funding available to the territories for 2020 and 2021. These changes help ensure territorial Medicaid programs will have the funds necessary to address the coronavirus.

Nutrition/Food Assistance: Additional nutrition assistance is available through the existing supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP) for the U.S. Virgin Islands and Guam. American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and Puerto Rico will share an additional $300 million for their nutrition assistance programs so individuals and families receive the food they need.

Additional Funding for Schools: The CARES Act provides a special set-aside of up to $153 million to be distributed by the Secretary of Education based on educational needs in the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, U.S. Virgin Islands, and American Samoa.

We will continue to work closely with the federal agencies to ensure we address the concerns of the nation and to assist the people of Guam during this crisis.

Respectfully,

Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
Member of Congress
Guam

CC: All Senators of the 35th Guam Legislature