

Guam Legislature Clerks <clerks@guamlegislature.org>

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>

04-30-20	1:17 PM	04-29-20	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: **Mori, T'Nelta** <T'Nelta.Mori@mail.house.gov>
Date: Thu, Apr 30, 2020 at 1:17 PM
Subject: RE: A Letter from Congressman Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
To: Speaker's Office <speaker@guamlegislature.org>

Håfa Adai Bernice,

Thank you for the correction! Please find attached aforementioned letter for Speaker Muña Barnes.

V/R,



T'NELTA S. MORI
OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS
1632 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
Tel: (202) 225-1188 | Cell: (202) 227-8937

From: Speaker's Office <speaker@guamlegislature.org>
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2020 11:07 PM
To: Mori, T'Nelta <T'Nelta.Mori@mail.house.gov>
Subject: Re: A Letter from Congressman Michael F.Q. San Nicolas

Håfa Adai T'Nelta,

We did not receive said email with attachment as the email address for the Speaker is incorrect. The address should be speaker@guamlegialature.org. Please resend.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse',

Bernice Rivera

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'.

On Thu, Apr 30, 2020 at 12:48 PM Mori, T'Nelta <T'Nelta.Mori@mail.house.gov> wrote:

> *Hafa Adai!*
>
> Kindly confirm receipt, thank you very much.
>
> V/R,
>
> T'NELTA S. MORI
> OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS
> 1632 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
> WASHINGTON, DC 20515
> Tel: (202) 225-1188 | Cell: (202) 227-8937
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Mori, T'Nelta <T'Nelta.Mori@mail.house.gov>
> **Sent:** Wednesday, April 29, 2020 10:28 PM
> **To:** speaker@guamlegislature.com; senatortcnelson@guamlegislature.org; officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org; office.senatorkelly@guamlegislature.org; senatorbiscoelee@guan senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com; senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com; sen.cridgell@teleguam.net; senatorpedo@senatorjpterlaje.com; office@senatorperez.org; senatortelot@gmail.com; s officeofsenatormoylan@guamlegislature.org; wilcastro671@gmail.com; senatormary@guamlegislature.org
> **Subject:** A Letter from Congressman Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
> **Importance:** High
>
> *Hafa Adai!*
>
> Please find attached a letter from Congressman Michael F.Q. San Nicolas addressed to the Honorable Senators of *I Mina Trentai Singko na Liheslaturan Guahan*. Please feel free to reach our o michael.sannicolas@mail.house.gov should you have any questions.
>
> SENSEREMENTE,

T'NELTA S. MORI

OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS

REPRESENTING GUAM, AT-LARGE

1632 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515

Tel: (202) 225-1188 | Cell: (202) 227-8937

MSN Ltr GL PUA cert 04292020.pdf
255K

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 29, 2020

Speaker Tina Muna-Barnes
35th Guam Legislature
speaker@guamlegislature.com

Senator Joe S. San Augustin
35th Guam Legislature
senatorjoesanagustine@gmail.com

Senator William M. Castro
35th Guam Legislature
Wilcastro671@gmail.com

Vice Speaker Telena Nelson
35th Guam Legislature
senatortcnelson@guamlegislature.com

Senator Therese M. Terlaje
35th Guam Legislature
senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com

Senator Louise Borja Muna
35th Guam Legislature
senatorlouise@gmail.com

Senator Amanda Shelton
35th Guam Legislature
officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.com

Senator Clynton E. Ridgell
35th Guam Legislature
sen.cridgell@teleguam.net

Senator Telo Taitague
35th Guam Legislature
senatortelot@gmail.com

Senator Kelly Marsh Taitano
35th Guam Legislature
office.senatorkelly@guamlegislature.com

Senator Jose "Pedo" Terlaje
35th Guam Legislature
senatorpedo@senatorjpterlaje.com

Senator James C. Moylan
35th Guam Legislature
senatormoylan@guamlegislature.com

Senator Regine Biscoe-Lee
35th Guam Legislature
senatorbiscoelee@guamlegislature.com

Senator Sabina Flores Perez
35th Guam Legislature
office@senatorperez.org

Senator Mary Camacho Torres
35th Guam Legislature
senatormary@guamlegislature.com

Dear Senators,

As you consider action and legislation in the next immediate days to ensure public trust and accountability as well as provide protections for our working population who have been greatly impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, I would like to propose the following to (1) ensure government accountability and (2) safeguard the ability for our valued workers to avail of eligible federal Pandemic Unemployment Assistance benefits that we in Congress passed last month.

First, there have been many calls for accountability and transparency of the unprecedented amount of federal funds our island will be receiving to address the COVID-19 pandemic. I applaud the Guam Legislature's action to my personal call for government accountability on these funds, and thank Senators Therese Terlaje, Perez, and Moylan for introducing a measure that would have mandated full accounting and auditing of these funds. While the Governor has declared that the Guam Legislature, and by extension the Office of Public Accountability, has no oversight authority on these federal programs, on the contrary, the funds that have been used for the initial start up of some programs come directly from your local coffers.

For instance, it is widely reported and confirmed that the $11M used to payout Economic Impact Payments for those individuals who reported an adjusted gross income of less than $10,000 were taken from local funding, with the hope that the federal government will reimburse the government of Guam. Without accountability and proper oversight to ensure that these funds are being spent according to federal

procedures and requirements, the government of Guam risks losing reimbursement of local funds spent on federal programs.

I strongly urge the Guam Legislature to exercise its full, mandated authority and power to oversee the local funds and local government operations. Calling for oversight hearings, even virtually, must be a priority for your body. The federal government needs the Guam Legislature's help in ensuring full transparency and accountability of these federal funds so that we may protect the availability of future federal programs administered locally. Additionally, the People of Guam deserve the Guam Legislature's initiative to ensure that their tax dollars are being used appropriately and fairly across the board.

Second, the Guam Legislature must address a possible problem for our COVID-19 impacted workers. To apply for temporary unemployment benefits provided by the federal government, the impacted worker is required to submit certification from their employer that their employment status was changed due to a qualified reason. Some local businesses, including those in the hotel and restaurant industry, have generously agreed to provide in advance to the Guam Department of Labor information and certification of their employees whose change in employment was caused directly by the coronavirus pandemic. In order for our local administering agency to process information quickly and provide immediate relief for our worker population, the local government must require registered local businesses, as a condition of maintaining its business license in Guam, to perform the following:

1) Report pandemic related unemployment to the Guam Department of Labor within five (5) business days of the law's passage, with reasonable exceptions; and

2) Provide the necessary certification required by the Guam Department of Labor of each individual employee impacted to such employee, that would satisfy the Guam Department of Labor requirements to determine if such employee qualifies for unemployment compensation. Such certification must be provided to the impacted employee without any conditions.

Further, to deter local businesses from neglecting this mandated responsibility, you must include penalty provisions including:

1) a fine by the Guam Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division, such as $1,000 for failing to notify the Guam Department of Labor and $500 for each occurrence an impacted employee does not receive such certification; and

2) rescinding licenses to operate in Guam for failure to comply.

My office has been receiving numerous calls from our constituents concerned that they would not be able to apply for the temporary federal unemployment assistance program as their former employers are not bound to provide this information. We must get ahead of a possible problem that would prevent hundreds, if not thousands, of our dedicated workers from qualifying for this generous federal program.

Respectfully,

Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
Member of Congress
Guam