clerks@guamlegislature.org

From: Speaker's Office <speaker@guamlegislature.org>
Sent: Friday, August 21, 2020 2:03 PM
To: Clerks Office
Cc: Rennae Meno
Subject: M&C Fwd: A Letter from Congressman Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
Attachments: 08.18.2020_MSN LETTER TO 35GL_RE CARES Act Authorizations.pdf

08-19-20	6:32 AM	08-18-20	A Letter from Congressman Michael F.Q. San Nicolas regarding CARES Act.*	Office of US Congressman Michael F.Q. San Nicolas	35GL-20-2163

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, distribution or use of the information 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 immediately. Thank you very much.

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. Yanggen lachi rinisibu-mu nu este na 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** <TNelta.Mori@mail.house.gov>
Date: Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 6:32 AM
Subject: A Letter from Congressman Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
To: Honorable Amanda L. Shelton <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>, Honorable Clynton E. Ridgell <sen.cridgell@teleguam.net>, Honorable Kelly Marsh (Taitano), PhD. <office.senatorkelly@guamlegislature.org>, Honorable Mary Camacho Torres <senatormary@guamlegislature.org>, Honorable James C. Moylan <officeofsenatormoylan@guamlegislature.org>, Honorable Joe S. San Agustin <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>,

Honorable Jose "Pedo" Terlaje <senatorpedo@senatorjpterlaje.com>, Honorable Louise B. Muna <senatorlouise@gmail.com>, Honorable Régine Biscoe Lee <senatorbiscoelee@guamlegislature.org>, Honorable Sabina Flores Perez <office@senatorperez.org>, Honorable Telena Cruz Nelson <senatortcnelson@guamlegislature.org>, Honorable Telo T. Taitague <senatortelot@gmail.com>, Honorable Therese M. Terlaje <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, Honorable William M. Castro <wilcastro671@gmail.com>, Speaker TMB <speaker@guamlegislature.org>
Cc: Winn, Jennifer <Jennifer.Winn@mail.house.gov>, San Nicolas, Michael <Michael.SanNicolas@mail.house.gov>

KINDLY CONFIRM RECEIPT OF THIS LETTER

Håfa Adai!

May this email find you well. Please find attached a letter from Congressman Michael F.Q. San Nicolas addressed to the Honorable Senators of *I Mina Trentai Singko na Liheslaturan Guåhan*. The Office can be reached at michael.sannicolas@mail.house.gov should you have any questions.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase.

VERY RESPECTFULLY,

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 | sannicolas.house.gov

MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS
GUAM

FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
VICE CHAIRMAN
MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTOR PROTECTION ENTERPRENEURSHIP, AND CAPITAL MARKETS
MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY, INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND MONETARY POLICY
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
MEMBER
MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON INDEGENOUS PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES

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

WASHINGTON, D.C. OFFICE
1632 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-1188

DISTRICT OFFICE
330 HERNAN CORTEZ AVENUE
SUITE 300
HAGATNA, GUAM 96910
(671) 475-6453

https://sannicolas.house.gov

August 18, 2020

The Honorable Tina Muña Barnes
Speaker, 35th Guam Legislature
speaker@guamlegislature.org

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

The Honorable William M. Castro
Senator, 35th Guam Legislature
wilcastro671@gmail.com

The Honorable Telena Cruz Nelson
Vice Speaker, 35th Guam Legislature
senatortcnelson@guamlegislature.org

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

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

The Honorable Amanda L. Shelton
Senator, 35th Guam Legislature
officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org

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

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

The Honorable Kelly Marsh Taitano
Senator, 35th Guam Legislature
office.senatorkelly@guamlegislature.org

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

The Honorable James C. Moylan
Senator, 35th Guam Legislature
officeofsenatormoylan@guamlegislature.org

The Honorable Régine Biscoe Lee
Senator, 35th Guam Legislature
senatorbiscoelee@guamlegislature.org

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

The Honorable Mary Camacho Torres
Senator, 35th Guam Legislature
senatormary@guamlegislature.org

Dear Senators:

As you consider authorizing expenditures of the remaining $117,986,258 in CARES Act funds, we wish to inform you of the following options made known to the local government in our letters dated July 13th, 2020 and July 30th, 2020 (attached).

1. Availability of CARES Act funding for a local rental assistance program:

Like the City of Irvine, jurisdictions are demonstrating proven efforts in utilizing CARES Act funds to provide immediate relief to its residents through local rental assistance programs. Locally, one such framework would allow the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority to accept local applications for grants for rental or mortgage assistance. Grants could be restricted to those residents who can provide evidence of COVID-related hardship in paying at least one-month of rent or mortgage payments. Grant checks would be sent directly to grantee landlords to guarantee funds are appropriately used for its intended purpose. These grants are in addition to CARES Act HUD funds, and include additional amounts available in CARES Act local government funds. As we continue to press for rental and mortgage assistance federally, I encourage local action using readily available CARES Act funds.

2. Availability of CARES Act funding for public and private essential worker additional compensation:

The Guam Congressional Office has been researching diligently for a way to include essential workers in the financial support provided by the federal government during these COVID-19 times. The Great State of Pennsylvania has informed us that CARES Act funding for state and local governments are eligible to compensate essential workers. In my letter to Governor Leon Guerrero dated July 30th, I reference the great State of Pennsylvania's recently implemented local grants program to eligible businesses and operators to pay essential workers with CARES Act federal funds. The resiliency of our community today is owed to the sacrifice of our essential workers. The strength of our recovery will be carried on their shoulders and fueled by their morale. It is, therefore, essential we address the essential.

3. Availability of CARES Act funding for Presidential Executive Order additional unemployment compensation:

As publicly disclosed by the Administration, there is a 25% local matching requirement of $100 to get an additional $300 federal match, for an aggregate benefit of $400 for eligible recipients. The Administration also further publicly disclosed that the full $400 would need to be initially paid by the local government before receiving a reimbursement of the federal share of $300.

While encumbering the full sum of these upfront costs would be greater than the remaining local CARES Act sums available, they can likely be managed if committed on a month to month basis subject to rolling reimbursements.

For example, 35,000 unemployment recipients at $400 upfront per week would be $14MM / week, $56MM / month. Subject to a 75% reimbursement of the $56MM ($42MM) to the local government, the program can then continue into the next month or pause until such reimbursements are received. At the very least, this will give our affected unemployed a one-month reprieve that hopefully can be extended on a rolling basis.

As you weigh the options on the utilization of CARES Act funds, I urge you to do so mindful of what is critical to minimize negative economic community spread. Chiefly our present circumstances need a reinforcing of existing industries, an expanding of direct support into our private sector, a taking advantage of additional federal matching dollars, and a circulation of resources into our local economy.

Thank you for your service and consideration of these options.

Much Respect,

Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
Member of Congress
Guam

Attached: A. 07.30.2020_MSN Letter to GovLLG_Re: Irvine Rental Assistance Program
B. 07.13.2020_MSN Letter to GovLLG_Re: Hazard Pay Grants

MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS
GUAM

FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
VICE CHAIRMAN
MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTOR PROTECTION ENTERPRENEURSHIP, AND CAPITAL MARKETS
MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY, INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND MONETARY POLICY
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
MEMBER
MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON INDEGENOUS PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES

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

WASHINGTON, D.C. OFFICE
1632 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-1188

DISTRICT OFFICE
330 HERNAN CORTEZ AVENUE
SUITE 300
HAGATNA, GUAM 96910
(671) 475-6453

https://sannicolas.house.gov

July 30, 2020

The Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero
I Maga'Hågan Guåhan | Governor of Guam
Ricardo J. Bordallo Governor's Complex
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Dear Governor Leon Guerrero:

The Guam Congressional Office has been researching diligently for a way to include essential workers in the financial support provided by the federal government during these COVID-19 times.

Our essential workers across the country are the reason we have any foundation at all from which to stand and deliver critical services and support to protect the health and welfare of the community and maintain some semblance of a functioning economy. These workers, aptly covered under the HEROES Act passed two months ago in the House of Representatives, remain unreconciled among the whole of us impacted and yet continue to put their personal health and safety and those of their families on the line for us all.

To that end, it is with great expectations that I wish to eagerly inform you that the Great State of Pennsylvania has informed us that CARES Act funding for state and local governments are eligible to compensate essential workers, and urge you to graciously consider doing so with all possible speed.

For reference, the great State of Pennsylvania and their Governor Tom Wolf have recently implemented a local grants program to eligible businesses and operators to pay essential workers with CARES Act federal funds. Specifically, the details of their program may be found at: https://dced.pa.gov/programs/covid-19-pa-hazard-pay-grant/

If not already initiated, I highly recommend a peer consult between your good Office and the Office of the Governor of Pennsylvania specifically to apprise the details and logistics of their essential worker compensation program for the development of a similar Guam program.

While the aforementioned include positions and provisions as determined by the State of Pennsylvania, they should not necessarily reflect essential workers who may avail of a Guam program similarly established.

On that note, using the Pennsylvania program as a model, through the duration of a COVID-19 locally declared state of emergency, I would further advise on a back-dated basis additional inclusion (in addition to the PA list) relative to Guam for all employees earning less than $25 an hour in:

- All businesses open and operating that remained open during the local government ordered shutdown
- All open and operating retail food, water, and medicine establishments
- All establishments involved in the transit, warehousing, wholesaling, or distribution of food and beverage or medically related goods
- All open and operating fuel retail and distribution operations
- All open and operating laundry, mold remediation, and pest management retail and service establishments
- All plumbing, electrical, HVAC, and auto service and maintenance establishments
- All open and operating hotel, visitor lodging, and restaurant establishments
- All open and operating digital, print, and radio news and general radio broadcast operators
- All open and operating childcare and adult dependent care service providers

On behalf of our essential workers please accept my thanks for your consideration of this advisory to utilize federal CARES Act funds for a rightful hazardous compensation for them.

The resiliency of our community today is owed to the sacrifice of our essential workers. The strength of our recovery will be carried on their shoulders and fueled by their morale. It is therefore essential we address the essential.

Much Respect,

Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
Member of Congress
Guam

MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS
GUAM

FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
VICE CHAIRMAN
MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTOR PROTECTION ENTERPRENEURSHIP, AND CAPITAL MARKETS
MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY, INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND MONETARY POLICY
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
MEMBER
MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON INDEGENOUS PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES

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

WASHINGTON, D.C. OFFICE
1632 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-1188

DISTRICT OFFICE
330 HERNAN CORTEZ AVENUE
SUITE 300
HAGATNA, GUAM 96910
(671) 475-6453

https://sannicolas.house.gov

July 13, 2020

The Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero
I Maga'Hågan Guåhan | Governor of Guam
Ricardo J. Bordallo Governor's Complex
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Dear Governor Leon Guerrero:

Whilst our island is working to recover from the economic hardships resulting from COVID-19 that have greatly impacted the people of Guam, I write urging your administration to consider utilizing federal pandemic relief funding appropriated by Congress in the CARES Act for direct rent assistance to our local families.

Federally we have rental and mortgage assistance in the pipeline comprehensively with the HEROES Act and separately as a standalone measure in H.R. 7301, both of which await action in the Senate after passing the House. We continue to press for this federally, but encourage local action using CARES Act funds as these are readily available.

Other jurisdictions are demonstrating proven efforts utilizing CARES Act funds to provide immediate relief to its residents through rental assistance programs, particularly those who are at high risk of homelessness due to changes in employment circumstances directly related to COVID-19.

One such framework would allow the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority to accept local applications for grants for rental or mortgage assistance. Grants could be restricted to those residents who can provide evidence of COVID-related hardship in paying at least one-month of rent or mortgage payments. Grant checks would be sent directly to grantee landlords to guarantee funds are appropriately used for its intended purpose.

As an example of local governments able to extend such renter relief, I have attached the plans the City of Irvine voted to implement. As an illustrative model of the ability for localities to utilize CARES Act funds for residential rental assistance, I hope that this will inspire our local government to immediately consider plans to do so with eviction moratoriums, federal pandemic unemployment boosters, and many forbearance agreements expiring within the next 30/60/90 days.

We must not wait for a greater Guam housing crisis to bloom from COVID-19.

Respectfully,

Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
Member of Congress
Guam

CC: The Honorable Joe S. San Agustin, Chairman, Committee on General Government Operations, Appropriations, and Housing, 35th Guam Legislature
Attached: City of Irvine, CA CARES Rental Assistance Program

ATTACHMENT

REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

MEETING DATE: JUNE 23, 2020

TITLE: UPDATE ON CITY'S RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Director of Community Development

City Manager

RECOMMENDED ACTION

1. Authorize the City Manager to advance $2 million from the General Fund for a two-tier rental assistance program as authorized on June 9, 2020: 1) with $1 million available for up to $1,000 per eligible household for rental payment assistance; and 2) $1 million designated for up to $1,000 per eligible household for lease cancellation penalties; with all City funds to be reimbursed by future CARES Act funding distributed by the State of California.
2. Authorize the City Manager to advance up to $826,138 from the General Fund for emergency rental assistance programs administered by Families Forward and South County Outreach to be reimbursed by future ESG-CV and CDBG-CV funding distributed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At its June 9 meeting, the City Council authorized a $2 million rental assistance program to assist Irvine renters impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds made available through a variety of potential sources, including funds distributed by the County of Orange, the State of California, and the federal government (Department of Housing and Urban Development. Or "HUD"). Due to restrictions associated with funds received through the County and HUD, staff is recommending a City-administered program using CARES Act funding to be distributed through the State of California. As of the writing of this report, state CARES Act funding has not yet been approved and an update on the status of these funds will be provided at the City Council meeting on June 23. With City Council authorization to temporarily advance City funds, staff believes that a program can be made available to the Irvine community within days. All advanced funds will then be reimbursed from State CARES Act program when the City's allocation is approved.

COMMISSION/ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATION

None.

ANALYSIS

Proposed Rental Assistance Program

Per City Council direction to assist Irvine renters directly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, staff has developed a rental assistance program with the following parameters:

- A maximum one-time $1,000 grant to provide 1,000 renters / households with assistance to pay lease termination fees. Total cost: $1 million.

- A maximum one-time $1,000 grant to provide 1,000 renters / households with rental payment assistance. Total cost: $1 million.

At the June 9 meeting, staff identified three potential funding sources: CARES Act funding through the County of Orange; Emergency Solutions Act grant funding through the United Stated Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); and, CARES Act funding through the State of California. Following the meeting, staff received additional information and learned of significant restrictions associated with the County of Orange and HUD-funded grant programs that would not allow funds to be awarded for circumstances specifically outlined by the City Council. These include limitations to reimbursement of City expenses only, and restrictions that would not allow funds to be used for lease termination fees, nor to assist students. Due to the flexibility of the approximately $2.6 million in funding to be distributed through CARES Act by the State of California, staff is recommending utilizing this funding to provide for both the lease termination and rental assistance components of a renter assistance program.

Staff has reached out to several nonprofits in an attempt to find a program operator. Unfortunately, either these organizations are already at capacity assisting other public agencies, or charge significant administration costs. Consequently, the City's new rental assistance program will be administered by a cross-departmental team drawing on the experience gained through the recent Small Business Support Grant Program. Every effort will be made to streamline the application process and to distribute funds as quickly as possible. The program will provide one week for receipt of applications and supporting documentation, after which time a lottery system will be used to select grant recipients. The lottery method provides more equitable access for lower-income individuals that may not have easy access to the internet. Once eligibility is confirmed, grant checks will be transmitted directly to the grantee's landlord. Grants will be limited to one per rental agreement and will be available to 2,000 renters / households across the City that can demonstrate a sufficient COVID-19-related financial hardship, including students in non-university housing that demonstrate financial independence.

Letter to UC Regents

A letter has been submitted to the Regents of the University of California making them aware of the financial concerns expressed to the City by their students at University of California, Irvine (UCI). Information is provided about the program that the City has

developed in response to the needs of students and other residents of the community. The correspondence is included as Attachment 1.

Update on Previously Approved Rental Assistance Programs

City Council also requested an update on the status of the COVID-19-related Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG-CV) and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) funds.

1. At its April 28 meeting, the City Council approved $558,059 in ESG-CV funds for emergency short-term rental assistance to be distributed through the City's nonprofit partners Families Forward and South County Outreach. Pursuant to HUD regulations, residents assisted under this program must be at eminent risk of homelessness, and they will receive up to three months assistance with rent and utility bills depending on their level of need to ensure housing stability.

2. The City Council also approved $1.2 million in CDBG-CV funds for Meals on Wheels meal deliveries ($282,581), Second Harvest Food Bank emergency food program ($96,380), City expenses directly related to the emergency ($301,219), and $323,884 was allocated to Families Forward and South County Outreach to supplement their ESG-CV rental assistance programs to assist more residents in need.

Due to delays at HUD in executing the necessary contracts for these programs, the funds have not yet been made available to the nonprofit organizations. Because these delays may last well into August, staff is seeking direction from the City Council to immediately execute agreements with our nonprofit partners and advance City General Fund money to begin these rental assistance programs right away. If so directed, staff believes these programs can be operational within days. All City funds advanced for this purpose would then be reimbursed once the HUD grants are finalized.

ALTERNATIVES

The City Council could modify the rental assistance program to include additional restrictions and related financial commitment, such as adjusting the $1,000 maximum per individual/household or the overall $2 million program cost, as described in this report.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The City will utilize $2.6 million State of California CARES Act funding. City staff will administer the program at a cost that is within the approved Budgets for Fiscal Year 2019/20 and 2020/21.

REPORT PREPARED BY: Charles G. Kovac, Housing Administrator

ATTACHMENT:
1. Letter to University of California Board of Regents

Christina L. Shea, Mayor
cityofirvine.org
City of Irvine, One Civic Center Plaza, P.O. Box 19575, Irvine, California 92623-9575
949-724-6233

June 11, 2020

John A. Perez, Chair
University of California Board of Regents
Office of the Secretary and Chief of Staff to the Regents
1111 Franklin St., 12th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607

Dear Chair Perez:

On behalf of the Irvine City Council, I am pleased to announce the City of Irvine has instituted rental assistance and lease break assistance programs for Irvine residents, including students attending University of California, Irvine (UCI). The City will provide a $1,000 one-time grant, per qualified resident, from $2 million dedicated CARES Act funding. Grant funds will assist eligible residents with either lease cancellation penalties or rental payments.

The Irvine City Council has also adopted resolutions stating our expectation that all residential and commercial landlords and utility providers abide by the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order and refrain from evictions, foreclosures, rent increases, or service and utility disconnections during the COVID-19 emergency.

Constituents from the UCI community, and other parts of the City, brought to our attention the heavy burden housing lease contracts are placing on a large segment of our residents - especially our university students. Mindful of this request, our City Council met to discuss meaningful legislative and financial efforts to assist our residents.

The City of Irvine recognizes the UC Regents commitment from the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure its students receive campus services that maintain student well-being and safety. We were also pleased to learn of the comprehensive list of resources available to further support UCI students during this pandemic. The entire Irvine City Council and community appreciate the ongoing partnership with UCI under the esteemed leadership of the UC Regents. Partnerships like this are critical during these unprecedented times as we all work through the tremendous disruption caused by COVID-19.

ATTACHMENT 1

As always, please feel free to contact me or Deputy City Manager Michelle Grettenberg at 949-724-6252 or mgrettenberg@cityofirvine.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Christina L. Shea
Mayor

cc: Irvine City Council
Howard Gillman, Chancellor, UCI
Alberto Sandoval, Senior Director – Community & Government Relations, UCI