

Report to Constituents

Congressman Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan | Representing the People of the Northern Mariana Islands

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\$32.5 Million NMI SNAP Pilot Program Now U.S. Law

Congress has set aside \$32.5 million to increase food stamp benefits in the Northern Mariana Islands and look at bringing the NMI into the national program. President Obama signed the Agricultural Act of 2014 on February 7, containing the money.

A \$2 million study of how to include the Commonwealth in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, SNAP, begins this year. Then in October 2015, \$30.5 million will be available for a unique pilot program to raise benefits in our islands for families in need.

This new money is in addition to the annual \$12.15 million food stamp grant the Commonwealth now receives. All together, food stamp funding over the next five years should total \$93 million. Not only will the money feed families, it will also help pump up the economy and create jobs.

Parity with the American family

Congressman Sablan moved to the House Agriculture Committee in 2011 with the goal of

equal food aid for the Northern Marianas. SNAP benefits are \$931 per month for a family of four in Guam. In the NMI, without SNAP, the same family only gets \$444. The new law should close that gap.

Tailor-made for the NMI

Concerns that SNAP could force new costs on the local government will also be addressed. The pilot program will be set up in a way that best fits the Commonwealth. And whether exactly like SNAP or tailored for the islands, the program will still provide the entire \$30.5 million to raise benefits.

Breaking news...

As we go to press, the Food and Nutrition Service agreed to raise benefits 62 percent for Rota and the Northern Islands and 28 percent for Tinian, because of higher food costs there. A family of four on Rota will go from \$444 per month to \$719. For Tinian the new benefit will be \$586. The change should start May 1.

Greetings!

You are receiving this *Report to Constituents* midway through the current Congress, as usual, so you can see what your congressional office has done for you and what work is ahead.

The 113th Congress has enacted fewer laws than any since 1947. But your office succeeded in passing legislation that returns ownership of Northern Mariana Islands submerged lands—the first NMI-only law since the Covenant was signed by President Gerald Ford.

We also added provisions important to the Marianas—such as a \$32.5 million food stamp pilot program and limits on the military buildup—to some of the few bills that did become law.

How do we get things done even in a “do nothing” Congress?

Experience helps. And the trust of my colleagues: I was elected again to be Ranking Member of the subcommittee responsible for national fisheries and oceans policy and for islands issues. And for the first time I was elected to be a Regional Whip for the area covering northern California, Hawai'i, and the Pacific territories.

Building confident working relationships with both Republican and Democratic leadership is also essential, and



being ready when laws come up for renewal every five years, as was the case with farm and food policy. This is what produces legislative results.

I also work actively with the executive branch to help our islands. To increase my influence with the U.S. Departments of Education and Labor I returned to the Committee on Education and the Workforce in this Congress, reclaiming my seniority there. I remain certain that formal education and job training are both essential for the success of our people and our economy 10, 20, 30 years into the future.

Kilili

President Signs Submerged Lands Law Ownership Returns to Northern Marianas

The Commonwealth now owns all submerged lands around nine of the 14 Northern Mariana Islands. President Obama signed U.S. Public Law 113-34 on Sept. 18, 2013, conveying title to these lands and putting the NMI on par with other coastal states and territories.

In 2005 a federal court declared the submerged lands to be U.S. property. So the first bill Congressman Sablan introduced, as representative of the people of the Northern Marianas in Congress, aimed to return those lands to local ownership. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the submerged lands bill unanimously in 2009, 2011, and 2013, but the Senate would not act.

In this Congress, however, at Sablan's request Senators Ron Wyden (D-Oregon) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) authored a submerged lands bill, S. 256, and got it through the Senate with unanimous consent. The

House quickly concurred, as did the President.

The submerged lands around Maug, Uracas, and Asuncion—the Islands Unit of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument—and around the military leases on Tinian and Farallon de Medinilla are being temporarily held by the U.S. until the Commonwealth Governor and federal officials draw up management agreements for these areas.

The Commonwealth's own Constitution already sets aside the three islands in the Monument as “uninhabited places” to be used “only for the preservation and protection of natural resources.” And the Covenant and the Commonwealth's lease of Tinian and Farallon de Medinilla to the U.S. already include the “waters adjacent” to those islands. So, management agreements between the Commonwealth and the U.S. for both areas should be possible.

The President had authority to

hold all these lands permanently, as President Gerald Ford did in Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa, after submerged lands there were transferred to local control in 1974. President Obama, however, chose not to keep any Northern Marianas submerged lands under permanent federal control.

Jewell conveys oil, gas, minerals title

A 1980 amendment of the Territorial Submerged Lands Act, sponsored by California Representatives Philip Burton (D) and George Miller (D), among others, also requires the transfer of rights in oil, gas, and other minerals no more than 60 days after ownership of submerged lands is transferred.

Congressman Sablan wrote to Interior Secretary Sally Jewell reminding her of this responsibility on Jan. 16, 2014; and she signed the transfer of these rights to the Commonwealth March 13.

Kilili Sablan
PRSR STD

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Congress of the United States
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515 | Official Business

Taking the lead on the tough issues

Two of the tough issues we face in the Northern Marianas are health care and immigration. Constituents often write asking where I think we should be going on

these issues and what I am doing at the federal level to help us get there.

Below are two of my replies.

Health Care: Include Us Fully in the Law

Greetings,

Higher premiums, fewer plans—we all agree that Obamacare needs fixing in the Northern Mariana Islands.

The best fix would be to include us fully in the law. Then more of our lower-income families would qualify for Medicaid—with no local match. And families with incomes up to \$90,000 could get federal help to pay for insurance.

But instead the majority party in the House of Representatives keeps voting to repeal Obamacare—50 times so far.

That's too bad. Most laws need fine tuning. Look at Medicare: the federal health care program for seniors is turning 50 years old and we are still fixing it to fit the times.

In fact, Obamacare makes Medicare fixes and NMI seniors are benefiting, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 756 received free preventive services in 2013; and those in the “donut hole” got an average of \$638 off their prescription drugs. Would our man'amko want Obamacare repealed and these new benefits taken away?

More NMI citizens are covered by Medicaid, too—16,000 last year. Before Obamacare the CNMI paid a 50 percent local match for Medicaid patients and annual benefits were capped. Now our match is 45 percent—better than a dozen states. And we are getting three times more Medicaid money than before Obamacare: \$27.6 million so far, helping keep the Commonwealth Health Center open, and another \$81 million still available.

It is true that the consumer protections in Obamacare may contribute to higher premiums. But at least we know 80 percent of our money is going to medical care not company profits. HHS reports that insurers had to return \$90,099 in the Marianas last year to stay within that rule.

Even if premiums are up, most of us are glad that insurance companies can no longer cut off our benefits if we get cancer or another costly disease. Parents are relieved the family can get coverage even if a child already has a problem.

So let's not lose the security we have gained. Let's fix Obamacare and make it work better for us. I'm ready.

\$27.6 million in new Medicaid money from Obamacare helped keep our hospital open.

Truth is I've been fixing this law since before it was the law. When I got to Congress in 2009, the draft health care bill didn't include the Northern Marianas or U.S. territories at all.

Fortunately, as a member of the Education and Labor Committee I could change that. When the House passed H.R. 3962 in November 2009, the bill included \$14 billion to set up insurance markets and subsidize premiums in the territories.

Without our own Senators, though, territories fared poorly in the Senate's health care bill. And the death of Ted Kennedy left Senate Democrats without the 60 votes needed to amend. That meant the House could only pass the Senate bill—take it or leave it—with virtually nothing for the territories.

The House took it, but also started work on a “fix-it” bill that would need only 51 Senate votes. Getting the territories into the fix-it bill became the new goal. The turning point was a meeting between President Barack Obama and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, including myself. After listening to us, the President added more funding for territories to what we now call Obamacare.

But we still have more work ahead to be fully included.

I hope that helps you.

Immigration: Making The Transition As Least Difficult As Possible

Greetings,

I hope these answers to your questions help when you write the immigration paper for your law school class. The technical responses on S.744 are based on the Senate committee report and a report to me from the American Law Division of the Congressional Research Service.

What are the misconceptions about the immigration reform process?

The biggest misconception is that there is “automatic” permanent resident status or citizenship for foreign workers. Section 2109, which is the Northern Marianas provision in S.744, the bipartisan immigration reform bill the Senate passed last year, does not automatically grant any status to anyone.

Another misconception is that everyone qualifies to apply. There are limited groups that Section 2109 covers: persons born in the Northern Marianas between 1974 and 1978; persons granted permanent resident status under Commonwealth immigration law; U.S. citizen family members who are residing legally in the Northern Marianas; or workers who have lived—legally—in the islands since at least 2003.

Section 2109 does not automatically grant any status to anyone...

These are the only groups that qualify to apply; and, again, nothing is automatic once they do.

To be clear, here is what Section 2109 does:

- It creates a new, CNMI-only status for the above groups.
- No one gets CNMI-only status unless they apply and meet the very strict eligibility standards of the Immigration and Nationality Act, the INA.
- After five years persons with CNMI-only status may apply for the same Lawful Permanent Resident, LPR, status available throughout the U.S. They get no special treatment, no fast-tracking.
- If persons with CNMI-only status become LPRs, Section 2109 gives them no special pathway to citizenship.

What is the current status of reform in the CNMI?

The INA now applies to the Northern Marianas, so the status of immigration reform in our islands is the same as in the rest of the United States: we are trying to get agreement in Congress on policies that secure the borders, modernize the

employment-based immigration system so that it meets the needs of our economy and protects the rights of U.S. workers, and keep families together.

S.744 accomplishes those goals. The President supports that bill. But the House leadership has not brought any immigration reform measure to the floor for a vote. So, we are at a stand-still.

Any update on extending the transition period?

Public Law 110-229 set up a temporary Commonwealth-only Transitional (CW) Worker program and a five-year transition period to train U.S. workers to take over foreign workers' jobs. The transition ends Dec. 31, 2014.

I introduced bills in Congress that would extend it; and the Secretary of Labor has the statutory authority to do so.

I support extension. The number of foreign workers has gone from 17,245 in 2009 to 9,617 in 2013, according to the Department of Homeland Security. But I don't think we can get to zero by the end of 2014. The Government Accountability Office reported in 2008 that “any substantial and rapid decline in the availability of CNMI-only work permits for foreign workers would have a negative effect on the economy.” I think the GAO analysis remains true.

The indigenous community is concerned that the federal government is usurping the right to self-government established by the Covenant. Is this argument warranted?

Gov. Benigno Fitial took that argument to court and lost.

The court concluded that, by “the plain and unambiguous terms” of Section 503(a) of the Covenant, Congress was authorized to extend federal immigration laws to the CNMI.

Gov. Fitial did not appeal the decision in his case. He accepted that extending federal immigration laws does not usurp self-government.

How do you perceive your role in all of this?

My role is the same as any Member of Congress—to make life better for the people I work for.

That means making the transition to federal immigration as least difficult as possible. Then, if there is national reform legislation, I have to use it both to fix problems with P.L. 110-229 and to encourage economic growth in our islands.

With so much tension and divisiveness in the community, do you ever feel challenged as to what role you should play?

People expect their Member of Congress to take a leadership role. Being a leader means answering two questions: 1) What is best for the future of our community? and 2) What do we have to do to get there?

What is best for our community is to have a reliable and skilled workforce that encourages investment and future growth. That leads to more jobs for our local workers, building their household incomes and strengthening our government's finances, so we have a sound retirement system, good schools, and all the infrastructure that makes people's lives comfortable.

What is best for our community is also to have strong, stable families—a value at the heart of our island culture.

How we get there is always a matter of debate. And, even after we decide what to do, there will be course correction. I think the policies in Section 2109 take us in the right direction, but, perhaps, they can be improved as immigration reform moves forward. That's certainly part of the legislative process.

Best for our community are strong, stable families—a value at the heart of our island culture.

Does being an indigenous Chamorro play any role?

As a Chamorro, of course, I want to keep our culture alive and pass on our values to future generations. But I cannot make decisions in Congress based solely on what is best for me as a Chamorro. I have an obligation to decide what is best for our entire community and our nation.

Anything surprise you about discussions or organizations that have arisen?

Freedom of speech and assembly are among the most basic rights we have as citizens of the United States. I respect those rights and encourage everyone to speak out.

Sometimes people are misinformed when they speak, however; and sometimes people use speech to scare or deceive others. So we all have a responsibility to get the facts and use our good sense.

I hope this helps. Please send me a copy of your paper to read, when you are finished.



The Kagman Community Health Center is a facility that people dreamed about for years. Now it's a reality because of the hard work of many and money from Obamacare.

Moving legislation to help the people of the Northern Marianas

Defense Act Sets Limits on Divert Airfield

Final decisions about the military buildup in the Marianas are made by Congress. “For example, in the 2014 National Defense Authorization Act Congress prohibited use of any of the \$29.3 million set aside to develop divert airfield facilities,” explains Congressman Sablan, “until the U.S. Air Force reports on all the alternatives considered for the divert field.”

Just to be clear, the Congressman also attached report language to the Act that recognizes the public debate about whether Saipan or Tinian is the right place for military aircraft to land, refuel, and rearm. In the Covenant of Political Union with the U.S. the people of the Northern Marianas agreed to lease parts of Tinian for military activity. Using Saipan would go beyond that agreement.

Sablan’s language directs the Secretary of the Air Force “to consult with the Governor of the Commonwealth ... regarding the location of projects to support divert field operations with the goal of achieving a mutually agreeable solution.”

CNMI National Guard study ordered

The NDAA also requires the Defense Department to report on the feasibility of creating a National Guard unit for the Northern Marianas. Congressman Sablan began work on this project in 2011, when he introduced legislation, H.R. 2773, to set up a CNMI unit.

The feasibility report is due June 24. If favorable, it would help the Commonwealth push forward on having its own National Guard. A local unit would allow more people an opportunity to serve, provide faster response to emergencies, and give the Governor an additional tool to preserve public safety.

In Progress...

Park study aims to grow Rota ecotourism economy. Recently featured in *The Hill* newspaper as one of many bills passed by the House but hung up in the Senate, the Rota Cultural and Natural Resources Study Act, H.R. 674, directs the National Park Service to assess the cultural, historical, and natural resources of Rota for “suitability and feasibility” as a unit of America’s National Park System. Having a National Park would put Rota on the map for ecotourists and adventure travelers.

The House approved Congressman Sablan’s Rota Park study bill in each of the last three congresses. The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held a hearing on the bill in 2013, but has yet to send it to Senate floor for a vote.

At the hearing the Obama administration supported the bill, noting that Senator Diego M. Songao, then Chairman of the Rota Legislative Delegation, asked that Rota be considered for Park status in 2004. “Rota’s residents and legislative delegation have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to the protection of the island’s environment,” testified the Park Service.

All that is needed now is for the Senate to act.

Legislative change will lower cost of Army Corps projects. A provision added to the Water Resources Reform and Development Act, H.R. 3080, by Congressman Sablan should double the local match exemption for Army Corps of Engineers projects in the Northern Marianas. The current exemption, \$200,000, was set in 1986. If passed, the law would require the Corps to adjust that amount to account for inflation over the last 28 years. Projects will then go forward without the need for \$400,000 in local funds.

Recent work includes Rota Harbor improvements, completed in 2008, and the on-going Susupe-Chalan Kanoa Drainage Plan to fix flooding in those villages.

Looking ahead, if the Water Resources Act becomes law with the local match amendment, the planned Outer Cove Marina project and the Saipan Lagoon Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration project will each cost the Commonwealth significantly less.

The bill also makes the NMI eligible for federal funding to protect shorelines and other areas vulnerable to flooding.

Both the House and Senate have passed versions of WRRDA and conferees are meeting to resolve differences.

Omnibus territories bill extends economic transition in NMI.

As the Northern Marianas tourism economy returns to life and the demand for workers grows, Congressman Sablan has introduced a back-up plan in case the Secretary of Labor does not extend the current immigration transition period beyond 2014. Sablan’s Omnibus Territories Act, H.R. 2200, and its Senate companion, S.1237, zeroes out foreign workers after 2019. The bill also tightens up requirements for how a \$150 per worker fee is used to train U.S. workers to take over from the foreign workers.

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee has ordered the bill reported to the Senate floor for a vote.

LIHEAP: Higher Monthly Benefits, More Families Qualify						
Household size →	1	2	3	4	5	6
Monthly income to ↓	After Before	After Before	After Before	After Before	After Before	After Before
\$1,053	\$0 \$32	\$0 \$41	\$21 \$48	\$27 \$54	\$32 \$60	\$36 \$65
\$1,422		\$0 \$32	\$0 \$41	\$0 \$48	\$21 \$54	\$27 \$60
\$1,790			\$0 \$32	\$0 \$41	\$0 \$48	\$0 \$54
\$2,159				\$0 \$32	\$0 \$41	\$0 \$48
\$2,527					\$0 \$32	\$0 \$41
\$2,896						\$0 \$32

Larger households, higher incomes also eligible

source: CNMI DCCA

New Help To Pay CUC Bills

More households were scheduled to get more help with their CUC bills starting in April. 120 new households in the Northern Marianas were expected to be added to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, LIHEAP. And the 420 new and old households already enrolled were expected to get as much as double the current benefit to pay their monthly utility bills. The increase is the result of a multi-year effort led by Congressman Sablan. In 2011, he introduced legislation, H.R. 3083, requiring that at least 30 percent of national home energy grants, called Leveraging Incentive Grants, go to the U.S. territories to supplement the LIHEAP grant. The bill gathered nine cosponsors.

Sablan also began petitioning Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius in 2011 to use her existing authority

to set aside the maximum 0.5 percent of LIHEAP funds for the insular areas. For the last 30 years the islands have only received 0.135 percent of the money that Congress appropriates.

Sablan, and the other insular area representatives who joined him, argued that with electricity costs for their island households as much as four times the national average and with the need for cooling year around, Sebelius should set aside the maximum amount of home energy assistance permitted by law.

Sebelius announced her decision to fully fund LIHEAP for the islands in a letter to Sablan Jan. 27, 2014. “HHS will increase funding to the territories ... to the maximum amount allowed by the LIHEAP statute,” the Secretary wrote.

With almost four times more money now available, the Commonwealth’s Department of

Community and Cultural Affairs has revised its monthly benefit schedule. The chart, above, based on data from DCCA, shows how much households at various income levels and family sizes received before and how much they will be receiving after April 1.

In addition to paying their utility bills, constituents may also use the LIHEAP money to weatherize their homes to lower energy costs.

Sablan thanked his fellow delegates in Congress for working together effectively to improve benefits for all their constituents.

Puerto Rico’s Resident Commissioner Pedro R. Pierluisi, too, thanked “his fellow territory delegates for their joint efforts, especially Congressman Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan from the Northern Mariana Islands, who was instrumental in convincing HHS to increase the annual allocation to the territories.”

\$3.9 Million Increase For PSS

The Northern Marianas Public School System will receive \$12.7 million for elementary and secondary education programs in school year 2014-2015, according to the U.S. Department of Education. That is an increase of \$3.9 million over the current school year.

\$3.18 million of the increase is from Title I, Part A, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, which assists local educational agencies, such as PSS, that have significant populations of children from low-income families. Census 2010 data shows a 55 percent increase in children ages 5-17 living in poverty since 2000. The Title I increase for PSS is now locked in until the 2020 census.

PROGRAM	PSS
Ad. Ed. State Administered Program	\$349,346
Career and Technical Education - Basic State Grants	\$335,544
Subtotal, Vocational and Adult Education	\$683,980
Title I, Part A - LEA Grants (Available July 1, 2014)	\$1,782,039
Title I Part A - LEA Grants (Available Oct. 1, 2014)	\$5,206,284
School Improvement Grants	\$233,323
Subtotal, Education for the Disadvantaged	\$7,221,646
English Language Acquisition State Grants	\$1,423,866
Subtotal, English Language Acquisition	\$1,423,866
Improving Teacher Quality State Grants	\$1,644,028
21st Century Community Learning Centers	\$639,837
State Assessments	\$262,177
Education for Homeless Children and Youth	\$10,934
Mathematics and Science Partnerships	\$744,842
Rural and Low-Income School Program	\$60,328
Subtotal, School Improvement Programs	\$3,362,146
TOTAL, AVAILABLE FOR CONSOLIDATED APPLICATIONS	\$12,691,158

Building to make life better

Funding Formula Increase Pays Off

Bringing 24/7 Water To Saipan

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation now reports “24/7 water service for the island of Saipan... at 94.4% as of December 31, 2013.” This huge improvement is the result of increased funding that Congressman Sablan, along with other insular area Members of Congress, won, starting with Public Law 111-88 in 2010 and continuing every year since.

Changing the law so that the share of annual drinking water grants for the islands went from 0.33 percent to 1.5 percent has brought \$23.9 million to the Northern Marianas—a 455% increase.

A similar change in the annual sewer infrastructure grant from 0.28 percent to 1.5 percent has given CUC \$19.9 million to use over the last five years.

Most of this water and sewer money is already at work, making life easier for families in their homes and helping keep our environment clean for both residents and tourists.

The following project information is from CUC and from the Environmental Protection Agency, which administers the annual Safe Drinking Water and Clean Water grants.



Garapan Public Market To Open

Congressional earmarks were banned beginning in 2011, but 2010 earmarked funds are still at work in the Northern Marianas. The Garapan Public Market, above in an artist's rendering, is scheduled to open in May. Funded with a \$200,000 earmark from Congressman Sablan, the Market will provide a permanent location for vendors to sell fresh produce, seafood, and other local products to the community and to visitors.

Legislative change in funding formula = \$43.8M for NMI

Project	Cost (source: US EPA)	Description/Stage (as of 12/31/13; source: CUC)
San Vicente: service area extension	\$1,100,000	Extend water lines, replace older pipes, connect new lines to existing distribution system. 100% complete.
Navy Hill: waterline/pressure improvement	\$1,000,000	Replace corroded lines with new, abandon lines without rights of way. 75% complete.
Garapan: wastewater transmission	\$1,850,000	Renovate, upgrade Lift Stations S-2 and S-8. Final punch list submitted for close-out.
Finasisu/Dandan: wastewater collection lines	\$196,108	Connect existing residences to the new sewer lines, replace force main. 100% complete.
Koblerville/Garapan: leak detection/repair	\$1,853,309	98% complete.
Saipan: chlorine storage building	\$746,800	Stipulated order project: hazard analysis, site vulnerability, risk management planning begun.
Capitol Hill: waterline replacement	\$2,468,750	Bids reviewed. Award anticipated.
Saipan: well isolation	\$482,767	100% complete.
Rota - Sinapalo: water supply	\$1,367,413	CUC working with U.S. Fish and Wildlife on environmental clearance.
Puerto Rico: S-3 lift station	\$750,000	Repair and upgrade of terminal lift station servicing treatment plant.
Agingan: treatment plant rehabilitation	\$3,331,130	Restoration of plant to full operational capacity complete.
Saipan: island-wide sewer connections	\$795,000	Sewer service lines to homes and commercial buildings 15 sites completed, most recently in Dandan .
Saipan: lift stations, repair shop	\$2,225,000	2 lift stations completed; 2 lift stations at 50%. Construction of shop 80% complete.
Rota, Saipan, Tinian: master plan	\$2,250,018	Draft plan—asset inventory, GIS mapping, hydraulic models, finances—submitted to EPA. 95% complete.
Saipan: island-wide sewer replacement	\$1,751,900	New lines along Texas Road, Brigida St. 5 sewer segments complete; 12 additional prepared for bid.
Saipan: island-wide meter replacement	\$380,000	2,000 water meters purchased/installed to replace existing, failed meters. 99% complete.
Tinian: island-wide valve replacement	\$273,000	Pressure reducing valve replacement, alter piping at Maui well. Design 75% complete.
Chalan Kiya: Duenas well hardening	\$484,000	Water main from Kanat Tabla to Chalan Kiya. Design 100% complete. New customer connections.
Marpi-Puerto Rico: water system link	\$260,000	Installation of transmission main to provide better service to both areas. Project deferred.
Saipan: airport catchment	\$245,000	Improvements in structure and slow sand filter to restore this water source. In design phase.
As Rapagau/As Gonna: Maui wells	\$500,000	Renovate or replace elevators, improve well shafts. In preliminary evaluation phase.
Kagman: wells 2-4 rerouting	\$454,000	New laterals for homes along Kagman Road. Redirect well flows to Kagman Booster Tank.
Garapan: lift station elimination	\$688,000	Engineering evaluation of alternatives to lift stations. Scope of work, fee under negotiation.
Saipan: transformer upgrades	\$197,000	Replace well, lift station transformers. One unit needs replacement panel; otherwise, all work complete.
As Lito: water distribution system	\$1,144,000	Enlarge water lines to improve service. Design 70% complete.
Pagago: tank replacement	\$2,148,000	Replace old tank at end of service life with new. Contract awarded, notice to proceed.
NMC: Water tank	\$3,362,000	Replace water storage tank. Expected start in 2014.
Koblerville, As Lito, San Vicente, Dandan, Kagman	\$1,829,000	Redirection of direct feed wells to storage tanks to improve distribution of water.
Dandan/Finasisu: pump stations	\$355,000	Renovation of sewer pump W-8, new sewer lines, elimination of two pump stations. 100% complete.
Sadog Tasi: treatment plant	\$1,101,700	Replace aeration system, restore structure. 100% complete.
TOTAL:	\$35,575,895	



Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

House of Representatives

In the 113th Congress, the tradition continues of honoring distinction and service to the Northern Marianas community with a statement for the record in the U.S. House of Representatives. Congressman Sablan recognized:

Catholic Schools —

“...Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja on Rota, St. Joseph Catholic School on Tinian, and Mount Carmel School on the Saipan, have been the vanguard not only in educational excellence, but also in the inculcation of spiritual values.”

Pacifica Insurance 40th Anniversary —

“...addressing a health issue, repairing a car, or recovering from natural or man-made disaster, when the need arises, they have been there for their customers.”

PSS 25th Anniversary/Aeronautical Dolphins —

“...achievements were made possible through the extraordinary and cumulative support of the leaders, teachers, and staff of the public school system. ... Just this year, the Marianas High School Aeronautical Dolphins won the national Real World Design Challenge.”

Hopwood Junior High School 50th Anniversary —

“...recognized as an institution ... that continues to serve a vital role in the lives of our students and our community.”

Read the complete statements in the Congressional Record at <http://thomas.loc.gov/home/LegislativeData.php?n=Record>

113th Congress by the numbers:

- ▶ Constituent cases addressed: 663
- ▶ Weekly e-newsletters delivered: 70
- ▶ US Military Academy cadets enrolled: 6
- ▶ Technical assistance awarded: \$1,973,167
- ▶ Library of Congress books to the NMI: 4,744 (37,531 since 2009)

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