

Report to Constituents

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

\$1.5 Billion Pandemic Relief

What's Inside:

- ▶ **American Rescue Plan** saves the Marianas from economic disaster. See where the money went (p. 2, 3)
- ▶ **Working with Rep. Tina Sablan** results in Earned Income Tax Credit
- ▶ **More funding** means more eligible for NAP, benefits up
- ▶ **Pell grants raised.** Up to \$6,895 for Marianas college students
- ▶ **Let's Read!** more new books delivered
- ▶ **Earmarks net \$4.5 million** for CHCC, PSS, NMC, Judiciary, Karidat in FY22
- ▶ **Drinkable water: Infrastructure Act** funding makes new 5-year goal possible
- ▶ **List of statutory accomplishments in Congress** keeps growing

Congress created the **Pandemic Response Accountability Committee** to track spending from the six major laws addressing the health and economic impacts of COVID. See how much the Marianas receives and who is getting help at <https://pandemicoversight.gov>.

	Northern Mariana Islands	
	Total Obligated	\$1,518,361,465
	Total Spending	\$931,183,224
	Total Awards	1,819

Greetings!

We thought the Marianas had escaped the pandemic—until October 2021. Now, many of our families have suffered loss and illness.

Fortunately, vaccines were here for all, and our hospital was well-equipped to care for those in need.

Congress had supplied the necessary healthcare funding in the American Rescue Plan Act, passed in March without a single Republican vote.

The Rescue Plan did more than protect our health. Over one billion dollars from the Plan are propping up the Commonwealth government, kept its workers paid, provided local stimulus, and put cash in the pockets of the unemployed.

Taxpayers received \$1,400 impact payments, a monthly child tax credit, and for the first time in decades the Earned Income Tax Credit. All because of the American Rescue Plan.

That money in our economy helped stores and restaurants stay open, despite the fall-off in tourism; and businesses received additional grants and loans to weather the pandemic from the American Rescue Plan Act. (See pages 2 & 3.)

We know it is not over. Even though COVID cases are down, the economic harm continues.

In Congress we will keep doing all we can to help you and your family stay healthy and make sure the Marianas economy comes back to life.



Kilili

No Medicaid “cliff” for Marianas

For the 16,206 people in the Marianas, who use Medicaid for their health insurance, there was no funding “cliff” in 2022—nor will there be in the future.

Federal funding for Medicaid rose to \$64 million this year, up from just \$5 million when Congressman Sablan first took office in 2009.

Hearings Sablan initiated in 2019 led to passage of U.S. Public Law 116-94. As a result, funding now increases yearly by the rate of inflation, protecting those who rely on Medicaid for their healthcare and providing a reliable revenue base for medical practitioners and the hospital everyone depends on.



Inclusion. Recognition. “Including the Marianas in federal programs and raising awareness that our people are part of America, these are the principal goals of my years in office,” says Congressman Sablan. His request that the Marianas flag be added to the 50-state display around the American History Museum on the National Mall in Washington was fulfilled on Flag Day, June 14, 2022.

How island vets got VA Caregivers program

This story began when a Marianas veteran was told he did not live in America.

It ended with an apology to the vet from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the agency’s agreement this April to extend the VA Caregivers program to families of Marianas veterans.

Results like this are why constituents who have a problem with the federal government turn to their congressional office.

Today, because a constituent came to Congressman Sablan for help, family members in the Marianas, who care for disabled veterans, qualify to receive financial aid, including a monthly stipend, travel costs, insurance, and training from the VA.

699

Constituents helped so far during 117th Congress

Kilili Sablan
PRSRT STD

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

Paid for by official funds authorized by the House of Representatives.

\$1,400 Economic Impact Payments¹
\$74 million
to 33,719 residents

Unemployment: extra 29 weeks³
\$283 million
to 16,788 claimants

Nutrition Assistance Program⁴
\$30 million

Emergency Rental Assistance¹
\$10 million
to 2,150 families

Homeowners Assistance Fund¹
\$4 million
300 applicants

Public School System
\$106 million staff and teacher pay⁸
\$160 million

Advance Child Tax Credit¹
\$14 million
to 4,834 families

American Rescue Act

Saves the

the v
House Democrats
Senate Democrats
President Biden sig

*“How would t
the Marianas
without D
American Re
—Congre*

FEMA assistance⁷
\$27 million

Small Business Credit¹
\$57 million

Source:
1. Office of the Governor
2. U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services
3. U.S. Dept. of Labor
4. U.S. Public Law 117-2
5. Federal Aviation Administration
6. Small Business Administration
7. Federal Emergency Management Agency
8. Mariana Public School System
9. U.S. Department of Education
10. The White House
11. U.S. Economic Development Administration

Rescue Plan Act Marianas

Note...

220, Republicans 0

s 50, Republicans 0

gns March 11, 2021

*the people of
s ever get by
emocrats’
Rescue Plan?”
essman Sablan*

Earned Income Tax Credit¹
\$16 million
to 8,277 taxfilers

Commonwealth Government
\$46M local stimulus for 23,000¹
\$482 million

Commonwealth Healthcare
Corporation²
\$5 million

Rota, Tinian, Saipan Municipalities
Fiscal Recovery Funds¹
\$16 million

Paycheck Protection extended⁶
\$26 million
to 452 small businesses

Additional Child Tax Credit¹
\$21 million
to 5,605 families

Rota, Tinian, Saipan
airports \$9 million⁵
Travel and tourism \$4 million¹¹

Northern Marianas College⁹
\$6 million

Childcare providers,
families with young children¹⁰
\$36 million

U.S. Public Laws with Sablan Language Important for the Marianas

- 1. **P.L. 111-13 – Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act.** Marianas included in Domestic Volunteers Service Act and National Volunteer Antipoverty programs.
- 2. **P.L. 111-84 – National Defense Authorization Act.** Marianas positions at each service academy increased.
- 3. **P.L. 111-117 – Consolidated Appropriations Act.** \$1.35 million earmarked for Marianas schools, libraries, environment.
- 4. **P.L. 111-148 – Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.** 30 percent increase in Marianas Medicaid funding, matching rate lowered to 45 percent.
- 5. **P.L. 111-152 – Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act.** \$109m. more for Marianas Medicaid.
- 6. **P.L. 111-244 – Guam political status education.** Marianas minimum wage increase rescheduled.
- 7. **P.L. 111-320 – Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act reauthorization.** Marianas gets state share of Domestic Violence Coalition grant.
- 8. **P.L. 111-364 – Diesel Emissions Reduction reauthorization.** State share of Diesel Emissions Reduction grant provided to Marianas.
- 9. **P.L. 111-383 – National Defense Authorization Act.** Authorized exchange store expansion feasibility study. Merchant Marine Academy nominations for residents of the Marianas.
- 10. **P.L. 112-239 – National Defense Authorization Act.** Requires display of Marianas flag on military installations along with all state flags. Marianas included in STEP grant program.
- 11. **P.L. 113-4 – Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act.** Doubles Marianas grant for Sexual Assault Services.
- 12. **P.L. 113-34.** Ownership of submerged lands conveyed to Mariana Islands. Minimum wage increases rescheduled.
- 13. **P.L. 113-66 – National Defense Authorization Act for 2014.** Authorized feasibility study for Marianas National Guard.
- 14. **P.L. 113-79 – Agricultural Act of 2014.** Creates Marianas SNAP pilot program with \$32.5m. provided.
- 15. **P.L. 113-121 – Water Resources Reform and Development Act.** Increases waiver of Marianas match for Army Corps projects.
- 16. **P.L. 113-235 – Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act.** Extends immigration transition to 2019.
- 17. **P.L. 113-291 – National Defense Authorization Act.** Authorizes Rota National Park Resource Study.
- 18. **P.L. 114-92 – National Defense Authorization Act.** Marianas positions at military service academies increased.
- 19. **P.L. 114-95 – Every Student Succeeds Act.** Increases Title IA funding for the Marianas elementary and secondary schools.
- 20. **P.L. 114-305.** Authorizes naming of Saipan Post Office.
- 21. **P.L. 115-53 – Northern Marianas Economic Expansion Act.** Increases CW permits, funds to train U.S. workers.
- 22. **P.L. 115-182 – VA MISSION Act.** Authorizes feasibility study for Marianas community based outpatient clinic.
- 23. **P.L. 115-218 – Northern Mariana Islands U.S. Workforce Act.** Extends immigration transition to 2030; protects U.S. workers, local business, legacy employees.
- 24. **P.L. 116-20 – Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act.** Increases funding for Marianas Medicaid, food assistance, \$244m. CDBG-DR, \$56m. solid waste.
- 25. **P.L. 116-24 – Northern Mariana Islands Long-Term Legal Residents Relief Act.** Permanent status in Marianas for CNMI Permanent Residents, “stateless,” U.S. immediate relatives.
- 26. **P.L. 116-94 - Disaster Recovery Workforce Act.** 3,000 additional CW permits for typhoon repairs.
- 27. **P.L. 116-136 – Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.** Unemployment assistance provided to Marianas workers.
- 28. **P.L. 116-140 – Student Veteran Coronavirus Response Act.** Restores education benefits to Marianas veterans lost due to school closure.
- 29. **P.L. 116-154 – Specially Adaptive Housing Improvement Act.** Pays for professional license and certification preparatory courses for Marianas veterans.
- 30. **P.L. 116-159 – Continuing Appropriations Act.** Includes Marianas in Pandemic EBT food aid program.
- 31. **P.L. 116-176 – Vet Center Eligibility Expansion Act.** Marianas veterans access to Vet Center mental health services.
- 32. **P.L. 116-185 – Whole Veteran Act.** Marianas included in Department of Veterans Affairs Whole Health program.
- 33. **FY2021 Omnibus and COVID Relief and Response Act.** Authorizes \$90m. FEMA loan to CNMI government.
- 34. **P.L. 116-283 – National Defense Authorization Act.** Marianas included in: Defense Department STARBASE program for youth STEM learning, Lead Small Business Development Center grant program, Federal and State Technology grant program, AMBER Alert grant program. Pays for college credit exams for military spouses.
- 35. **P.L. 116-315 – Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act.** Increases operation and maintenance funding available for the Marpi Veterans Cemetery.
- 36. **P.L. 117-2 – American Rescue Plan Act.** Permanent federal funding for the Marianas Earned Income Tax Credit. \$30m. for the Nutritional Assistance Program.
- 37. **P.L. 117-43 - Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act.** Canceled Commonwealth’s \$94m. debt owed to FEMA.
- 38. **P.L. 117-103 – Consolidated Appropriations Act.** Earmarks \$4.5m. for CHCC, PSS, NMC, Judiciary, Karidat.



Lower taxes by working together

Representative Tina Sablan (r.) and Congressman Sablan worked together to lower taxes by making the Earned Income Tax Credit available in the Marianas. Congressman Sablan included permanent, 100% federal funding for the EITC in the American Rescue Plan. Representative Sablan wrote the law repealing the Commonwealth’s 100% tax on the Credit. Their cooperation is bringing \$16 million to 8,277 Marianas taxpayers this year. (Source: CNMI Governor)

NAP funds upped more eligible, higher benefits

Congressman Sablan added \$30 million to the American Rescue Plan and won agreement from President Biden to increase the annual grant for the Marianas Nutrition Assistance Program from \$12 million to \$30 million. As a result, 1,254 more people were able to sign up for food aid, bringing total enrollment to 13,050. (USDA) Monthly maximum benefits also increased for a family of four on Saipan to \$1,231, on Rota and the Northern Islands \$1,498, and on Tinian \$1,301, higher benefits than in most U.S. states.

\$6,895

College students get a raise

1,724 Marianas students (ED) saw their Pell scholarships increase to as much as \$6,895 this year. Northern Marianas College says eighty percent of students receive the Pell grants. As a senior Democrat and subcommittee Chair on the Education Committee, Congressman Sablan is a leader in legislation making college affordable for all.

the vote...

Democrats 219

Republicans 0



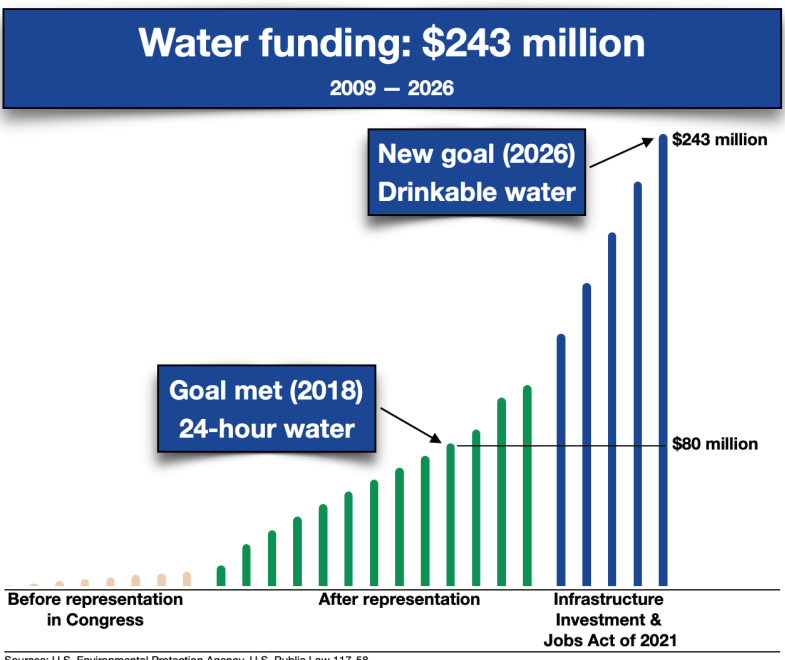
59,320 books delivered

Let’s Read! keeps delivering new books the congressional office selects at the Library of Congress Surplus Books Program to school and public libraries, youth and senior centers in the Marianas. (Source: Library of Congress)

FY22 Marianas Congressional Earmarks: \$4,527,533		
CHCC:	Laboratory modernization	\$1,200,000
	Telehealth upgrade	\$980,639
	Rota home dialysis	\$391,500
PSS:	Language & cultural immersion program	\$350,000
	School libraries & e-library expansion	\$150,000
	Health data collection to encourage healthy living	\$150,000
Judiciary:	Mental health treatment court for veterans	\$303,000
NMC:	Innovation incubator for small business	\$952,394
Karidat:	Guma Esperansa generator	\$50,000
Members of Congress were again able to appropriate money for specific purposes in their home districts in fiscal 2022. Congressman Sablan scored \$4.5 million to help the Marianas. For fiscal 2023 House appropriators have approved \$26.8 million in Sablan earmarks for schools, roads, public transit, the hospital, libraries, Tinian dialysis, and wastewater treatment for Tinian and Rota.		

Congress invests in infrastructure

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 is bringing \$105 million more to the Marianas water system over the next five years. The goal: drinkable water for every household. Families already have 24-hour water thanks to the annual funding formula increase Congressman Sablan won in his first year in office. \$52 million from the IJA, announced as of May 3, also includes \$6 million for Marianas airports and \$21 million for the Kagman Watershed.



Contact Congressman Sablan

Toll Free: (877) 446-3465 | Email: kilili@mail.house.gov | Website: sablan.house.gov

Saipan Office: P.O. Box 504879 Saipan, MP 96950 (670) 323-2647/8	Rota Office: P.O. Box 1361 Rota, MP 96951 (670) 532-2647	Tinian Office: P.O. Box 520394 Tinian, MP 96952 (670) 433-2647	Washington Office: 2267 Rayburn Building Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-2646
---	---	---	---