

HOUSE LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE 18-12 (English)

This initiative proposes a constitutional amendment to the level of funding mandated for the Public School System (PSS). The only change is from a guaranteed annual budget of 15% to a guaranteed annual budget of 25% of the general revenues of the Commonwealth. This budgetary appropriation is not available for re-programming.

The purpose of the proposed initiative is to provide greater financial support to PSS and to bring CNMI education funding to the same funding level as found in other state jurisdictions of the US.

PROS

This amendment will guarantee that a future Legislature cannot decrease PSS funding below 25% of general revenues. Without a constitutional amendment, the Legislature is free to restrict spending to PSS to the minimum guaranteed 15%. The pressures of other obligations during budget time makes the budget process political and education needs may suffer in that process without this proposed change.

On average, 25% of state revenues are spent on K-12 education in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The proposed change would guarantee a higher level of funding to the CNMI PSS than currently exists. This increase would make the CNMI's education funding match that spent in the US.

The CNMI Constitution guarantees free public education. It is useful to have an educated population for participation in civic affairs and for the general benefit of the community. A mandate for 25% funded education system may help meet the constitutional promise and provide greater educational opportunities and better quality education.

CONS

The amendment restricts Legislative flexibility to address problems with budget appropriations. The Legislature would have less money available to it for appropriations for other government functions. Right now, the Legislature may direct 85% of general revenues, subject to other constraints. This gives the Legislature the flexibility to spend general revenues on matters it deems pressing or important. With the change from the proposed amendment, the Legislature would have only 75% of general revenues to direct towards other government functions.

Some other government departments or funded activities will get a smaller percentage than they receive now. Increasing PSS funding may hurt some other important and

necessary governmentally-funded work. If PSS must get 25% of the general revenues, the Legislature would need to raise taxes or find other ways to increase the government revenues to maintain current levels of spending in other areas.

The Legislature is presently permitted to fund PSS at 25% or more if it decides that is what to do with the limited resources of the CNMI. A constitutional amendment isn't necessary to allow this to happen if the Legislature wants to direct that much of the budget to PSS. It may not go below 15%.

CONCLUSION

The proposed amendment is consistent with and would achieve its intended purpose to increase PSS support and bring CNMI's contribution to K-12 education in line with spending in the 50 states of the USA. However, increasing PSS's budget means that some other government-funded activity or function will receive less; the government will have to raise more revenues to maintain its current spending level for those other activities and functions.

HOUSE LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE 18-12 (Chamorro)

Esti na initiative ha proponi i constitutional amendment para i level of funding ni ma'otdin para i Sisteman Iskuelan Publiku (PSS). Atyu ha' na tinilaika i guaranteed annual budget gi kinsi (15%) put sientu asta i guaranteed budget gi bentisingku(25%)put sientu gi general revenues gi Commonwealth. Esti na apropositun budgetary ti gumuaha para i re-programming.

I hinangai maproponi na initiative para u na'guaha ladangkulu na suppotasion fainansiât para i PSS yan para u na'hâlum fondun idukasion CNMI gi parehu na funding level kumu masodda' gi halum ottru state jurisdiction giya US.

FINABOT SIHA

Esti na amendasion para u garentia i mamamaila' na Leyislatura ni ti u na'menus i fondun PSS gi papa' bentisingku (25%) put sientu gi general revenues. Sin i constitutional amendment, i Leyislatura u free gi prinibin ginasta para i PSS guatu gi minimum guaranteed gi kinsi (15%)put sientu. I pressures gi ottru opbligasion siha gi durântin oran

budget ha fa'tinas budget process political yan education needs anai siña ha na'famadesi ni atyu i process sin esti i maproponi na tinilaika.

Gi average, i bentisingku (25%) put sientu gi state revenues manmagâsta gi K-12 na idukasion gi halum singkuenta(50) states yan i District of Columbia. I maproponi na tinilaika para u garentia i higher level na finondu para i CNMI PSS ki presentni ni gaigi. Esti na inâomenta para u na'guaha i CNMI's education funding match ni magâsta gi halum US.

I Konstitusion CNMI ha garentia i free public education. Gef bâli para u guaha educated population para pattisipasion gi halum civic affairs yan i benifisiun henerât gi kumunidâ. I ma'otdin na para bentisingku (25%) put sientu ni mafondu i sisteman idukation siña inayuda umafakcha' i constitutional promise yan ha prometi ladangkulu na opottunidât idukasion siha yan mâs mâolik na kualidât idukasion.

KINENTRA SIHA

I amendasion ha pribi Legislative flexibility para u address i prublema siha yan i budget appropriations. I Leyislatura para na'menus muna'guaha salâppi' para i apropiasion siha gi ottru na funksion gubietnamentu siha. Pâ'gu na ora, i Leyislatura siña ha direct i otchentsingku (85%) put sientu gi general revenues, masuhetu para ottru na constraints. Esti ha nâ'i i Leyislatura ni flexibility ni para u gâsta i general revenues gi manera siha ni ha kunsidera humonñu' pat impottânti. Ya i tinilaika ginin i maproponi na amendasion, i Leyislatura siña gumuaha ha' sitientasingku (75%)put sientu gi general revenues ni para u na direct guatu gi ottru na funksion gubietnamentu siha.

Guaha ottru dipattamentun gubietnamentu siha pat aktibidât siha ni manmafondu para u fanmanâ'i ladididi' na percentage ki hâfa marisisibi pâ'gu. An mahâtsan i PSS funding siña chini'ut palu ottru ni manimpottânti yan nisisâriu na governmentally-funded na cho'chu'. Yanggin i PSS debi na u chuli' i bentisingku(25%)put sienti gi general revenues, i Leyislatura siempri ha nisisita u hâtsa taxes pat u aligâo ottru manera siha ni para u hâtsa i government revenues ni para u sustieni i current levels gi ginastan ottru manera siha.

I Leyislatura ha petmiti gi presentni na para u fondu i PSS gi bentisingku (25%) put sientu pat mâs yanggin ha disidi ni hâfa para u cho'gui ni limited sources i CNMI. I constitutional amendment ti nisisâriu para u sedi esti na u masusedi yanggin i malagu' i Leyislatura para u direct atyu na budget guatu gi PSS. Siña ha' ti u tunuk gi menus di kinsi (15%)put sientu.

HINICHUM

I maproponi na amendasion kunsisti yan u achieve i intensiona-ña na hinangai para u mahåtsa i sinupottan PSS yan u na'hålum kuntirbusion siha gi CNMI para K-12 na idukasion u parehu yan i gåstun gi halum i 50 states gi USA. Solu, i hinatsan PSS budget kumeke'ilekña na guaha ottru government-funded na aktibidåt pat funksion para u risibi menus; i gubietnamentu para u håtsa mås revenues para u mantieni i prisenti na spending level para atyu i ottru aktibidåt yan funksion siha.

HOUSE LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE 18-12 (Carolinian)

Mwóghutúghútúghút yel nge e pommoli euw Constitutional Amendment ngáli apílúghúlúghúl lapal Salaapi ye e bwe atottoolong rel Public School System (PSS). E bwe liwell sáangi me rel 15% Guaranteed Annual Budget ngáli 25% Guaranteed Annual Budget sáangi general Revenue lól Commonwealth. Budgetary appropriation yel nge ese ayoora ngáli mwóghutúghútúl rel re-programming.

Mwóghutúghúl rel pommol initiative yel mge e new ayoora ngáli Financial Support PSS me e bwe ngalleey CNMI Education salaapiyal me aweewel lapal salaapi kka re ayoora me akkááw téé me lemelemil wól US.

ABWUNG

Liwel nge e bwe guarantee li bwe future Legislature re ssóbw asóssólatiw sáangi 25% me rel PSS funding sáangi general revenues. Ngáre ese yoor constitutional amendment, E mmwel bwe Legislature re bwe fféér mángemáng lól tipeer bwe ayúghúló igha re bwe issiis ngáli PSS rel bwal lapal minimum guaranteed 15%. Eyoora tipetchówul ghal akkááw mwóghutúghút ngáre ghal óttol kkapasal budget, mwóghutúghútúl budget eghi political nge e bwal tipetchów ngáli mwóghutúghútúl Education ngáre ese yoor pommol liwell kka.

Rel average, 25% rel state revenue nge re ghal yááyá ngáli K-12 education sáangiir 50 states me District of Columbia. Pommol liwell nge e bwe guarantee igha e bwe lapaló

funding ngáli CNMI PSS mmwal óttol kkeey. E bwe aweewe lapalól me issiissil funding rel CNMI education me bwal US.

CNMI Constitution e guarantee li free public Education. Eghi lamalam bwe e bwe yoor education reer toulap bwe re bwe tuutá lól civic affairs me bwal schóól angaangil rel allillisil lól téé. Rel mandate ngáli 25% funded education system nge e pwal allillis rel constitutional promise me e bwe ngalleey aghaghatchúl educational opportunities me e pwal yooroló lomwotal rel education.

TIPERÁÁRÁ

Rel liwell yel nge e bwe ayoora lemelem sáangi Legislative flexibility igha re bwe mwóghut ágháli problema rel budget appropriation. E bwe ghi sóssól sáangi salaapi kka e ghal ayoorolong ngáli appropriation rel bwal akkááw mwóghutúghútúl gobetnameento. Ighila, Legislature e mmwel re bwe ngalleey ló 85% sáangi general revenues, kkapasal sáangi bwal yal lemelem. E bwal ngalleey Legislature flexibility bwe re bwe yááyá general revenues rel meeta kka re mángi bwe eghi impotóónti. Rel liwell sáangi pommol mwóghutúghútúl re bwe liwelli, e bwe ayoora ngáli Legislature 75% me rel general funds bwe e bwe ngalleey ló bwal akkááw kkapasal mwóghutúghútúl lól gobetnameento.

Bwal akkááw bwulasiyo lól gobetnameento me ngáre mwóghutúghút kka re bwal ghal ayoora salaapiyal nge re bwe bweibwogh eghus percentage sáangi meeta re kke bweibwogh ighila. Ngáre re sárághita lapal PSS funding, nge e bwe bwal weires ngáliir bwal gobetnameento kka re bwal impotóónti me angaang kka re bwal governmentally-funded. Ngáre PSS e bwughi 25% me rel general revenues, Legislature re bwe sárághitá lapal taxes me ngáre re bwe ghutta efaisúl re bwe bwal sárághi bwal government revenues bwe re bwe aweweey ló schagh mwóghutúghútúl me igha re bwe bwal akkeschelong salaapi iye.

E yoor bwángil Legislature bwe re bwe ngalleey PSS funds rel 25% me ngáre bwal lapalól ngáre iyel mille re tipáli rel meeta fischáliyal resources kka lól CNMI. Mille constitutional

amendment nge ese bwal nesesóoriyo bwe e bwe bwunguló ngáre Legislature re tipáli bwe ngalleer lapal budget ngáli PSS. E ssóbw bwal sóssól lapal sáangi 15%.

MWÚTCHUL

Pommol liwell nge e bwe aweewe ló schagh rel me re bwe abwung rel mángemángil mwóghutúghút bwe re bwe ayoora ló allillis rel PSS me re bwe ngalleey CNMI contribution rel K-12 education rel aweewel mwóghutúghútúl salaapi sáangi 50 states me rel USA. Nge, ngáre PSS budget e bwe llangaló, weweel mille nge akkááw government-funded activity me ngáre functions, e bwe ghitighiit ló meeta re bwe bweibwogh me rel; Gobetnameento e bwe sárághil ólongal revenues bwe le re bwe aweewey ló schagh salaapiyal me akkááw activities me functions.