



OFFICE OF SENATOR
Telo T. Taitague
Minority Leader

I Mina'trentai Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 35th Guam Legislature

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April 10, 2020

The Honorable Douglas Domenech
Assistant Secretary of the Interior
for Insular and International Affairs
U.S. Department of the Interior
Sent via: douglas_domenech@ios.doi.gov

and

Mr. Douglas Hoelscher
Deputy Assistant to the President and
Director, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
The White House
Sent via: DouglasL.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov

Subject: Reimbursement for War Claims Issued Pursuant to Guam Public Law 35-61

Håfa adai Assistant Secretary Domenech, and Director Hoelscher,

As Guam continues to deal with the rapid spread of COVID-19 in our local community, the public health and fiscal impacts brought on by this unprecedented public health emergency are becoming clearer with each new day.

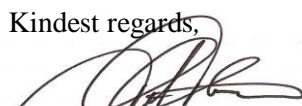
Although we have yet to receive any information from the Governor of Guam comparing the latest revenue collections to revenue levels adopted in the FY 2020 Budget Act (Guam Public Law 35-36), several of my colleagues and I are seriously concerned that various revenue sources including the Tourist Attraction Fund, Business Privilege Tax, and Income Taxes will come up short for the balance of the current fiscal year due to COVID-19.

While we trust that the governor and her fiscal team will communicate their plans to realign the Government of Guam's current budget in the face of declining revenues, we seek your assistance in urging the U.S. Department of the Treasury to expedite federal reimbursement to Guam for War Claims that were paid in advance pursuant to Guam Public Law 35-61.

The reimbursement of more than \$10 million from the Federal Government will go a long way in helping to address the immediate needs of the Government of Guam. I, along with my colleagues, Senators Louise Muña, James Moylan, and William Castro, continue to push the Governor of Guam and Guam Legislature to provide much needed financial relief to families, and remain hopeful that a portion if not all of the War Claims reimbursement will be used to pay for outstanding tax refunds.

Thank you in advance for your assistance regarding this matter.

Kindest regards,


TELO T. TAITAGUE
Minority Leader

cc: Governor of Guam
Senators, 35th Guam Legislature