



Governor's Mess.
No. 13-85
CWN

GOVERNMENT OF KOSRAE
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August 31, 2023

The Honorable Semeon J. Phillip
Speaker,
Thirteenth Kosrae State Legislature
Tofol, Kosrae FM 96944

Dear Speaker Phillip:

I regret to inform you that based on the reasons explained hereinafter, I am compelled to veto this below-referenced bill.

L. B. No. 13-57 entitled: "To further amend State Law No. 12-190, as amended by State Law Nos. 13-04, 13-07, 13-15, 13-22, and 13-23, by amending section 4 at subsection (d) and (e) to modify the Kosrae State Legislature's approved budget for consumables (APIL fee) and fixed assets (a/c unit) under the local revenue fund; and for other purposes."

The basis for not approving this bill is to prevent us from exceeding the current fiscal year ceiling as established by L.R. No. 13-16. I am mindful that each branch of government has its prerogative to determine its own operational budget, however, since there is a constitutional prescription by Section 3 of Article X which connotes "The Legislature may not appropriate or authorize funds in excess of estimated available revenues and other money available to the State Government", I am duty-bound to inform your office of this constitutional issue.

As you are fully aware, through L.B. No. 13-64, a sum of \$27,197 is available after the bill is signed into law. You have transmitted three legislative bills Nos. 13-60, 13-54, and 13-57 to my office appropriating a total of \$28,000 against the State Local Revenue. By signing all three (3) bills, we will realize a negative balance to the authorized Local Revenue fund for this fiscal year.

After much consideration, I have decided to return L.B. No. 13-57 vetoed, anticipating that your office will take immediate and appropriate action whether to decrease the supplemental budget not to exceed the authorized revenue ceiling, or increase the ceiling should projected new revenue exist.

"TUKENI OREKMA IN AKWOYE MWET LASR A AN SESR KOSRAE"

"WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE WELLBEING OF OUR PEOPLE AND KOSRAE"