## (No. 116)

(Approved August 17, 2001)

### **AN ACT**

To amend Section 2 of Act No. 34 of June 12, 1969, as amended, in order to increase the amount of the Christmas Bonus applicable to the officials and employees of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and its public corporations and municipalities.

### STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

Our public servants are the strength and driving force of our government. They deserve to enjoy an adequate compensation in consonance with the important work they perform.

It is the public policy of this Government to treat our working force with fairness. Through this legislation we therefore grant our public servants an increase in their Christmas Bonus of to a maximum of one hundred and twenty-five (dollars) to raise the same to a top amount of six hundred and twenty-five (625) dollars per year.

# BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PUERTO RICO:

Section 1.- Section 2 of Act No. 34 of June 12, 1969, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 2.- The Christmas bonus in 1997 shall be equivalent to four point five (4.5) percent of the annual salary of the official or employee, and from 1998 on, shall be equivalent to six percent (6%) percent of the annual salary of the official or employee. From 1999 and thereafter, the Christmas bonus shall be equivalent to six point twenty-five percent (6.25%) of the

annual salary of the official or employee. From 2001 and thereafter, it shall be equivalent to seven point eighty-one and twenty-five percent (7.8125%) of the annual salary of the official or employee. In order to determine the amount of the Christmas Bonus, the annual salary shall be deemed to be the total salary earned by the official or employee, for up to the amount of eight thousand (8,000) dollars, during the twelve (12) months preceding the first of December of the year in which the bonus is granted. Services for fifteen (15) days or more in a month shall be deemed as one month of service. Provided, that in the case of the municipalities, the increase in the amount of the Christmas Bonus shall be adjusted according to their financial capability and pursuant to Section 12016 of Act No. 81 of August 30, 1991, as amended, known as the 'Autonomous Municipalities Act'."

Section 2.- This Act shall take effect immediately after its approval.

### **CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify to the Secretary of State that the following Act No. 116 (H.B. 934) of the  $1^{\underline{st}}$  Session of the  $14^{\underline{th}}$  Legislature of Puerto Rico:

**AN ACT** to amend Section 2 of Act No. 34 of June 12, 1969, as amended, in order to increase the amount of the Christmas Bonus applicable to the officials and employees of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and its public corporations and municipalities,

has been translated from Spanish to English and that the English version is correct.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today 23<sup>rd</sup> of November of 2004.

Elba Rosa Rodríguez-Fuentes
Director