

(S. B. 506)  
(Conference)

**(No. 59)**

(Approved February 13, 2006)

**AN ACT**

To grant an annual recurrent appropriation of three hundred thousand (300,000) dollars beginning in Fiscal Year 2005-2006, to the American Red Cross, Puerto Rico Chapter, to defray the aid to victims of natural disasters and for other humanitarian works carried out by said entity, as well as for its operating expenses; to authorize the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to appropriate to the American Red Cross, Puerto Rico Chapter, an additional annual sum of up to two hundred thousand (200,000) dollars from the Emergencies Fund, in the event of a natural disaster and/or any other emergency; to grant an annual appropriation of two hundred thousand (200,000) dollars to SER of Puerto Rico, chargeable to the General Fund for operating expenses and others; to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to satisfy said petition; and to appropriate the funds needed for the payment thereof.

**STATEMENT OF MOTIVES**

For more than a century, the American Red Cross, Puerto Rico Chapter, has rendered multiple services and performed all sorts of humanitarian work in Puerto Rico. At those times of natural disasters, wars and all kinds of emergencies, this noble and meritorious institution has been present for the benefit of all the citizenry. Furthermore, the extensive trajectory of the Red Cross of Puerto Rico has been characterized not only for the excellence in its services but also for its transparency, responsibility and effectiveness in the use of the funds received by this institution.

The continuation of the excellent services rendered by the American Red Cross, Puerto Rico Chapter, depends exclusively on the donations this

entity receives, mainly from the private sector of our Island. However, it is proper that the Legislature, in its awareness of the importance of the services rendered by the Red Cross, takes action so that this noble institution may continue its altruistic work that so greatly benefits the Puerto Rican community.

For such purpose, an annual recurrent appropriation of three hundred thousand (300,000) dollars is hereby granted to the American Red Cross, Puerto Rico Chapter, to defray the aid to victims of natural disasters and for other humanitarian works carried out by said entity, as well as to defray the operating expenses of said entity;

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PUERTO RICO:**

Section 1.- An annual recurrent appropriation of three hundred thousand (300,000) dollars is hereby granted to the American Red Cross, Puerto Rico Chapter, to defray the aid to victims of natural disasters and for other humanitarian works, as well as to defray the operating expenses of said entity.

Section 2.- The Director of the Office of Management and Budget is hereby authorized to appropriate to the American Red Cross, Puerto Rico Chapter, an additional annual sum of up to two hundred thousand (200,000) dollars from the Emergencies Fund, in the event of a natural disasters and/or any other emergency.

Section 3.- An annual appropriation of two hundred thousand (200,000) dollars is hereby granted to SER of Puerto Rico, chargeable to the General Fund for operating expenses and others.

Section 4.- The American Red Cross, Puerto Rico Chapter, shall render annual reports to the Agency that has custody of said funds. The

detailed use of the funds appropriated by this Act shall be stated in those reports.

Section 5.- The Department of the Family shall be the agency in custody of the funds appropriated herein to the American Red Cross.

Section 6.- In order to comply with this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury of Puerto Rico is hereby authorized and directed to set aside and satisfy annually and with priority, the funds needed to comply with the appropriation referred to in Section 1 of this Act from any unencumbered funds in the Commonwealth Treasury. Said funds shall be consigned in the Annual Budget of Expenses of the Government of Puerto Rico.

Section 7.- This act shall take effect as of July 1, 2005.

## CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the Secretary of State that the following Act No. 59 (S.B. 506) of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the 15<sup>th</sup> Legislature of Puerto Rico:

**AN ACT** to grant an annual recurrent appropriation of three hundred thousand (300,000) dollars beginning in Fiscal Year 2005-2006, to the American Red Cross, Puerto Rico Chapter, to defray the aid to victims of natural disasters and for other humanitarian works carried out by said entity, as well as for its operating expenses; to authorize the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to appropriate to the American Red Cross, Puerto Rico Chapter, an additional annual sum of up to two hundred thousand (200,000) dollars from the Emergencies Fund, in the event of a natural disaster and/or any other emergency; to grant an annual appropriation of two hundred thousand (200,000) dollars to SER of Puerto Rico, chargeable to the General Fund for operating expenses and others; to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to satisfy said petition; and to appropriate the funds needed for the payment thereof,

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

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today 1<sup>st</sup> of September of 2006.

Francisco J. Domenech  
Director

