



RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor

ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH of the NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

26 JUL 2019

The Honorable John Paul P. Sablan
Chairman
Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation
Twenty-First Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

The Honorable Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-First Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Mr. Chairman and Mr. Speaker:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law **House Local Bill No. 21-13, D1**, entitled, "To amend the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013, codified as 10 CMC §3511.", which was passed by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation of the Twenty-First Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Saipan Local Law No. 21-6**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,


ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
Acting Governor

cc: Governor; Secretary of Finance; Saipan Zoning Office; Office of Public Auditor; Special Assistant for Administration; Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review



Saipan & Northern Islands Legislative Delegation
Third Senatorial District
Twenty-First Northern Mariana Islands Commonwealth Legislature
P. O. Box 500586
Saipan, MP 96950

Representative John Paul P. Sablan, Chairman

Representative Roman C. Benavente, Vice Chairman

Senator Vinnie F. Sablan, Floor Leader

July 17, 2019

Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern
Mariana Islands
Saipan, MP 96950


Dear Governor Torres:

I am honored to transmit for your action **House Local Bill No. 21-13, D1**, entitled,

"To amend the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013, codified as 10 CMC §3511."

The bill was passed unanimously by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation of the Twenty-First Northern Mariana Islands Commonwealth Legislature on First and Final Reading, a quorum duly present, during its First Day, Third Special Session, 2019 held on July 15, 2019.

Respectfully,


Chanele C. Cabrera
Delegation Assistant

Enclosures



**SAIPAN AND NORTHERN ISLANDS LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION
TWENTY-FIRST NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
THIRD SPECIAL SESSION, 2019**

HOUSE LOCAL BILL NO. 21-13, D1

**A LOCAL APPROPRIATION BILL FOR AN ACT
FOR THE THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT**

To amend the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013, codified as 10 CMC §3511.

Offered by

Representatives John Paul P. Sablan, Roman C. Benavente, Joseph A. Flores, Richard T. Lizama
and Ralph Yumul

on

April 12, 2019

HOUSE ACTION

Transmitted to Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation for action on
May 9, 2019

DELEGATION ACTION

Referred To	:	SNILD Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations
Comments Solicited	:	Mayor of Saipan; Mayor of Northern Islands; Chairman, SNI Municipal Council (5/9/19)
Comments Received	:	Mayor of Saipan [ref. Mayors Comm. 21-12] Mayor of Northern Islands [ref. Mayors Comm. 21-11]
Standing Committee Report	:	SCR 21-11
Passed First & Final Reading	:	July 15, 2019 [as D1]

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chanele C. Cabrera".

Chanele C. Cabrera, Acting Delegation Clerk



SAIPAN AND NORTHERN ISLANDS LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION
Third Senatorial District
Twenty-First Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

THIRD SPECIAL SESSION, 2019

HOUSE LOCAL BILL NO. 21-13, D1

A LOCAL BILL FOR AN ACT
FOR THE THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT

To amend the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013, codified as 10 CMC §3511.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT DELEGATION PURSUANT TO
CHAPTER 4, DIVISION 1, TITLE 1 OF THE COMMONWEALTH CODE:

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the Saipan Adult Gambling Machine Business Zoning
3 Consolidation and Concentration Act of 2018.

4 **SECTION 2. FINDINGS.**

5 The Saipan Adult Gambling Machine Business Zoning Law of 2013 imposed important
6 and necessary restrictions upon the operation of Adult Gambling Machine Businesses on
7 Saipan. Accordingly, Adult Gambling Machine Businesses may no longer legally operate in
8 our residential villages. This ban became effective on October 25, 2017. However, one or
9 more Adult Gambling Machine Businesses have faced difficulty finding suitable space in
10 permissible areas of Saipan's Tourist Resort, Mixed Commercial, Garapan Core, Garapan East,
11 or Beach Road Zoning Districts due in part to the restriction found in Section 612(b) of the
12 Saipan Zoning Law of 2013 that Adult Gambling Machine Businesses must be located at least
13 200 feet from any other Adult Gambling Machine Business. The Saipan and Northern Islands

1 Legislative Delegation finds that one of the purposes of the Saipan Adult Gambling Machine
2 Business Zoning Law of 2018 was to prevent the concentration of adult businesses from
3 family-oriented uses and to provide for the socially and commercially acceptable location of
4 Adult Gambling Machine Businesses.

5 **SECTION 3. PURPOSE.**

6 The purpose of this Act is to reduce the impediment for Adult Gambling Machine
7 Businesses to move from the residential villages by allowing multiple Adult Gambling
8 Machine Businesses to co-locate in the same establishment, and to allow Adult Gambling
9 Machine Businesses to concentrate in the designated areas approved for their operation.

10 **SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.**

11 Article 6, Section 612 (b)(1) of the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013, as amended by Saipan
12 Local Law Nos. 18-05, 19-04, 20-12, and 20-21 is hereby amended as follows:

13 “(b) An adult gambling machine business shall only be located:

14 Within the Tourist Resort and Mixed Commercial districts on lots abutting or
15 west of Beach Road and Chalan Thomas Sablan from Afetna Road to Chalan Msgr.
16 Guerrero and on lots abutting or west of Chalan Pale Arnold from Chalan Msgr.
17 Guerrero to Orchid Street., as well as in the Garapan Core, Garapan East, and Beach
18 Road zoning districts, if the business is located no less than 200 feet away from a
19 church, laundromat, public or private school, park, or playground; or”

20 **SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.**

21 Article 12, Section 1210 (b) of the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013, is hereby amended as
22 follows:

1 "(b) Within four years of the effective date of this Law, at the end of the last full
2 renewal period of its license from the Department of Finance prior to the deadline, all
3 nonconforming adult gambling machine businesses shall be located in the Tourist
4 Resort, Mixed Commercial, Garapan Core, Garapan East, or Beach Road Zoning
5 Districts, in accordance with Section 612(b), so long as the establishment is located 200
6 feet from any church, laundromat, public or private school, daycare, park or
7 playground. No restriction set forth in any other Article or Section of this law shall be
8 construed to prevent two or more adult gambling machine businesses from operating
9 out of the same building, unit, or establishment, provided that all other requirements of
10 this law are met and complied with."

11 **SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY.**

12 If any provision of this Act or the application of any such provision to any person or
13 circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this
14 Act or the application of its provisions to persons or circumstances other than those to which it
15 is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

16 **SECTION 7. SAVINGS CLAUSE.**

17 This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be construed as affecting any
18 existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes repealed or under any rule,
19 regulation or order adopted under the statutes. Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect
20 any proceeding instituted under or pursuant to prior law. The enactment of the Act shall not
21 have the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying, any liability, civil or criminal, which
22 shall already be in existence on the date this Act becomes effective.

1 **SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

2 This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the Governor or its becoming law
3 without such approval.

CERTIFIED BY:



JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN
Chairman
Saipan & Northern Islands
Legislative Delegation



BLAS JONATHAN "BJ" T. ATTAO
Speaker
House of Representatives

approved on this 26th day of July, 2019.



RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands