

P.L. 466



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Office of the Governor  
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

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GOV. NMI SAIPAN  
REPLY TO:

OCT 2 1985

DEPT. or ACTIVITY

The Honorable Vicente M. Sablan  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Fourth Northern Marianas  
Commonwealth Legislature  
Saipan, CM 96950

and

The Honorable Ponciano C. Rasa  
President of the Senate  
Fourth Northern Marianas  
Commonwealth Legislature  
Saipan, CM 96950

Dear Mr. Speaker and Mr. President:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law House Bill No. 157, H.D.1, entitled, "To establish a Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association; to add a new Chapter 4 to 1 CMC, Division 9; and for other purposes," which was passed by the Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Although I have signed this bill into law, there are minor technical areas which should be clarified either by amendments or regulations.

Section 9406 states in part that "The Association may regulate the use of sports facilities owned by the Commonwealth government". Such facilities should be clearly identified so as not to create confusion or conflict with authority conferred upon other agencies.

Further, Section 9407(b) states in part that the Association may hire full-time employees as may be necessary. Are such employees to be under the Civil Service? This should be clarified so as not to deprive any individual from membership of the Civil Service.

This bill becomes Public Law No. 4-66, of which copies bearing my signature are forwarded herewith for your ready reference.

Sincerely,

PEDRO P. TENORIO  
Governor

CC: Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review

FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE  
SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION, 1985

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AN ACT

To establish a Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association, to add a new Chapter 4 to 1 CMC, Division 9; and for other purposes.

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Offered by Representatives Pedro R. Guerrero, Juan S. Torres, Juan T. Guerrero,  
Jose R. Lifoifoi, Victor B. Hocog, Jose C. Cabrera, Vicente M. Sablan,  
Benigno R. Fitial, Benigno M. Sablan, Ignacio DLG. Demapan  
and Franklin T. Cabrera

Date: September 25, 1984

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House Action

Referred to: Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations

Standing Committee Report No. 4-80

First and Final Reading: April 23, 1985

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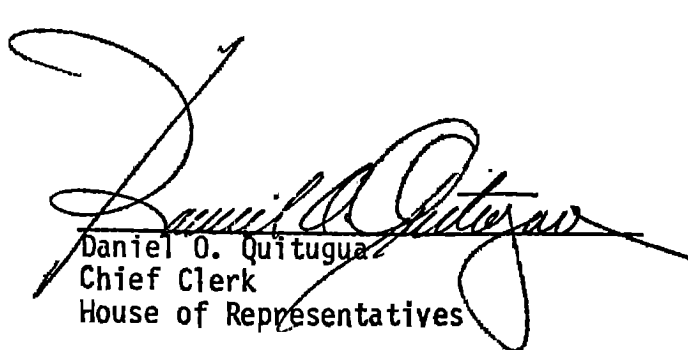
Senate Action

Referred to: Committee on Health, Education, Welfare and Programs

Standing Committee Report No. 4-141

First Reading: August 29, 1985

Second Reading: September 6, 1985

  
Daniel O. Quitugua  
Chief Clerk  
House of Representatives

THIRD REGULAR SESSION, 1984

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AN ACT

To establish a Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association; to add a new Chapter 4 to 1 CMC, Division 9; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:

Section 1. Amendment. A new Chapter 4 is added to 1 CMC, Division 9 to read as follows:

"Chapter 4. Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association.

Section 9401. Short Title. This Chapter may be cited as the "Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association Act" or "act."

Section 9402. Purpose. The purpose of this act is to establish a Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association which will promote, regulate, and coordinate sports activities, facilities, and events, wherever they may be held. This act will promote unity among the residents of the Commonwealth through sports activities, leagues, competitions, tournaments, and other events. This act does not regulate sports activities which are being conducted by private persons, unless the Association is requested by such persons.

Section 9403. Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association Establishment. There is in the Commonwealth Government a Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association, a public corporation.

Section 9404. Powers and Duties. The Association shall have the following powers and duties:

(a) To act as the sole official representative in and for the Commonwealth for the purposes of establishing affiliation with and representation in international and other amateur athletic bodies, associations, councils, federations and conferences, for participation in international athletic and sports events, including the Olympics, the Mini-South Pacific Games, the South Pacific Games, and other related purposes.

(b) In conjunction with the Commonwealth government, amateur sports clubs, and sports associations, to regulate the usage of and to operate and maintain the sports facilities and fields of the Commonwealth government, as may be more fully defined in a memorandum to be executed between the Association, the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Education, the Department of Public Works, and the Office of the Governor.

(c) To assist sports clubs and associations in affiliating with their respective international bodies and in conforming with the technical rules laid down by these international federations.

(d) To support sports teams, clubs, or groups in their promotion and regulation of amateur sports competition in the Northern Mariana Islands and to foster the interests and inter-relationships of the clubs and associations.

(e) To sanction the amateur status of Northern Marianas athletes.

(f) To promote the construction and, where appropriate, the standardization of sports facilities in the Northern Marianas by acquiring or leasing real property, equipment, or buildings.

(g) To maintain custody of records of the Northern Marianas sports activities, competitions, or tournaments.

(h) To seek funds from public and private sources for the performance of its duties, including the control and arrangement of financing of teams selected to compete in international competition or tournaments.

(i) To levy reasonable fees for usage of the athletics or sports facilities and for advertisement and promotion of its activities and to exclusively award vending rights in sports facilities and premises.

(j) To require the payment of reasonable fees by sports clubs, unions, associations, and other persons who desire to be members of the Association.

(k) To establish and administer such financial accounts as the Association deems necessary.

(l) To receive, hold, and expend funds and property to accomplish the purposes of the Association.

(m) Pursuant to forms approved by the Attorney General, to make contracts and execute legal instruments.

(n) Pursuant to forms approved by the Attorney General, to hire and engage the services of such persons as are necessary to the operation of the Association, including the support services provided under Section 9407.

(o) To prepare and submit a budget pursuant to 1 CMC Section 7206.

(p) To adopt by-laws not inconsistent with this act or other applicable laws.

(q) To carry on other lawful activities pursuant to its by-laws or as otherwise deemed by the Association to be reasonably incidental to the fulfillment of its purpose.

(r) To have and to exercise all powers conferred upon public corporations of the Commonwealth.

Section 9405. Membership and Board of Directors:  
Composition and Election of a Board; Quorum and Compensation;  
Attendance.

(a) The by-laws of the Association shall govern the composition and election of members and officers of the Association, the term of office, powers, duties, responsibilities, and compensation of the members and officers of the Association, the quorum for the meetings of members and officers of the Association, and the disqualification for conflicts of interest and the removal of members or officers of the Association.

(b) The Association shall be governed by a Board of at least seven directors including one director representing Tinian and one director representing Rota. Unless excused by the Board, an officer who misses three meetings of the officers of the Association shall be terminated as an officer of the Association.

(c) The by-laws of the Association shall:

(1) Establish a membership policy that is designed to assure broad public participation with respect to its activities;

(2) Provide a nomination process that assures opportunities for nomination as officers and directors from various sports groups within the Commonwealth;

(3) Provide for an officer and director rotation process to assure their regular rotation;

(4) Establish reporting procedures to inform their membership and the public of their activities;

(5) Establish proper financial handling and accounting standards approved by the Director of Finance and Public Auditor; and

(6) Establish procedures to assure public access to all information held by the Association.

(d) The members of the Association shall be the amateur sports clubs, associations, unions, and other sports groups and individuals interested in sports.

Section 9406. Designation. The Association is the official body for amateur sports in the Commonwealth. All



matters related to official sport activities shall be presented to and through the Association. The Association shall act as a clearinghouse for sports competition invitations received by the government or its members and for sports activities that receive government funding or assistance. The Association may regulate the use of sports facilities owned by the Commonwealth government.

Section 9407. Support Services.

(a) Upon request of the Association, all administrative units of the Executive Branch, including government corporations and independent agencies, shall provide reasonable support and logistic services to the Association or its designees.

(b) If funding is available, the Association may hire a full-time employee and such other employees as may be necessary. The employees shall be under the supervision of the Association for the implementation and administration of this Act.

(c) The Attorney General shall be legal counsel to the Association.

Section 9408. Annual Report. Within 90 days after the end of each fiscal year, an annual report on the activities and finances of the Association, including financial statements, shall be transmitted to the Governor, the presiding officers of each house of the legislature, and the Public Auditor."

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Section 2. Transitional Provision.

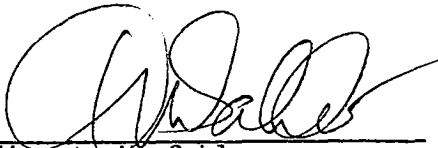
(a) The officers of the Saipan Amateur Sports Association shall serve as the officers of the Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association until bylaws are drafted and new officers are elected. The Saipan Amateur Sports Association officers shall attempt to complete the change over in six months.

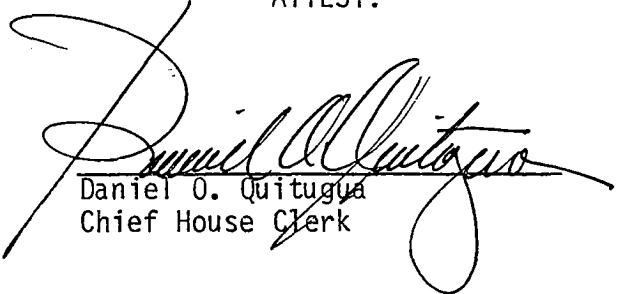
(b) The Director of Community and Cultural Affairs may transfer Appropriations for the sports unit within the Division of Youth Services of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs to the Northern Marianas Sports Association for expenditure by the Chairman or his designee.

Section 3. Repealer. Marianas District Code Public Law 5-52, as amended by P.L. 2-8, is hereby repealed in its entirety.

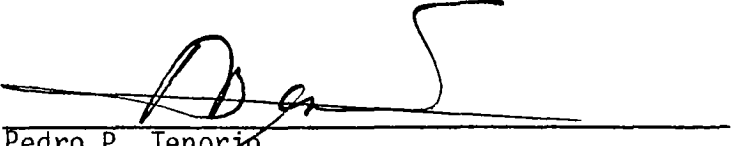
Section 4. Effective Date. This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

ATTEST:

  
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Vicente M. Sablan  
Speaker of the House

  
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Daniel O. Quitugua  
Chief House Clerk

October 2, 1985

  
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Pedro P. Tenorio  
Governor  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands