

**TENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE**

**PUBLIC LAW NO. 10-21  
H. B. NO. 10-252**

**THIRD SPECIAL SESSION, 1996**

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**AN ACT**

To amend 9 CMC 2207 to add a new subsection “(c)” to exempt holders of valid operators licenses from any of the states, territories, or possessions of the United States of America from the taking of the written examination when applying for a Commonwealth operators license.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:**

Section 1. Findings. The Legislature finds that the standards for obtaining an operators license in the states, territories, and possessions of the United States are comparable with the standards for obtaining an operators license in the Commonwealth. The Legislature further finds that under Commonwealth statute 9 CMC 2202(b) the holders of valid licenses from outside the Commonwealth are permitted to drive within the Commonwealth for up to thirty days. It is therefore unreasonable to require an additional written examination for experienced drivers who already possess a valid license from a United States state, territory, or possession.

Section 2. Amendment. 9 CMC Section 2207 is hereby amended by the addition of a new subsection “(c)” which shall read as follows:

“(c) With the exception of a test of an applicant’s eyesight, and physical and mental examination if the Department deems it necessary to determine an applicant’s fitness to operate a motor vehicle, the provisions of subsection “(a)” shall not apply to holders of valid operators licenses from any state, territory, or possession of the United States of America.”

Section 3. Severability. If any provision of this Act or the application of any such provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

Section 4. Savings Clause. This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation or order adopted under the statutes. Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding instituted under or pursuant to prior law. The enactment of this Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying, any liability, civil or criminal, which shall

already be in existence at the date this Act becomes effective.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

**CERTIFIED BY:**

**ATTESTED BY:**

/s/ David M. Apatang  
DAVID M. APATANG  
Acting Speaker  
House of Representatives

/s/ Evelyn C. Fleming  
EVELYN C. FLEMING  
House Clerk

Approved this 21st day of June, 1996

/s/ Froilan C. Tenorio  
~~FROILAN C. TENORIO~~ PAUL A. MANGLONA  
Acting Governor  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands