

TENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

PUBLIC LAW NO. 10-22  
H. B. NO. 10-63, HD1

FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 1996

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AN ACT

To amend 6 CMC Sections 2301; and for other purposes.

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

Section 1. Short Title. This act may be cited as the "Cigarette Labeling and Advertising Act."

Section 2. Purpose. The purpose of this act is to prohibit the importation of cigarettes that are not properly labeled in accordance with United States federal law and to authorize the Division of Customs Service to confiscate and destroy any improperly labeled cigarettes it may find in the course of its inspections. The Legislature believes that proper labeling is necessary to protect the public health by ensuring that consistent information is provided to the general public that cigarette smoking may be hazardous.

Section 3. Amendment. 6 CMC Section 2301(a) is amended by adding a new paragraph (7) to read as follows:

"(7) Cigarettes, the package of which fails to bear any warning label which may be required by United States Federal Law in relation to cigarettes for the sale or other distribution within the United States. For the purposes of this paragraph, the terms "cigarettes" and "package" shall be defined as in United States federal law.

(a) Exemption for Personal Consumption. An exemption from this subsection shall apply to allow each person entering the CNMI to import, for personal use and consumption, into the CNMI, up to ten (10) packs of tobacco cigarettes that do not contain the federal warning required by this subsection."

Section 4. 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 5. 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herein shall not be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes repealed or under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 6. 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 11th day of July, 1996

/s/ Jesus C. Borja  
~~FROILAN C. TENORIO~~ JESUS C. BORJA  
Acting Governor  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands