

**THIRTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE**

*Public Law No. 13-30*

**SENATE BILL**

**NO. 13-32, CS1**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2002**

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**AN ACT**

To reserved areas of public lands on the island of Rota that are suitable for village homesteads, specifically the Finafa and Ginalangan areas; and for other purposes.

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

**Section 1.** This Act may be cited as the "Rota Village Homestead Reservation Act of 2002."

**Section 2. Findings.** The Legislature finds that many people on Rota have waited too long for their village homestead parcels and that decisive action must be taken to ensure that they are afforded this fundamental right. The Legislature further finds that there is ample land in the First Senatorial District capable of meeting the requirements of modern urban planning standards set forth in the Rota Master Plan, including lot requirements, roadways, housing, utilities and water distribution. The Legislature further finds that Public Law 10-2 does not specifically reserve areas that would be suitable for village homesteads and that a specific designation would protect these areas from future development, help expedite environmental assessments and the entire village homestead permitting process. Therefore, it is the purpose of this Act to permanently reserve land in the Finafa and Ginalangan areas for the future village homestead subdivisions.

**Section 3. Reservation of Village Homestead Areas.** Such areas of public land on the island of Rota as may be suitable for village homestead, specifically the Finafa and Ginalangan areas, and which are not required for government use or other purposes by any other provision of law, shall be designated by the Marianas Public Land Authority on behalf of the Commonwealth government and permanently reserved for village homesteading purposes.

**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/ \_\_\_\_\_  
**PAUL A. MANGLONA**  
President of the Senate

/S/ \_\_\_\_\_  
**THOMAS P. VILLAGOMEZ**  
Senate Legislative Secretary

**Approved this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2002**

/S/ \_\_\_\_\_  
**JUAN N. BABAUTA**  
Governor  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands