



**THE SENATE
FOURTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE**

TWELFTH SPECIAL SESSION, 2004

**PUBLIC LAW NO. 14-44
SENATE BILL NO. 14-61, HD1**

AN ACT

To amend 2 CMC § 4144 (d) relating to land in the First Senatorial District.

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

1 Section 1. Findings and Purpose. The Legislature finds that many beautiful vistas
2 and seascapes in the First Senatorial District are treasured cultural assets, left to us unspoiled
3 by our ancestors, which must be preserved for generations to come. The maintenance of these
4 views is a necessary and proper legislative action, as it will protect the coastal ecosystem as
5 well as the reefs and waters adjacent to this pristine stretch of land from deleterious effects of
6 development. Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to prevent the exchange or permanent
7 development of public lands that are either within 300 feet of the high water mark, or
8 between the ocean and the first existing public road, whichever is closer.

9 Section 2. Amendment. Subsection (d) of 2 CMC § 4144 is hereby amended as
10 follows:

11 “(d) No public land in the First Senatorial District that is either within 300
12 feet of the high water mark, or between the ocean and the first public road which is in

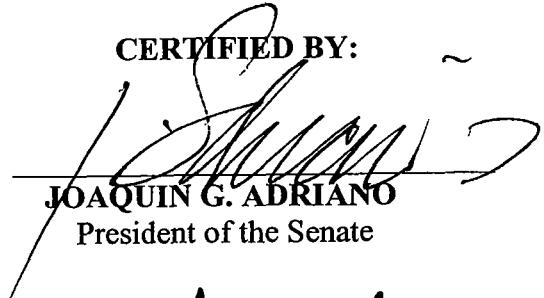
1 existence on the date this Act becomes effective, whichever is closer, shall be
2 exchanged for private land or be used as compensation for the taking of private land;
3 nor shall any permanent structure be built thereupon with the exception of marine
4 science and fisheries development facilities.”

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

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11 repealed or under any rule, regulation or order adopted under the statutes.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

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

CERTIFIED BY:



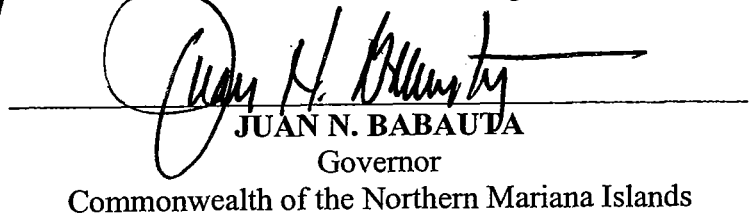
JOAQUIN G. ADRIANO
President of the Senate

ATTESTED BY:



JOSEPH M. MENDIOLA
Senate Legislative Secretary

Approved this 02nd day of December, 2004



JUAN N. BABAUTA
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands