



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Eloy S. Inos
Governor

Ralph DLG. Torres
Lieutenant Governor

Honorable Victor B. Hocog
Senate President, The Senate
Nineteenth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

[JUL 28 2015

Honorable Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero
Speaker, House of Representatives
Nineteenth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Mr. President and Mr. Speaker:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law Senate Bill No. 19-19, entitled, "To name the island of Saipan as the official capital of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and for other purposes," which was passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Nineteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 19-2**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ralph DLG. Torres", written over a horizontal line.

RALPH DLG. TORRES
Acting Governor

cc: Governor; Attorney General's Office; Public Auditor; Special Assistant for Administration;
Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review



THE SENATE
Nineteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature
P. O. Box 500129
Saipan, MP 96950

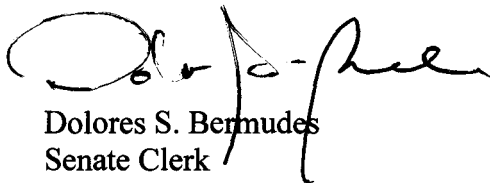
June 26, 2015

The Honorable Eloy S. Inos
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Capital Hill
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Governor Inos:

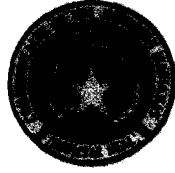
I have the honor of transmitting herewith Senate Bill No. 19-19, entitled: "To name the island of Saipan as the official capital of the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands; and for other purposes," which was passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Nineteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Sincerely,



Dolores S. Bermudes
Senate Clerk

Attachments



THE SENATE
NINETEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE BILL NO. 19-19

AN ACT

To name the island of Saipan as the official capital of the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands; and for other purposes.

Offered by Senator(s) Teresita A. Santos

Date: February 20, 2015

Referred to: Judiciary, Government and Law

Standing Committee Report No.: 19-12 Adopted on 03/26/15

Final Reading: March 26, 2015

Referred to: Judiciary and Governmental Operations

Standing Committee Report No.: None

First and Final Reading: June 04, 2015

DOLORES S. BERMUDES
SENATE CLERK

NINETEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2015

S. B. NO. 19-19

AN ACT

To name the island of Saipan as the official capital of the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands; and for other purposes.

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

1 **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Commonwealth Legislature finds that the
2 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) does not have an official capital
3 despite having an island chain that consists of the islands of Saipan, Rota and Tinian which
4 make up the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth Legislature further finds that the island
5 of Saipan contains the largest population and a larger landmass amongst the three islands.
6 In addition, Saipan is the most suitable island for the official capital of the CNMI in that it is
7 also the location of the CNMI's Central Government and is where most of the government
8 entities are situated. Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to officially name the island of
9 Saipan as the CNMI's official capital.

10 **Section 2. Enactment.** Title 1, General Provisions of the Commonwealth Code is
11 hereby amended by adding a new Chapter 6, subject to codification by the CNMI Law
12 Revision Commission, to read as follows:

13 **“Chapter 6. CNMI Capital.**

14 **§ 601. Capital of the CNMI.**

15 The official capital of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands shall be
16 the island of Saipan.

17 **Section 3. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or the application of any such
18 provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent

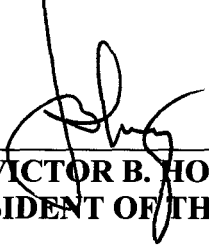
SENATE BILL NO. 19-19

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 the Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying, any liability, civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence on the date this Act becomes effective.


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

CERTIFIED BY:



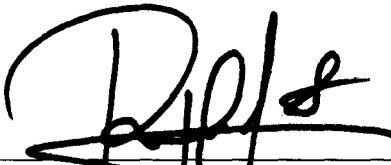
VICTOR B. HOCOG
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

ATTESTED BY:



TERESITA A. SANTOS
SENATE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY

Approved this *28th* day of *July*, 2015



RALPH D.G. TORRES
ACTING Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands