

## COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

**Ralph DLG. Torres**  
Governor

**Victor B. Hocog**  
Lieutenant Governor

**14 JUL 2016**

Honorable Francisco M. Borja  
Senate President, The Senate  
Nineteenth Northern Marianas  
Commonwealth Legislature  
Saipan, MP 96950

Honorable Rafael S. Demapan  
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. 19-11, entitled, "To establish a Solid Waste Transfer Station in the southern part of Saipan and Kagman; 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. 19-52**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ralph DLG. Torres".

RALPH DLG. TORRES

cc: Lt. Governor; Attorney General's Office; Secretary, Department of Public Works; Secretary, Department of Public Lands; 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 07, 2016

The Honorable Victor B. Hocog  
Acting Governor  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Capital Hill  
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Acting Governor Hocog:

I have the honor of transmitting herewith for your action Senate Bill No. 19-11, entitled: "To establish a Solid Waste Transfer Station in the southern part of Saipan and Kagman; and for other purposes," which was passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Nineteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dolores S. Bermudes".

Dolores S. Bermudes  
Senate Clerk

Attachments



**THE SENATE**  
**NINETEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE**

**SENATE BILL NO. 19-11**

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**AN ACT**

TO ESTABLISH A SOLID WASTE TRANSFER STATION IN THE SOUTHERN PART  
OF SAIPAN AND KAGMAN; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

**SENATE ACTION**

**Offered by Senator(s):** Arnold I. Palacios

**Date:** February 03, 2015

**Referred to:** Committee on Judiciary, Government and Law

**Standing Committee Report No.:** 19-35 Adopted on July 23, 2015

**Final Reading:** July 23, 2015

**HOUSE ACTION**


**Referred to:** Committee on Natural Resources

**Standing Committee Report No.:** 19-106 adopted on May 10, 2016

**First and Final Reading:** May 10, 2016

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**DOLORES S. BERMUDES**  
**SENATE CLERK**



THE SENATE  
NINETEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2015

S. B. NO. 19-11

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AN ACT

To establish a solid waste transfer station in the southern part of Saipan and Kagman; and for other purposes.

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

1           **Section 1. Findings and Purposes.** The Legislature acknowledges that the NMI  
2 Constitution guarantees every person within the Commonwealth the right to a clean and  
3 healthful environment. It further acknowledges that maintaining the environment is in the  
4 best interest of all citizens of the Commonwealth, and is essential to the maintenance of a  
5 healthy tourist industry. The Legislature finds that in order to preserve our islands, the  
6 Commonwealth must provide for the adequate management of solid waste, while  
7 minimizing litter and illegal dumping, and eliminating pollution resulting from the  
8 improper disposal of potentially hazardous wastes such as used oil, car batteries, and tires.

9           The Legislature also finds that the establishment of the solid waste transfer station  
10 at the Lower Base area is beneficial and convenient to the Saipan residents who live in  
11 close proximity to the facility. The Legislature finds, however, that the single facility does  
12 not provide the same benefit and convenience to residents living in the southern part of  
13 Saipan such as the Koblerville, Dandan, San Vicente and San Antonio residents and those  
14 who live in the Kagman area.

15           The Legislature further finds that illegal dumping of solid waste is a prevalent  
16 problem in Kagman and the southern part of Saipan. The Legislature acknowledges the  
17 need to provide for a solid waste transfer station facility in Kagman and the southern part  
18 of Saipan.

SENATE BILL NO. 19-11

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1           The purpose of this Act is to have the Secretary of Public Works conduct a  
2 feasibility study, that includes but not limited to, identifying a site in Kagman and the  
3 southern part of Saipan, design and construction plan, and the estimated cost of a solid  
4 waste transfer stations in the southern part of Saipan and Kagman.

5           **Section 2. Amendment.** Title 2, Division 3, Chapter 5 of the Commonwealth  
6 Code is amended by adding Article 4 to read as follows:

7           **“Article 4. Solid Waste Transfer Stations.**

8           **§ 4901. Kagman and Southern Solid Waste Transfer Stations.** In addition to  
9 the Department of Public Work powers and duties enumerated under section 3514 of this  
10 chapter, the Secretary of the Department of Public Works (Secretary) shall:

11           a. Conduct a feasibility study relating and pertaining to the design and  
12 construction plan including but not limited to site, size, operation personnel, equipment  
13 requirement, and estimated cost of a solid waste transfer station, as defined under section  
14 3513(l) of this chapter, to be constructed in Kagman and the southern part of Saipan.

15           b. Collaborate with the Administrator of the Bureau of Environmental Coastal  
16 Quality and determine the necessary requirements pertaining and relating to applicable  
17 environmental laws and regulations that affect the construction of a solid waste transfer  
18 station in Kagman and the southern part of Saipan.

19           **§ 4902. Transfer Stations Location and Property Conveyance.**

20           a. In collaboration with the Secretary of the Department of Public Lands, the  
21 Secretary shall identify the sites suitable to build the solid waste transfer station in Kagman  
22 and the southern part of Saipan.

23           b. Upon the identification and selection of the suitable sites, the Secretary of  
24 Public Lands shall convey the required public lands in Kagman and the southern part of  
25 Saipan to the Department of Public Works pursuant to Article XI, section 5(b) of the NMI  
26 Constitution.

1           **§ 4903. Timeline.**

2           a.       The feasibility study described under section 4901(a) of this Article shall be  
3 completed within 180 days after this Act becomes law.

4           b.       The identification, selection, and conveyance of the public lands for the  
5 sites of the transfer stations shall be executed within 60 days after the completion of the  
6 feasibility study.”

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

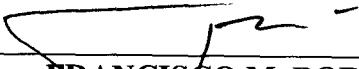
11           **Section 4. Savings Clause.** This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not  
12 be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under  
13 statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation or order adopted under the statutes.  
14 Repealers contained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

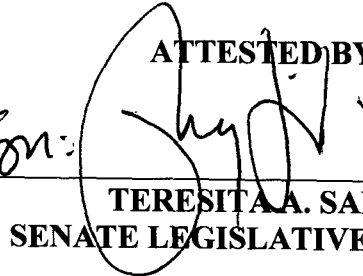
18           **Section 5. Effective Date.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the  
19 Governor, or it becoming law without such approval.

SENATE BILL NO. 19-11

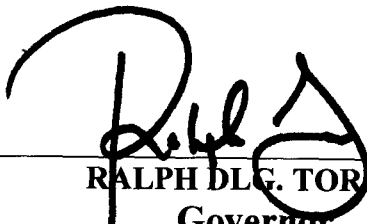
CERTIFIED BY:

ATTESTED BY:

  
FRANCISCO M. BORJA  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
TERESITA A. SANTOS  
SENATE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY

Approved this 14<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2016

  
RALPH DLG. TORRES  
Governor  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands