



## COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

**Ralph DLG. Torres**  
Governor

**Victor B. Hocog**  
Lieutenant Governor

06 FEB 2017

The Honorable Arnold I. Palacios  
Senate President, The Senate  
Twentieth Northern Marianas  
Commonwealth Legislature  
Saipan, MP 96950

The 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. 19-22, entitled, "To establish a new public highway, Route 205, on the island of Tinian; 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. 19-85**. 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  
Governor

cc: Lt. Governor; Press Secretary; Attorney General's Office; Capital Improvement Project Office, Mayor Of Tinian and Aguiguan, Secretary of Public Works; Commissioner of Public Safety; Special Assistant for Administration; Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review; Law Revision Commission; Public Auditor



THE SENATE

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

January 03, 2017

The Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres  
Governor  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Capital Hill  
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Governor Torres:

I have the honor of transmitting herewith for your action Senate Bill No. 19-22 entitled: "To establish a new public highway, Route 205, on the island of Tinian; 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 cursive script, appearing to read "Dolores S. Bermudes".

Dolores S. Bermudes  
Senate Clerk

Attachments



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

**SENATE BILL NO. 19-22**

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**AN ACT**

TO ESTABLISH A NEW PUBLIC HIGHWAY, ROUTE 205, ON THE ISLAND OF TINIAN; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

***SENATE ACTION***

**Offered by Senator(s):** Jude U. Hofschneider

**Date:** February 27, 2015

**Referred to:** Resources, Economic Development and Programs

**Standing Committee Report No.:** 19-94 Adopted on 6/24/16

**Final Reading:** June 24, 2016

***HOUSE ACTION***

**Referred to:** Public Utilities, Transportation and Communication

**Standing Committee Report No.:** 19-145 Adopted on 11/29/16

**First and Final Reading:** December 28, 2016

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dolores S. Bermudes".

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



THE SENATE  
NINETEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2015

S. B. NO. 19-22

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AN ACT

TO ESTABLISH A NEW PUBLIC HIGHWAY, ROUTE 205, ON THE ISLAND  
OF TINIAN; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

1           **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature find that approximately two-  
2 thirds – the northern and central part – of the island of Tinian has been leased to the U.S.  
3 Military. As a result, land is limited and land use planning is very critical to the growth  
4 and development of Tinian.

5           The Legislature further finds that Tinian has only one major highway – Broadway,  
6 which is located in the middle of the island and extends from the north (Military Exclusive  
7 Area) down to the south (San Jose Village) of the island. Due to the scarcity of land,  
8 however, new homestead and agricultural developments have been established at the east  
9 and south side of Tinian.

10           Moreover, economic development is currently limited to the San Jose Village and  
11 surrounding areas due to the lack available land and public highways around the southern  
12 and eastern side of Tinian. While there are open roads to access other parts of the island,  
13 most of the existing roads are small, unpaved, and even dangerous for certain vehicles.

14           The Legislature finds that a new public highway must be built to provide safe and  
15 efficient transportation from Route 200 South down to Puntan Carolinas and up through  
16 Puntan Kastiyu and Puntan Pina Plateaus and further up to Puntan Barangka to Puntan  
17 Masalog and Puntan Asiga until the highway connects to Broadway on the northern part of  
18 Tinian. Route 205 will connect to other highways that travel around Tinian as well. A new

1 public highway will also promote the establishment of new homestead subdivisions and  
2 new economic opportunities at other parts of the island including the southern and eastern  
3 parts of Tinian. Accordingly, the purpose of this legislation is to (1) establish a new public  
4 highway on Tinian; (2) mandate the designation of public lands for a new public highway  
5 including access to fishing and hunting areas and DPS enforcement and emergency  
6 response; and (3) prioritize the design and construction of the new public highway to be  
7 known as Route 205 within the Capital Improvement Project Office and Department of  
8 Public Works federal highway funds program.

9       **Section 2. Establishment of Route 205 in Tinian.** There is hereby established on  
10 the island of Tinian a new public highway to be named Route 205 to connect the highways  
11 around the island of Tinian. Route 205 shall commence at the end of Route 200 South  
12 down to Puntan Carolinas and up through Puntan Kastiyu and Puntan Pina Plateaus and  
13 further up to Puntan Barangka to Puntan Masalog and Puntan Asiga until the highway  
14 connects to Broadway on the northern part of Tinian. As much as feasible, the highway  
15 shall be constructed not less than 200 feet from the cliff line.

16       **Section 3. Designation of Public Land.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to  
17 the contrary, the Department of Public Lands shall designate available public lands for the  
18 design and construction of Route 205 including access to fishing and hunting areas and  
19 DPS enforcement and emergency response on the island of Tinian.

20       **Section 4. CIP Priority.** The Capital Improvement Project Office shall  
21 collaborate with the Mayor of Tinian and Aguiguan and the Tinian Legislative Delegation  
22 to prioritize the design and construction of Route 205 for the Second Senatorial District.  
23 The CIP Office and the Department of Public Works, Highway Division shall fund the  
24 design and construction of Route 205 project utilizing available CIP funds and federal  
25 highway funds.

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

SENATE BILL NO. 19-22

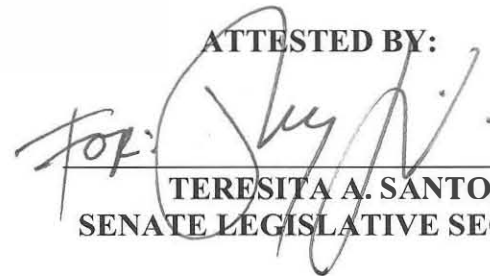
1           **Section 6. Savings Clause.** This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not  
2 be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under  
3 statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation, or order adopted under the statutes.  
4 Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding instituted under or pursuant  
5 to prior law. The enactment of the Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any  
6 way modifying, any liability, civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence on the  
7 date this Act becomes effective.

8           **Section 7. Effective Date.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the  
9 Governor or becoming law without such approval.

CERTIFIED BY:

  
FRANCISCO M. BORJA  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

ATTESTED BY:

  
TERESITA A. SANTOS  
SENATE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY

Approved this 6<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2017

  
RALPH DLG. TORRES  
Governor

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands