



RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor

VICTOR B. HOCOG
Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH of the NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

11 MAY 2018

The Honorable Rafael S. Demapan
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twentieth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

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

Dear Mr. Speaker and Mr. President:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law House Bill No. 20-102, HD1, SS1, CCS1 entitled, "To repeal and re-enact 4 CMC § 1508 (Reservation of License Revenue); and for other purposes", which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 20-59**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,



RALPH DLG. TORRES

cc: Lt. Governor; Press Secretary; Attorney General's Office; Secretary of Finance; Mayor of Saipan; Mayor of Tinian; Mayor of Rota; Special Assistant for Administration; Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review



House of Representatives

20th NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586
SAIPAN, MP 96950

April 27, 2018

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

Dear Governor Torres:

I have the honor of transmitting herewith for your action **H. B. No. 20-102, HD1, SS1, CCS1**, entitled: "To repeal and re-enact 4 CMC § 1508 (Reservation of License Revenue); and for other purposes.", which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Muña", enclosed within a circular scribble.

Linda B. Muña
House Clerk

Attachment



*Twentieth Legislature
of the
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION

JULY 28, 2017

REPRESENTATIVE BLAS JONATHAN "BJ" T. ATTAO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Edwin P. Aldan, Francisco S. Dela Cruz, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Angel A. Demapan, Alice S. Igitol, Jose I. Itibus, Janet U. Maratita, Edwin K. Propst, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, Vinnie F. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez,) in an open and public meeting with an opportunity for the public to comment, introduced the following Bill:

H. B. No. 20-102, HD1, SS1, CCS1

AN ACT

TO REPEAL AND RE-ENACT 4 CMC § 1508 (RESERVATION OF LICENSE REVENUE); AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Bill was referred to the House Committee on Gaming, which submitted Standing Committee Report No. 20-79; adopted 11/21/17.

**THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON
FIRST AND FINAL READING, NOVEMBER 29, 2017;**
with amendments in the form of H. B. No. 20-102, HD1 and transmitted to the
THE SENATE.

The Bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Gaming, which submitted Standing Committee Report No. 20-73; adopted 2/2/18.
THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE SENATE ON FIRST AND FINAL READING, FEBRUARY 2, 2018;
with amendments in the form of H. B. No. 20-102, HD1, SS1

**H. B. NO. 20-102, HD1, SS1, WAS RETURNED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON
FEBRUARY 5, 2018.**

The House of Representatives rejected the Senate amendments and the Bill was sent to Conference, which submitted Conference Committee Report No. 20-2.

THE BILL WAS FINALLY PASSED ON APRIL 24, 2018.



Linda B. Muña, House Clerk



*Twentieth Legislature
of the
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIRST DAY, FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

APRIL 24, 2018

H. B. No. 20-102, HD1, SS1, CCS1

AN ACT

**TO REPEAL AND RE-ENACT 4 CMC § 1508 (RESERVATION OF
LICENSE REVENUE); AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

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

1 **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature finds that under Governor's
2 Communication 20-23, the Honorable Governor Ralph DLG. Torres recommended that
3 4 CMC § 1508 (a) and (b) should be repealed in its entirety for reasons of continued
4 suspension within the appropriations Act for over a decade now. The Legislature finds that
5 these funds are derived from the annual fees from the amusement machines within the
6 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Legislature further finds that these
7 funds were suspended over the years for the purposes of providing much needed resources to
8 entities that were in more need during the Commonwealth's tough economic times. The
9 Legislature finds that the Honorable Governor Ralph DLG. Torres has identified in this
10 improving economy the much needed resources for those specific entities and found no more
11 need to suspend such funds.

12 The Legislature further finds that Commonwealth Government is well aware of its
13 obligations to its people when it comes to compensation. The Legislature along with the

HOUSE BILL 20-102, HD1, SS1, CCS1

1 Executive Branch has worked collaboratively most especially in recent years to pay for its
2 obligations to the people of the Commonwealth more specifically the deserving government
3 employees. The Legislature has taken the necessary steps to make back pay wages for current
4 and former government employees.

5 The Legislature further finds that through the general appropriations the
6 Commonwealth government has fully paid its obligations under Public Law 7-31 to the
7 people of the First Senatorial District. The Legislature is also cognizant of the fact that the
8 Second and Third Senatorial District Delegations paid the Commonwealth's obligations
9 under Public Law 7-31 to the employees of the Second and Third Senatorial Districts,
10 respectively, through local appropriations. Accordingly, the Legislature finds that the Second
11 and Third Senatorial District Delegations should be reimbursed for the funds expended by
12 each respective delegation to fulfill the obligation of the Commonwealth government under
13 Public Law 7-31.

14 Therefore, the intent of this Act is to repeal and re-enact 4 CMC § 1508 (Reservation
15 of License Revenue).

16 **Section 2. Repeal and Reenact.** Notwithstanding any laws, statutes, rules or
17 regulations to the contrary, 4 CMC § 1508 (Reservation of License Revenue) is hereby
18 repealed and reenacted as follows:

19 **“§1508. Reservation of License Revenue.**

20 (a) The Secretary of Finance shall first reserve \$13,000,000.00 of the revenues
21 generated from the licensing of amusement machines under 4 CMC 1503(a)(2) and
22 4 CMC 1503(a)(5) for reimbursement to the Second and Third Senatorial Districts for
23 the payment of obligations of the Central Government under Public Law 7-31 to its
24 employees as follows:

25 (1) \$1,700,000.00 shall be deposited into the Second Senatorial
26 District Delegation account and made available for appropriation by the
27 Second Senatorial District Delegation; and

HOUSE BILL 20-102, HD1, SS1, CCS1

1 (2) \$11,300,000.00 shall be deposited into the Third Senatorial District
2 Delegation account and made available for appropriation by the Third
3 Senatorial District Delegation.

4 (b) After the amount required pursuant to subsection (a) is satisfied in full, the
5 Secretary of Finance shall deposit all of the revenues generated from the licensing of
6 amusement machines under 4 CMC 1503(a)(2) and 4 CMC § 1503(a)(5) in a separate
7 trust account in the General Fund to be known as the “Capital Building Trust Fund.”
8 The revenues deposited in this account shall be reserved to fund new Capital
9 Buildings for the Commonwealth Government, specifically for the Executive and
10 Legislative Branches including the construction of new government residences for the
11 governor and lieutenant governor on the Island of Saipan.”


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

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

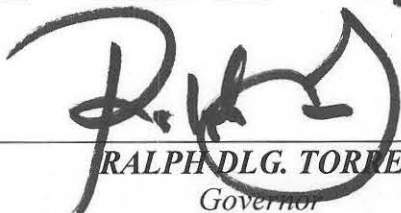
HOUSE BILL 20-102, HD1, SS1, CCS1

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

Attested to by: 
Linda B. Muña, House Clerk

Certified by: 
SPEAKER RAFAEL S. DEMAPAN
House of Representatives
20th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

Approved this 11th day of May, 2018


RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands