



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Eloy S. Inos
Governor

Jude U. Hofschneider
Lieutenant Governor

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

13 JUN 2014

Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres
Senate President, The Senate
Eighteenth 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. 18-144, HS1, entitled, "To amend 1 CMC Section 20161 (c) as enacted by Public Law No. 17-43 by reducing the Commonwealth Public Transportation Advisory Board members from ten (10) members down to six (6) members; and for other purposes," which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Eighteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 18-51**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eloy S. Inos", with a stylized flourish at the end.

ELOY S. INOS

cc: Lt. Governor; Lt. Governor's Legal Counsel; Attorney General's Office; Press Secretary; Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority; Secretary, Department of Public Works; Public School System; Mayor of Tinian; Mayor of Rota; Public Auditor; Special Assistant for Administration; Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review



House of Representatives

18th NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 500586
SAIPAN, MP 96950

May 14, 2014

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

Dear Governor Inos:

I have the honor of transmitting herewith for your action **H. B. No. 18-144, HS1**, entitled: "To amend 1 CMC Section 20161 (c) as enacted by Public Law No. 17-43 by reducing the Commonwealth Public Transportation Advisory Board members from ten (10) members down to six (6) members; and for other purposes.", which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Eighteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Muña".

Linda B. Muña
House Clerk

Attachment



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

Second Regular Session

November 15, 2013

Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, of Saipan, Precinct 5 (*for himself*), in an open and public meeting with an opportunity for the public to comment, introduced the following Bill:

H. B. No. 18-144, HS1

AN ACT

TO AMEND 1 CMC SECTION 20161 (C) AS ENACTED BY PUBLIC LAW NO. 17-43 BY REDUCING THE COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS FROM TEN (10) MEMBERS DOWN TO SIX (6) MEMBERS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Bill was referred to the House Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communications, which submitted Standing Committee Report 18-84, adopted on January 9, 2014.

THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON FIRST AND FINAL READING, FEBRUARY 19, 2014;
with amendments in the form of H. B. 18-144, HS1 and transmitted to the
THE SENATE.

The Bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communications, which submitted Standing Committee Report 18-57, adopted on May 2, 2014.

THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE SENATE ON FIRST AND FINAL READING, MAY 2, 2014;
without amendments and returned to
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THE BILL WAS FINALLY PASSED ON FEBRUARY 19, 2014.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "L. Muña", written over a horizontal line.

Linda B. Muña, House Clerk



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

Sixth Day, Third Regular Session

February 19, 2014

H. B. 18-144, HSI

AN ACT

TO AMEND 1 CMC SECTION 20161 (C) AS ENACTED BY PUBLIC LAW NO. 17-43 BY REDUCING THE COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS FROM TEN (10) MEMBERS DOWN TO SIX (6) MEMBERS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Be it enacted by the Eighteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature:

1 **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature created the Commonwealth
2 Office of Transit Authority (COTA) to administer federal grants from the Federal Transit
3 Administration. COTA's primary duties are to assess the transportation needs of the
4 Commonwealth and to develop a public transportation system.

5 Under the current law, COTA has a total of eleven (11) Commonwealth Public
6 Transportation Advisory Board members. The Legislature finds that COTA board members
7 should be reduced to allow for a more streamlined and efficient discussion and decision
8 making. The Legislature further finds that the reduction in the number of board members
9 enables a more focused strategic planning while still representing the community.

10 **Section 2. Amendments.**

11 1 CMC Section 20161 (c) as is amended to read as follows:

HOUSE BILL 18-144, HS1

1 **§ 20161 Establishment of the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority.**

2 “(c) In the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority, there shall be a
3 Commonwealth Public Transportation Advisory Board to be chaired by the board
4 member voted on by a majority vote of the members of the board and shall be
5 comprised of the Special Assistant for Public Transportation, Secretary of the
6 Department of Public Works, a representative from the Public School System, a
7 representative of the Mayor of the First and Second Senatorial District and a
8 representative from the business community.

9 (1) The Commonwealth Public Transportation Advisory Board
10 consisting of six voting members and shall have at least one (1) female
11 member and one (1) member who is of Carolinian descent.”


12 **Section 3. Severability.** If any provisions 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 the 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 on the date this Act
22 becomes effective.


HOUSE BILL 18-144, HSI

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

Attested to by: 
Linda B. Muña, House Clerk

Certified by: 
SPEAKER JOSEPH P. DELEON GUERRERO
House of Representatives
18th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

~~APPROVED~~ this 13TH day of JUNE, 2014


ELOY S. INOS
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands