



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Eloy S. Inos
Governor

Jude U. Hofschneider
Lieutenant Governor

Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres
Senate President, The Senate
Eighteenth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

Honorable Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero
Speaker, House of Representatives
Eighteenth 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. 18-66, entitled, "To prohibit a person from running for more than one public office in a general, local or special election; and for other purposes," which was passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Eighteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 18-63**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eloy S. Inos", with a long vertical line extending upwards from the end of the signature.

ELOY S. INOS

cc: Lt. Governor; Lt. Governor's Legal Counsel; Attorney General's Office; Commonwealth Election Commission; Public Auditor; Special Assistant for Administration; Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review



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

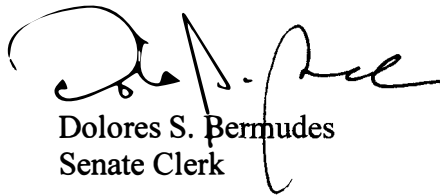
September 02, 2014

The Honorable Jude U. Hofschneider
Acting Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern
Mariana Islands
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Acting Governor Hofschneider:

I have the honor of transmitting herewith Senate Bill No. 18-66, entitled, "To prohibit a person from running for more than one public office in a general, local or special election; and for other purposes," which was passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Eighteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Sincerely,



Dolores S. Bermudes
Senate Clerk

Attachment



THE SENATE
EIGHTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE BILL NO. 18-66

AN ACT

To prohibit a person from running for more than one public office in a general, local or special election; and for other purposes.

SENATE ACTION

Offered by Senator(s): Pete P. Reyes and Jovita M. Taimanao

Date: August 21, 2014

Referred to: None

Standing Committee Report No.: None

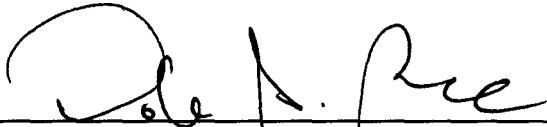
Final Reading: August 21, 2014

HOUSE ACTION

Referred to: None

Standing Committee Report No.: None

First and Final Reading: August 28, 2014


DOLORES S. BERMUDES
SENATE CLERK

EIGHTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

FOURTH REGULAR SESSION, 2014

S. B. NO. 18-66

AN ACT

To prohibit a person from running for more than one public office in a general, local or special election; and for other purposes.

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

1 **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Commonwealth Legislature finds that the
2 current Commonwealth Election Law does not prohibit candidates from running for multiple
3 public offices. However, the Commonwealth Constitution prohibits an elected public
4 official from holding another government employment position. So if a person is elected to
5 two positions and chose one over the other, a special election would be required to fill the
6 position that was turned down. This is because the position that was declined would not
7 automatically go to the runner up. This scenario would create confusion to the voters and
8 increase the cost of special elections. Accordingly, the purpose of this legislation is to
9 prohibit a person from running for more than one public office in any election.

10 **Section 2. Amendment.** Title 1, Division 6, Part 1, Chapter 3, Article 1 is amended
11 by adding a new section 6309 subject to codification by the Law Revision Commission to
12 read as follows:

13 **“§ 6309. Person Eligible for Only One (1) Public Office.**

14 No person shall be eligible for more than one (1) public office to be filled in the
15 same election or different elections held at the same time. The term “election” as used in this
16 Section includes a general, local, or special election held on the same date, so as to prohibit
17 a person from running for office in a local election and in a general election or in a special

SENATE BILL NO. 18-66

1 election at the same time.”


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

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

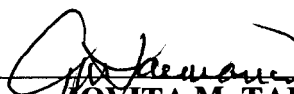
13 **Section 5. Effective Date.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the
14 Governor or becoming law without such approval.

CERTIFIED BY:

ATTESTED BY:

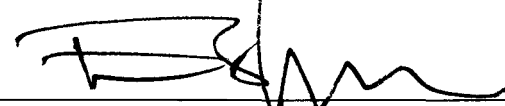


VICTOR B. HOCO
ACTING PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE



JOVITA M. TAIMANAO
SENATE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY

~~APPROVED~~ this 5th day of September, 2014



ELOY S. INOS
GOVERNOR
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands