The Honorable Jude U. Hofschneider  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Second Northern Marianas  
Commonwealth Legislature  
Saipan, MP 96950

The Honorable Edmund S. Villagomez  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Second 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. 22-21, HS1 entitled, “To repeal and reenact 3 CMC § 1132 to clarify that the State Board of Education has the authority to establish and amend the minimum instructional time for PSS; and for other purposes,” which was passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Second Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes Public Law No. 22-02. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

RALPH DLG. TORRES  
Governor

cc:  Lt. Governor; Press Secretary; Public School System; Attorney General; Law Revision Commission; Public Auditor; Special Assistant for Administration; Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review
May 18, 2021

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. 22-21, HS1, entitled: “To repeal and reenact 3 CMC § 1132 to clarify that the State Board of Education has the authority to establish and amend the minimum instructional time for PSS; and for other purposes,” which was passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Second Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Sincerely,

Dolores S. Bermudez  
Senate Clerk

Attachments
To repeal and reenact 3 CMC § 1132 to clarify that the State Board of Education has the authority to establish and amend the minimum instructional time for PSS; and for other purposes.

Offered by Senator(s): Jude U. Hofschneider

Date: February 10, 2021

Referred to: Health, Education, and Welfare

Standing Committee Report No.: 22-03 Adopted on 03/12/21

Final Reading: May 18, 2021 Accepted HS1

Referred to: Education Committee

Standing Committee Report No.: 22-1 Adopted on 04/23/21

First and Final Reading: April 23, 2021
AN ACT

To repeal and reenact 3 CMC § 1132 to clarify that the State Board of Education has the authority to establish and amend the minimum instructional time for PSS; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TWENTY-SECOND NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:

Section 1. Purpose. The purpose of this legislation is to clarify that the State Board of Education has the authority to establish, maintain, amend or modify, as necessary, the instructional calendar or minimum instructional time for kindergarten, elementary school, middle school, and high school students at the Public School System in order to improve student overall performance and achievement.

Section 2. Amendment. 3 CMC § 1132 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

“§ 1132. School Calendar.

The Board shall establish and maintain within each school year an instructional calendar of no less than one hundred eighty (180) days of instruction for students from kindergarten through the twelfth (12th) grade, exclusive of weekends, holidays, and emergency school closings authorized by the Commissioner. Provided that the Board, in consultation with the Commissioner, may reduce the instructional calendar applicable to each school, in the event of an emergency declaration or natural disaster.”
Section 3. **Severability.** If any provision of this Act or the application of any such provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

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

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