

**TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH
LEGISLATURE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

SESSION, 2023

H. L. B. 23- 14

**A LOCAL BILL FOR AN ACT
FOR THE SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT**

To amend 10 CMC §§ 2513(dd) and 2531(d) as established by Tinian Local Law 21-09 by reducing the number of minimum sleeping units from 200 to 50; and for other purposes.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT
DELEGATION PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 4, DIVISION 1, TITLE 1 OF
THE COMMONWEALTH CODE:**

1 SECTION 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE

2 The Twenty-Third Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation finds that in
3 order to accommodate the change in our current economic situation as a result of
4 the global effect of pandemic, businesses needed to reassess their structure to
5 remain in operation and allow a chance to recover and grow. The Tinian and
6 Aguiguan Delegation further finds that that in the interest of encouraging and
7 fostering tourism and the casino gaming industry on Tinian, it is necessary to amend
8 Tinian Local Law 21-09 in order to make Tinian more “investor friendly” and more
9 competitive in the Pacific region. The Tinian Legislative Delegation and the entire
10 leadership are committed to continue support to make needed changes in the policy

1 to ensure the casino industry on the island remains a viable option for economic
2 development. Accordingly, the purpose of this local legislation is to reduce the
3 number of required sleeping units under the definition of “hotel” or “approved
4 hotel” from two hundred to fifty.

5 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.**

6 10 CMC § 2513 (dd), as established by Tinian Local Law 21-09, is hereby
7 amended to read as follows:

8 “(dd) “Hotel” or “approved hotel” means building containing a minimum of
9 50 ~~200~~ sleeping units, each of which shall contain at least 325 square feet measured
10 to the center of perimeter walls, including bathroom and closet space and excluding
11 hallways, balconies and lounges, each containing private bathroom facilities, and
12 each held available and used regularly for the lodging of tourists and guests and
13 conforming in all respects to the agreement referred to in 10 CMC § 2532. In no
14 event shall the main entrance or only access to an approved hotel be through a
15 casino.

16 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.**

17 10 CMC § 2531 (d), as established by Tinian Local Law 21-09, is hereby
18 amended to read as follows:

19 “(d) the conduct of internet gaming pursuant to a casino license, in
20 accordance with this chapter and any other applicable Act, the regulations
21 established by the commission to regulate internet gaming and internet gaming

1 operators, and the operating agreement relating to the particular license permitting
2 the conduct of internet gaming, is lawful. Operating internet gaming is conditioned
3 on having a hotel with at least fifty (50) units ~~two hundred (200) units which may~~
4 ~~be built in phases of 100 units per phase as authorized by TCGCC~~ and an
5 operational Hotel-casino complex casino and the implementation of a geolocation
6 software limiting internet gaming activities to within intra-island borders of the
7 Second Senatorial District and between jurisdictions where the conduct of internet
8 gaming is legal.”

9 **SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY.**

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

15 **SECTION 5. SAVINGS CLAUSE.**

16 This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be construed as
17 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
20 prior law. The enactment of the Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in
21 any way modifying, any liability, civil or criminal, which shall already be in

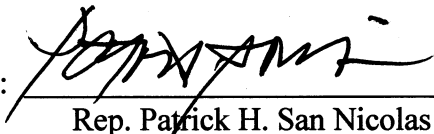
1 existence on the date this Act becomes effective.

2 **SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

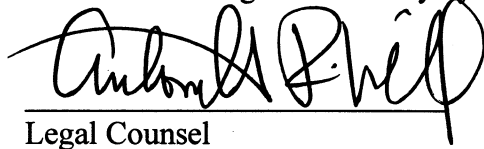
3 This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the Governor or it becoming
4 law without such approval.

Filed: 6/16/2023

Date: 6/6/23

Introduced by: 
Rep. Patrick H. San Nicolas

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:


Legal Counsel