

**TWENTY-SECOND NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH**

**LEGISLATURE**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

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**Regular Session, 2021**

**H. B. 22-11**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

To enact a provision to require all CNMI government agencies to prepare and submit a fiscal impact statement and a fiscal revenue statement for related legislations to the Legislature when said agencies are affected and required to do so by law.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE 22<sup>ND</sup> NORTHERN MARIANAS  
COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:**

1           **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature finds that the Northern  
2   Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, representing the citizens of our great  
3   Commonwealth, was established as its own respective branch of the CNMI  
4   Government. Inclusive of such a wide array of duties and responsibilities, the  
5   Legislature is entitled to introduce legislations and/or amend existing laws provided  
6   that such legislation and/or amendment is for the betterment of our entire  
7   Commonwealth as a whole. Before any legislation is enacted, it is the duty of the  
8   Legislature to thoroughly examine and deliberate on all respective legislations as it  
9   follows the legislative process. Such scrutiny is necessary in order to enhance the  
10   legislation (if applicable) for proper implementation.

1           The Legislature further finds that many legislations introduced by any  
2     respective member of the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature have a  
3     direct fiscal impact on one or more government agencies. Given our  
4     Commonwealth's current financial state for the current fiscal year, it is of utmost  
5     importance to ensure that tax payer dollars are used properly in carrying out the  
6     intent of each respective legislation. Furthermore, preparing a fiscal impact  
7     statement and a fiscal revenue statement will provide a clearer picture from a  
8     financial standpoint for the respective committees to consider while under  
9     deliberation.

10           Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to enact a provision to require all CNMI  
11     government agencies to prepare and submit a fiscal impact statement and a fiscal  
12     revenue statement for related legislations to the Legislature when said agencies are  
13     affected and required to do so by law.

14           **Section 2. Enactment.** Notwithstanding any laws or regulations to the  
15     contrary and subject to codification by the CNMI Law Revision Commission, the  
16     following provision is hereby enacted:

17                   **“§101. Preparation of fiscal impact and revenue impact**  
18                   **statements for legislation affecting state or local governments.**

19                   (1) All government agencies, both autonomous and non-  
20     autonomous, shall, upon request of a legislative committee, prepare and  
21     submit a fiscal impact statement to the Legislature for each legislation that

1           could have an effect on expenditures of the respective autonomous/non-  
2           autonomous government agency.

3                   (2) All government agencies shall prepare and submit a revenue  
4           impact statement to the Legislature for each legislation to be reported out of  
5           a committee that could have any effect on revenues of the respective  
6           autonomous/non-autonomous government agency when said agencies are  
7           affected and are required by the Legislature to do so pursuant to this Act.

8                   (3) (a) As used in this subsection, "tax expenditure" has the meaning  
9           given that term pursuant to 1 CMC §7103(cc).

10                           (b) If a revenue impact statement is prepared pursuant to  
11           subsection (2) of this section on a measure that creates a tax  
12           expenditure, the revenue impact statement must include the revenue  
13           impact of the measure for at least three consecutive fiscal years,  
14           beginning with the current fiscal year.

15                           (c) If a revenue impact statement is prepared pursuant to  
16           subsection (2) of this section on a measure that creates or extends a  
17           tax expenditure, the revenue impact statement must include a  
18           statement describing the public policy purpose of the tax  
19           expenditure. The public policy purpose statement is subject to  
20           review by the committee recommending passage of the measure."

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


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

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

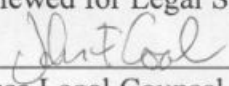
Prefiled: 1/27/2021

Date: 1/27/2021

Introduced by:

  
Rep. Ivan A. Blanco

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:

  
House Legal Counsel

