

TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH

LEGISLATURE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SESSION, 2023

H. L. B. 23- 45

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

To allow for “Cannabis Manufacturing and Processing” for Conditional Use within certain zoning districts.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT

DELEGATION PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 4, DIVISION 1, TITLE 1 OF

THE COMMONWEALTH CODE:

1 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

2 The Delegation finds that pursuant to CNMI Public Law 20-66
3 (Taulamwaar Sensible CNMI Cannabis Act of 2018), as amended, the
4 Commonwealth Cannabis Commission is responsible for regulating the Cannabis
5 Industry within the Commonwealth. Furthermore, they are authorized to issue
6 licenses related to the processing and/or manufacturing of marijuana items. The
7 Delegation also finds that the Saipan Zoning Office is responsible for overseeing
8 all zoning districts within the island of Saipan. Pursuant to Section 404, Table 1 of
9 the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013, as amended, such table indicates the types of uses
10 and which districts where such uses can be done. Cognizant of the enactment of

1 CNMI Public Law 20-66, as amended, the Delegation finds that it would be
2 appropriate to amend Section 404, Table 1 of the Saipan Zoning Law, as amended,
3 to allow for Cannabis Manufacturing and Processing to be done in certain zoning
4 districts to provide great economic opportunity to the Third Senatorial District. Due
5 to the present economic state of our Commonwealth, the Delegation finds that it
6 would be of utmost importance to provide additional financial avenues that can
7 greatly benefit our senatorial district.

8 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to allow for “Cannabis Manufacturing
9 and Processing” for Conditional Use within certain zoning districts and for other
10 purposes.

11 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.**

12 Table 1, under Section 404 of the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013, as amended,
13 is hereby amended by adding new uses on respective districts to read as follows:

14 *““Cannabis Manufacturing and Processing” shall be allowed for*
15 *Conditional Use within Rural, Village Commercial, Mixed Commercial,*
16 *and Industrial Zoning Districts.””*

17 **SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY.**

18 If any provision of this Act or the application of any such provision to any
19 person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction,
20 the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or
21 circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be affected

1 thereby.

2 **SECTION 4. SAVINGS CLAUSE.**

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

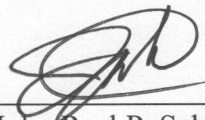
10 **SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

11 This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the Governor or its becoming
12 law without such approval.

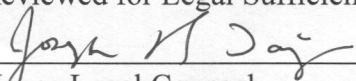
Prefiled: 4/8/2024

Date: _____

Introduced by: _____


Rep. John Paul P. Sablan

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:


House Legal Counsel