

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

SESSION, 2024

H. L. B. 23- 59

A LOCAL BILL FOR AN ACT
FOR THE THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT

To amend the Saipan Zoning Law, as amended, to add a definition for “Automobile Sales & Services”; and for other purposes.

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 Section 404, Table 1 of the Saipan
3 Zoning Law of 2013, as amended, “Automobile Sales & Service
4 is authorized for permitted use on Mixed Commercial and Industrial zoning
5 districts. Despite such use being allowed pursuant to the aforementioned table, the
6 Delegation finds that the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013, as amended, does not
7 provide a definition for “Automobile Sales & Services”. Cognizant of its
8 importance, the Delegation finds that we must include such definition to allow for
9 smoother operations for businesses who engage in such uses. Furthermore, with
10 such definition, there will be better clarity to address any probable concerns that

1 may arise.

2 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to amend the Saipan Zoning Law, as
3 amended, to add a definition for “Automobile Sales & Services” and for other
4 purposes.

5 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.**

6 Article 4, Section 410 of the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013, as amended, is
7 hereby amended by adding a new subsection (k) to read as follows:

8 “(k) **Automobile Sales & Service.** An establishment engaged in the
9 marketing, sales (direct and indirect), and servicing of new and used motor
10 vehicles. Typical uses include manufacturer recall work, diagnostics,
11 maintenance (e.g., tune-ups and oils changes), mechanical repairs and
12 parts replacement, paint and body shops, glass shops, and washing and
13 detailing. Automobile Sales & Service business shall be screened from
14 adjoining properties zoned as Village Residential, Village Commercial,
15 Rural, Mixed Commercial, or Beach Road and such screening shall consist
16 of appropriate vegetation or fencing.”

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
20 jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to
21 persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be
22 affected thereby.

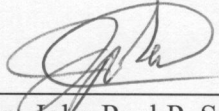
1 **SECTION 4. SAVINGS CLAUSE.**

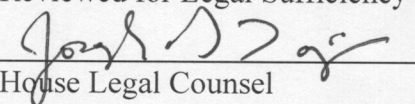
2 This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be construed as
3 affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes
4 repealed or under any rule, regulation or order adopted under the statutes.
5 Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding instituted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

9 **SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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

Prefiled: 7/29/2024

Date: _____ Introduced by:  _____
Rep. John Paul P. Sablan

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:

House Legal Counsel