



RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor

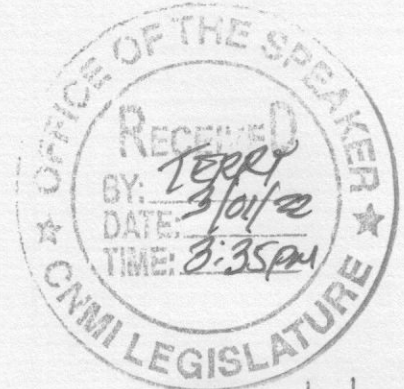
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

March 01, 2022

The Honorable Donald M. Manglona
Co-Chairperson, Rota Legislative Delegation
Twenty-Second Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

The Honorable Teresita A. Santos
Co-Chairperson, Rota Legislative Delegation
Twenty-Second Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

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



3/1/22

Dear Co-Chairpersons and Mr. President:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law **Senate Local Bill No. 22-8, D1** entitled, "To amend 10 CMC §§ 12104 and 12111, to allow legislative amendment to the Rota Casino Act and provide for a limited time to act on the confirmation or rejection of the Rota Mayor's appointment of the Rota Casino Gaming Commission members." Which was unanimously passed by the Rota Legislative Delegation of the Twenty-Second Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Rota Local Law No. 22-07**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor

HOUSE CLERK'S OFC
RECEIVED BY:
DATE: 3/2/2022 TIME: 10:05am

cc: Lt. Governor; Attorney General's Office; Mayor of Rota; Chairman, Rota Municipal Council; Rota Casino Gaming Commission; Commonwealth Law Revision; Special Assistant for Administration; Special Assistant for Programs & Legislative Review

RECEIVED
03/01/2022
@ 3:15pm



ROTA LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION
TWENTY-SECOND NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT

THIRD REGULAR SESSION, 2022

SENATE LOCAL BILL NO. 22-8, D1

A LOCAL BILL FOR AN ACT
FOR THE FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT

To amend 10 CMC §§ 12104 and 12111, to allow legislative amendment to the Rota Casino Act and provide for a limited time to act on the confirmation or rejection of the Rota Mayor's appointment of the Rota Casino Gaming Commission members.

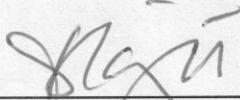
Offered by Senator Teresita A. Santos
Introduced on May 18, 2021

SENATE ACTION

Transmitted to the Rota Legislative Delegation on July 15, 2021

DELEGATION ACTION

Committee Referral:	None
Standing Committee Report:	None
Comments Solicited:	7/22/21 [Mayor of Rota DM No. 22-22] [18 th Rota Municipal Council DM No. 22-23]
Comments Received:	8/5/21 [Mayors Comm. No. 22-3] 11/23/21 [OAG Misc. Comm. No. 22-12]
Passed First & Final Reading:	1/14/22


Frances Joan P. Kaipat
Delegation Clerk



ROTA LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION
Twenty-Second Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature
First Senatorial District

THIRD REGULAR SESSION, 2022

SENATE LOCAL BILL NO. 22-8, D1

A LOCAL BILL FOR AN ACT
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To amend 10 CMC §§ 12104 and 12111, to allow legislative amendment to the Rota Casino Act and provide for a limited time to act on the confirmation or rejection of the Rota Mayor’s appointment of the Rota Casino Gaming Commission members.

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

1 **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.**

2 The Rota Legislative Delegation (Delegation) acknowledges that the current Rota Casino
3 Gaming Act allows only technical amendments. The Delegation also acknowledges that the
4 CNMI Supreme Court ruled in *Blanco-Maratita v. Borja* that Article XXI of the CNMI
5 Constitution does not prohibit a local law from regulating legal gambling authorized in a
6 senatorial district. *Blanco-Maratita v. Borja*, 2017 MP 6, ¶ 22. The Blanco-Maratita Court held
7 that “a delegation law may regulate gambling, including amending a gambling law enacted by
8 local initiative.” *Id.*

1 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to authorize amendments to the Rota Casino Gaming
2 Act in accordance with the ruling in *Blanco-Maratita v. Borja*, and to provide for a limited time
3 for the Rota Municipal Council to confirm or reject the Rota Casino Gaming Commission
4 members.

5 **Section 2. Amendment.** 10 CMC § 12104 is amended to read:

6 “§ 12104. Amendment. This chapter may be ~~subject to "technical amendment"~~ amended
7 ~~as defined herein,~~ by the First Senatorial Delegation, acting pursuant to the Local Law Act of
8 1983 [1 CMC §§ 1401-1408], as that Local Law Act is presently constituted or hereafter
9 amended.”

10 **Section 3. Amendment.** 10 CMC § 12111 is amended to read:

11 “§ 12111. Establishment of Commission.

12 (a) The Rota Casino Gaming Commission is hereby established and shall consist of five
13 members appointed by the Mayor of Rota with the advice and consent of the Rota Municipal
14 Council. Each member shall serve a term of four years, except that of the members first
15 appointed, one shall serve a term of two years, two shall serve a term of three years, and two
16 shall serve a term of four years, as determined by lottery. Each member shall be a citizen or
17 national of the United States and shall be a bona fide resident of and eligible to vote on Rota.
18 The terms of all the members first appointed shall be from the first day of confirmation by the
19 confirming authority. Any vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment
20 and for the unexpired term thereof. A member may be reappointed to the Commission.

21 (b) No member of the Commission shall otherwise be an employee or official of the
22 Commonwealth, or of a municipality, agency, corporation, or other instrumentality or branch of

1 the Commonwealth, or of any agency of local government of the Commonwealth, except that a
2 member may serve without additional compensation on a task force or other temporary body the
3 work of which is related to the functioning of the Commission. No individual may serve as a
4 member of the Commission, if such individual, or a parent, child, or sibling of such individual,
5 holds or is an applicant for any license under this chapter or holds any direct or indirect financial
6 interest in any person that holds or is an applicant for any license under this chapter.

7 (c) The council, within 45 days from the date council receives the appointment letter
8 from the mayor, shall act by conducting a public hearing on the appointment and to notify the
9 mayor in writing that:

10 (1) It has confirmed an appointee; or

11 (2) It has rejected an appointee.

12 (3) If the appointment is not acted on within 45 days, the appointment is deemed
13 rejected and same appointee shall not be reappointed.

14 (e d) The Commission, as established by Commonwealth law and as subject to the
15 provisions of 10 CMC § 12113(b), shall not be considered an agency of local government for
16 purposes of Article VI, Section 8, of the Constitution.”

17 **Section 4. Severability.**

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

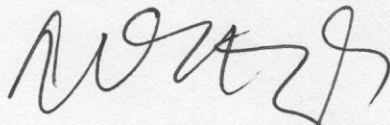
22 **Section 5. Savings Clause.**

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

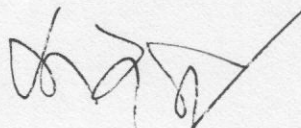
7 **Section 6. Effective Date.**

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

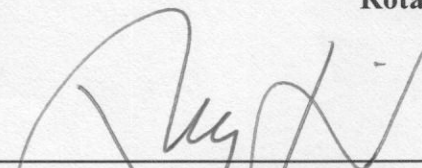
CERTIFIED BY:



 DONALD M. MANGLONA
 Co-Chairperson
 Rota Legislative Delegation

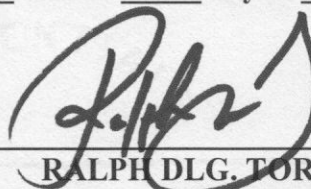


 TERESITA A. SANTOS
 Co-Chairperson
 Rota Legislative Delegation



 JUDE U. HOFSCHEIDER
 President of the Senate

Approved on this 1st day of March, 2022.



 RALPH DLG. TORRES
 Governor
 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands