



RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor

ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

01 JUL 2020

The Honorable Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-First Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

The Honorable Victor B. Hocog
Senate President, The Senate
Twenty-First Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Mr. Speaker and Mr. President:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law **House Bill No. 21-68, SD1**, entitled, "To amend 1 CMC section 1402 (a) to permit Senatorial Districts to create and regulate Community Improvement Districts or CIDs.," which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Twenty-First Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 21-30**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
Lieutenant Governor

cc: Governor; Press Secretary; Mayor of Saipan; Mayor of Tinian; Mayor of Rota; Law Revision Commission; Public Auditor; Special Assistant for Administration; Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review

Dokis
Recd 7/6/20 4:16 pm





*Twenty-First Legislature
of the
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIFTH SPECIAL SESSION

JULY 18, 2019

REPRESENTATIVE IVAN A. BLANCO of Saipan, Precinct 3 (*for himself*, Representatives Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Roman C. Benavente, Joel C. Camacho, Luis John DLG. Castro, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero, Jose I. Itibus, and John Paul P. Sablan,) in an open and public meeting with an opportunity for the public to comment, introduced the following Bill:

H. B. No. 21-68, SD1

AN ACT

TO AMEND 1 CMC SECTION 1402 (A) TO PERMIT SENATORIAL DISTRICTS TO CREATE AND REGULATE COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS OR CIDS.

The Bill was referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations, which submitted Standing Committee Report 21-35; adopted 10/15/2019.

**THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON
FIRST AND FINAL READING, OCTOBER 15, 2019;
without amendments and transmitted to the
THE SENATE.**

The Bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary, Government, Law and Federal Relations, which submitted Standing Committee Report 21-84; adopted 3/13/2020.

**THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE SENATE ON FIRST AND FINAL READING, MARCH 13, 2020;
with amendments in the form of H. B. No. 21-68, SD1.**

H. B. No. 21-68, SD1, WAS RETURNED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON APRIL 16, 2020.

The House of Representatives accepted the Senate amendments and passed H. B. No. 21-68, SD1, during its First Day, Second Special Session on May 21, 2020.

THE BILL WAS FINALLY PASSED ON MAY 21, 2020.


Linda B. Muña, House Clerk



*Twenty-First Legislature
of the
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIRST DAY, SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

MAY 21, 2020

H. B. No. 21-68, SD1

AN ACT

**TO AMEND 1 CMC SECTION 1402 (A) TO PERMIT SENATORIAL
DISTRICTS TO CREATE AND REGULATE COMMUNITY
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS OR CIDS.**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE TWENTY-FIRST NORTHERN
MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:**

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

2 The Legislature finds that certain tourism areas in Garapan and other tourist-frequented
3 areas in the Commonwealth should be better and more holistically managed to provide a better
4 overall cultural and commercial environment for present and future generations of locals and
5 tourists alike. In pursuing this policy, these specific areas, such as the tourist-frequented areas
6 in Garapan will be subject to rules and regulations in areas called Community Improvement
7 Districts or CIDs that will both enhance existing features and create new attractions that will
8 be traditional, commercially feasible, and aesthetically pleasing.

9 Title 1 Section 1402 (a) of the Commonwealth Code expressly lists subjects or matters
10 within which a senatorial district may enact local laws. Subsection (a) defines a local bill as a

HOUSE BILL 21-68, SD1

1 bill that “if enacted, becomes a law pertaining exclusively to matters within one senatorial
2 district”.

3 Because Article II, section 6 of the CNMI Constitution allows for a Senatorial District
4 to legislate within the district, the Legislature hereby deems it important to add to the list set
5 forth in 1 CMC section 1402 (a) to include the establishment and regulation of Community
6 Improvement Districts or CIDs.

7 Accordingly, this Act, is hereby enacted to allow all CNMI Senatorial Districts to enact
8 regulations and laws within their municipalities that are needed to establish these CIDs for the
9 purpose of creating a better overall business and tourist friendly experience.

10 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.**

11 Title 1, Division 1, Chapter 4, Enactment of Local Laws, section 1402 (a) Definitions
12 of the Commonwealth Code is hereby amended by adding the following new subsection (20)
13 that shall read as follows:

14 “(20) The establishment and regulation of Community Improvement Districts
15 or CIDs that enhance existing features or create new attractions within a district
16 established by local law or regulations. The purpose of establishing a CIDs is to
17 improve the community through infrastructure investment and creating conditions that
18 attract new growth. CIDs may include capital improvements, beautification,
19 community safety, business retention and economic development.

20 **SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY.**

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

25 **SECTION 4. SAVINGS CLAUSE.**

26 This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be construed as affecting any
27 existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes repealed or under any rule,
28 regulation, or order adopted under the statutes. Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect
29 any proceeding instituted under or pursuant to prior law. The enactment of the Act shall not

HOUSE BILL 21-68, SD1

1 have the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying, any liability, civil or criminal, which
2 shall already be in existence on the date this Act becomes effective.

3 **SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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

Attested to by:



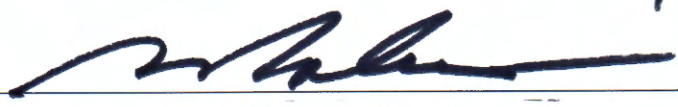
Linda B. Muña, House Clerk

Certified by:



SPEAKER BLAS JONATHAN "BJ" T. ATTAO
House of Representatives
21st Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

Approved this 1st day of July, 2020



ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
Lt. Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands