



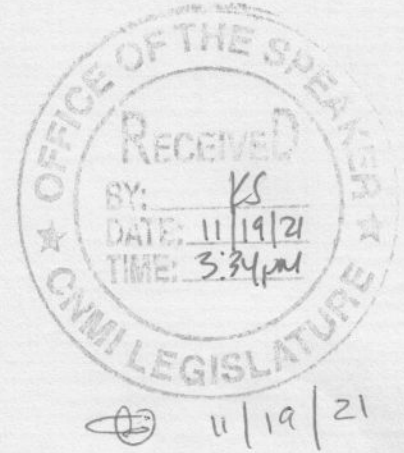
RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor

ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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

The Honorable Edmund S. Villagomez
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Second Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950



Dear Mr. President and Mr. Speaker:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law **Senate Bill No. 22-3, SD1**, entitled, "To amend 1 CMC § 2892(l) to exempt the Northern Marianas Technical Institute, as established by Public Law 20-92, from the oversight of the Office of Grants Management and State Clearinghouse; and for other purposes.," which was passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Second Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 22-13**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor

cc: Press Secretary; Chief of Staff; Senior Policy Advisor; Attorney General's Office; Northern Marianas Technical Institute; Office of Grants Management; Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation; Northern Marianas College; Northern Marianas Housing Corporation; Commonwealth Utilities Corporation; Commonwealth Ports Authority; Law Revision Commission; Public Auditor; Special Assistant for Administration; Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review

HOUSE CLERK'S OFC
RECEIVED BY *[Signature]*
DATE 11/22/21
TIME 3:16pm



THE SENATE
TWENTY-SECOND NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE BILL NO. 22-03, SD1

AN ACT

To amend 1 CMC § 2892(1) to exempt the Northern Marianas Technical Institute, as established by Public Law 20-92, from the oversight of the Office of Grants Management and State Clearinghouse; and for other purposes.

SENATE ACTION

Offered by Senator(s): Justo S. Quitugua

Date: January 26, 2021

Referred to: Judiciary, Government, Law & Federal Relations Committee

Standing Committee Report No.: 22-24 – Adopted 07/08/21

Final Reading: July 08, 2021

HOUSE ACTION

Referred to: Education Committee

Standing Committee Report No.: 22-27 Adopted on 10/01/21

First and Final Reading: October 01, 2021

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dolores S. Bermudes".

DOLORES S. BERMUDES
SENATE CLERK



THE SENATE
TWENTY-SECOND NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2021

S. B. NO. 22-03, SD1

AN ACT

To amend 1 CMC § 2892(l) to exempt the Northern Marianas Technical Institute, as established by Public Law 20-92, from the oversight of the Office of Grants Management and State Clearinghouse; and for other purposes.

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

1 **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature finds that one of the reasons
2 that the Northern Marianas Technical Institute (NMTI) was converted to a government
3 entity was to assist the institute in qualifying for additional federal aid programs, grants,
4 loans, contracts, contributions, advances, direct federal development, or other federal
5 funding. The Legislature further finds that NMTI was created as a public corporation and
6 therefore, granted certain autonomy including its financial affairs. In line with NMTI's
7 financial autonomy, it is imperative that NMTI be exempt from any other government
8 agency oversight with regard to its federal grants and funding including the Office of
9 Grants Management and State Clearinghouse. The Office of Grants Management and State
10 Clearinghouse was established primarily to oversee the federal grant programs within the
11 executive departments and line agencies not public corporations or autonomous agencies.
12 Accordingly, the purpose of this legislation is to exempt NMTI from the Office of Grants
13 Management and State Clearinghouse's oversight authority; provided that if NMTI avails
14 of the assistance of the Office of Grants Management and State Clearinghouse, NMTI may

1 be subject to the grant requirements of the Office of Grants Management and State
2 Clearinghouse.

3 **Section 2. Amendment.** 1 CMC § 2892(1) is amended to read as follows:

4 “(1) (1) With the exception of the CNMI Public School System, the Northern
5 Marianas College, Commonwealth Health Care Corporation (CHCC), Northern
6 Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
7 (CUC), Office of the Attorney General, Office of the Public Auditor, ~~and~~
8 Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA), and the Northern Marianas Technical
9 Institute, and notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, no
10 application for any federal aid programs, grants, loans, contracts, contributions,
11 advances, direct federal development, or other federal funding shall be submitted or
12 deemed approved on behalf of the government of the CNMI or any agency,
13 division, office, department or instrumentality thereof, or any public corporation,
14 without the final approval of the Administrator of the CNMI Office of Grants
15 Management and State Clearinghouse.

16 (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1)(1) above, the Northern Marianas
17 Technical Institute may seek the assistance of the CNMI OGM-SC; however, the
18 Northern Marianas Technical Institute may be subject to the grant requirements of
19 OGM-SC including sharing a percentage of the indirect costs in order to avail of
20 such assistance.”

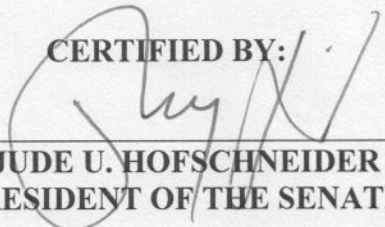
21 **Section 3. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or the application of any such
22 provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent
23 jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or
24 circumstances other than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

25 **Section 4. Savings Clause.** This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not
26 be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under
27 statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation, or order adopted under the statutes.
28 Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding instituted under or pursuant
29 to prior law. The enactment of the Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any

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

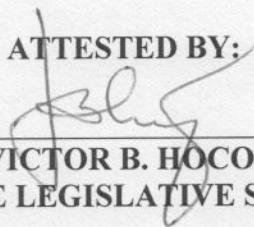
3 **Section 5. Effective Date.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the
4 Governor or becoming law without such approval.

CERTIFIED BY:



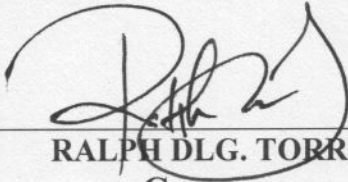
JUDE U. HOFSCHEIDER
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

ATTESTED BY:



VICTOR B. HOCOG
SENATE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY

Approved this 19th day of November, 2021



RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands