

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

To amend 10 CMC §§ 2521(a) and (g), as established by Tinian Local Law 21-09 to clarify a commissioner’s term in office and to change the compensation of the members of the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission; and for other purposes.

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

1 **Section 1. Findings.** The Tinian & Aguiguan Legislative Delegation finds that
2 there has been considerable confusion and debate regarding the commencement of the
3 term of office of a commissioner under previous local law. The Delegation finds that the
4 commencement of the term of office of a commission must be clarified to avoid further
5 confusion and to ensure that a commissioner serves the full six years.

6 The Delegation further finds that the local casino revenues has greatly diminished
7 since the closure of the Tinian Dynasty. Although there are other casino licensees, they
8 have not been able to build an operational casino facility at this time. As a result, the
9 Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission revenue collections have dwindled and
10 major cost cutting measures have been implemented to offset the loss of revenue. The
11 Delegation finds that more cost cutting measures such as the reduction of the salaries of
12 the commissioners and elimination of fringe benefits are necessary to keep the Tinian
13 Casino Gaming Control Commission open during these difficult economic times.

14 **Section 2. Amendment.** 10 CMC §§ 2521(a) and (g), as established by Tinian
15 Local Law 21-09, is hereby amended to read as follows:

16 “(a) There is hereby established a Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission
17 charged with the administration of this chapter. The Commission shall be composed of
18 members to be appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the Tinian

1 Municipal Council. The commissioners shall serve a term of six years except that upon
2 the first five appointments, two shall serve six-year terms, two shall serve five-year
3 terms, and one shall serve a four-year term, to be determined by drawing of lots by the
4 members after their confirmation. A person shall not serve more than one term as
5 commissioner. A commissioner's term shall commence on the day of his or her
6 confirmation by the Tinian Municipal Council. Upon the confirmation of a
7 commissioner, a contract shall be executed in favor of the confirmed commissioner that
8 reflects a six-year term in office.

9 (g) Commission members shall elect from among themselves a chairman and a
10 vice-chairman to serve a term of two years. The Chairman and the vice-chairman may be
11 reelected. Members shall, no later than 60 days after the Commission receives its first
12 application and application fee for a casino license, devote full time, without engaging in
13 any other employment, to the affairs of the Commission during their tenure. Each
14 member shall receive compensation of \$55,000 ~~not to exceed \$75,000~~ annually from a
15 budget adopted by the Commission for its operations and approved by the Tinian
16 Legislative Delegation through appropriation. No commissioner shall be given fringe
17 benefits. The Chairman shall receive \$5,000 per annum in addition to his compensation
18 as a member of the Commission if he receives the minimum salary specified herein. All
19 members of the Commission shall have paid or be entitled to reimbursement for their
20 expenses actually and necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties, including
21 expenses of travel outside the Municipality of Tinian. The members of the Commission
22 are not employees of the Commission or the Commonwealth government."

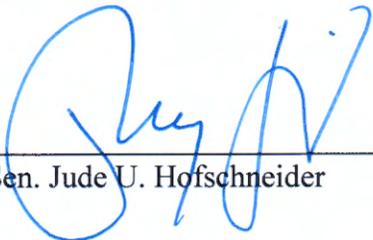
23 **Section 3. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or the application of any
24 such provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of
25 competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to
26 persons or circumstances other than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

28 **Section 4. Savings Clause.** This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not
29 be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under

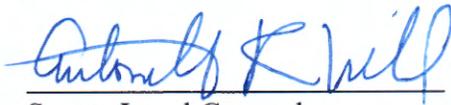
1 statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation, or order adopted under the statutes.
2 Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding instituted under or
3 pursuant to prior law. The enactment of the Act shall not have the effect of terminating,
4 or in any way modifying, any liability,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

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

Date: 7/14/2020

Introduced By: 
Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:


Senate Legal Counsel