



The Senate
NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500129
SAIPAN, MP 96950

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 24-12
Date: May 6, 2025
RE: Senate Bill No. 24-28

Honorable Dennis James C. Mendiola
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Mr. President:

Your Committee on Judiciary, Government, and Law to which Senate Bill No. 24-28 was referred, entitled:

“To amend 6 CMC 3113; to establish disorderly conduct and public intoxication crimes; and for other purposes.”

begs leave to report as follows:

I. RECOMMENDATION:

After considerable discussion and deliberation, your Committee recommends the passage of the proposed legislation in the form of Senate Bill No. 24-28, Senate Draft 1.

II. ANALYSIS:

A. Purpose:

The purpose of Senate Bill No. 24-28 is to amend loitering provisions under 6 CMC § 3113 and to establish a new statutory provision for disorderly conduct and public intoxication crimes in the Commonwealth.

B. Committee Findings:

Your Committee finds that tourism is the primary industry in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and efforts are underway to promote these islands as a leading destination in the region. Alongside the enhancement of tourist and historical sites, it is crucial to enhance our laws to protect the safety, welfare, and health of both visitors and residents. This includes prohibiting disorderly conduct by individuals at public areas, designated historical and tourist locations, and near business establishments.

Your Committee met on May 6, 2025 to review the proposed legislation and comments officially received by the Committee. During the deliberation it was expressed by the author, Senator Corina L. Magofna, that the intent of the legislation is to provide a sense of safety and trust in the community and not to put further hardship on family members. In line with this, your Committee agreed to amend the proposed legislation, specific to the penalty provision for disorderly conduct and public intoxication to align the capabilities of individuals known to engage in such behavior. While your Committee acknowledges the necessity to impose stronger penalties with substantial fees, your Committee also understands that many individuals who commit these offenses lack financial resources to pay high fines. It is not the intent of the Committee to further burden families who are already facing financial challenges due to the actions of a member of the family.

It is for these reasons that your Committee supports the intent of the proposed legislation, as amended, and recommends its passage in the form of Senate Bill No. 24-28, Senate Draft 1.

C. Legislative History:

Senate Bill No. 24-28 was formally introduced by Senator Corina L. Magofna on March 6, 2025, and was subsequently referred to the Senate Standing Committee on Judiciary, Government, and Law for disposition.

During the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, a similar legislation, Senate Bill No. 23-53 was formally introduced by Senator Corina L. Magofna on November 22, 2023, and was subsequently referred to the Senate Standing Committee on Judiciary, Government, and Law for disposition. On January 3, 2025, the Senate convened its 8th Day, Fourth Regular Session, and a motion was made and seconded to file all remaining bills, resolutions, reports, and other assignments given to committees that require Senate action. Accordingly, Senate Bill No. 23-53 was filed, and the Senate of the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature adjourned *sine die*.

D. Public Hearing and Comment:

1. Public Hearing. No public hearing was scheduled for Senate Bill No. 24-28. However, a committee meeting, which is open to the public, was held on May 6, 2025. See below for further details.

2. Committee Meeting. The proposed legislation made its first appearance during the scheduled committee meeting on Tuesday, May 6, 2025. The committee meeting notices and agenda were officially posted on May 1, 2025, on various legislative forums and social media sites to invite members of the general public to provide comments as indicated under *Item No. IV. Public Comment* on the Committee Agenda. Oral testimonies in support of Senate Bill No. 24-28 were stated by the following:

- a. Vin Armani, President, Trade Council of the Marianas
- b. Carmen Cabrera-Pangelinan, Member, 18th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council
- c. Steve Jang, personal testimony
- d. Anthony C. Torres, Commissioner, Department of Corrections

No oral testimony in opposition of Senate Bill No. 24-28 were stated before the Committee.

3. Written Comment. Your Committee sent out several requests for comments on the proposed legislation. To date, the status of comments received from the following government and private entities is as follows:

- a. Office of the Attorney General, *no comment received*
- b. Mayor of the Municipality of Rota, *no comment received*
- c. Mayor of the Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan, *no comment received*
- d. Mayor of the Municipality of Saipan, *no comment received*
- e. Mayor of the Northern Islands, *no comment received*
- f. Rota Municipal Council, *no comment received*
- g. Tinian Municipal Council, *no comment received*
- h. *Carmen Cabrera Pangelinan, Member, Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council, received May 6, 2025*
- i. Office of the Public Defender, *no comment received*
- j. *Anthony I. Macaranas, Commissioner, Department of Public Safety, received March 14, 2025*
- k. *Anthony C. Torres, Commissioner, Department of Corrections, received March 25, 2025*
- l. *Derek T. Sasamoto, Executive Director, Commonwealth Economic Development Authority, received May 5, 2025*
- m. *Jodina Attao, Chief Executive Officer, Northern Marianas Technical Institute, received May 5, 2025*
- n. *Christian Wei, Ph. D., President, Eucon International University and Eucon International School, received May 7, 2025*

E. Estimated Fiscal Cost:

The enactment of Senate Bill No. 24-28, as amended, will incur additional expenses for the Commonwealth government for related costs of training and enforcement of this Act. However, the intent of safeguarding the community and visitors surpasses any associated costs.

F. Summary of Committee Amendments:

1. Title. Amended for proper citation of statutory provision, to read:

“To amend 6 CMC § 3113; to establish disorderly conduct and public intoxication crimes; and for other purposes.”

2. Section 2. Findings and Purpose. Several technical amendments were made throughout the findings and purposes, to include amended the statutory provision for proper citation on page 2, line 3.

3. Section 4. Amendment. Amended the penalty provision under the new section being proposed, 6 CMC § 3119 (f), for the prohibition of disorderly conduct and public intoxication, beginning on page 4, lines 10-19, to read:

“(f) Penalties.

(1) A person convicted of disorderly conduct under this section may be punished by fine of not ~~more than \$500~~ less than \$250 and ~~by imprisonment of not more than 30~~ 100 days of community service.

(2) A second ~~or subsequent~~ violation of any provision of this section is punishable by a fine of not ~~more than \$2,000~~ less than \$500 and ~~by imprisonment of not more than one year~~ 200 hours of community service.

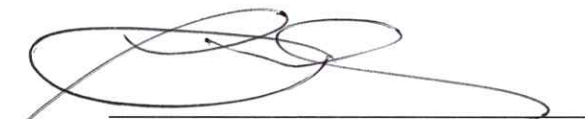
(3) A third or subsequent violation of any provision of this section is punishable by being banned from the premises for one year, or fined not more than \$5,000, or by imprisonment for 30 days.”

4. Technical amendments were made throughout the proposed legislation.

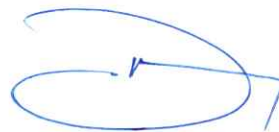
III. CONCLUSION:

Your Committee agrees with the intent and purpose of the proposed legislation, as amended, and recommends its passage in the form of Senate Bill No. 24-28, Senate Draft 1.


Respectfully submitted,




Senator Karl R. King-Nabors
Chairperson



Senator Francisco Q. Cruz
Vice Chairperson



Senator Ronnie M. Calvo
Member



Senator Manny Gregory T. Castro
Member



Senator Corina L. Magofna
Member



Senator Donald M. Manglona
Member

Reviewed by:



Senate Legal Counsel

Attachments:

- 1. Carmen Cabrera Pangelinan, Member, Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council, received May 6, 2025*
- 2. Anthony I. Macaranas, Commissioner, Department of Public Safety, received March 14, 2025*
- 3. Anthony C. Torres, Commissioner, Department of Corrections, received March 25, 2025*
- 4. Derek T. Sasamoto, Executive Director, Commonwealth Economic Development Authority, received May 5, 2025*
- 5. Jodina Attao, Chief Executive Officer, Northern Marianas Technical Institute, received May 5, 2025*
- 6. Christian Wei, Ph. D., President, Eucon International University and Eucon International School, received May 7, 2025*

May 6, 2025



Good Morning Members of the Senate and the House

My name is Carmen Cabrera Pangelinan and a member of the 18th CNMI and NI Municipal Council and I'm here to show support SB 24-28.

First of all, I agree with this! Tourist and any other resident need to feel safe while enjoying the premier tourist sites. People enjoy peace and tranquility at these sites and it's nice to have a peace of mind knowing that we are safe to close our eyes, meditate and breathe while enjoying these sites with personal space in mind.

Second, I would suggest raising the penalty fines to a ridiculous amount. A larger fine will discourage people to break the law. Following this law should apply to both locals and tourist. Meaning both will get penalized if any of them break the law at these tourist premier sites.

Lastly, concern about who will upkeep the enforcement at these premier tourist sites with considering the funds that will cover enforcement departments. We need to always keep people in check to ensure they don't cause a scene and break the law. We all see how enforcement just lacks everywhere.

Thank you !



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

2794 Tekken St. Susupe | Jose M. Sablan Building
P.O. Box 500791 Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 664-9000 / 9001, Front Desk



Arnold I. Palacios
Governor

David M. Apatang
Lieutenant Governor

Anthony I. Macaranas
Commissioner



March 12, 2025

Karl R. King-Nabors

Chairman

Senate Standing Committee on Judiciary, Government and Law

24th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building

Capitol Hill, Saipan MP, 96950

Ref: S.B. 24-28.

Chairman King-Nabors,

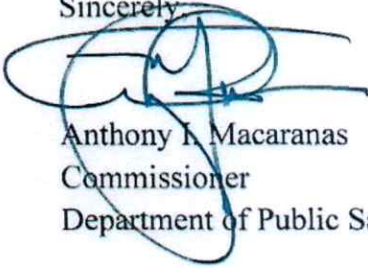
To give more context on the proposed disorderly conduct law from the enforcement side, the proposed law provides numerous advantages for our police officer to maintain public order, protect public safety, and provides clearer guidelines for responding to incidents to where there may be no actual victims. These laws serve as a deterrent to individuals who might otherwise engage in disruptive or threatening behavior. The proposed law also enhances officer safety, the safety of the offender, and the whole community.

Upon review of §3119, disorderly conduct can include fighting or physical altercations, and unreasonable noise. When individuals are drunk or under the influence of drugs in public, they can cause a disturbance, and similarly, engage in a physical fight or altercation in a public place that can put others at risk. There are also incidents where abusive or obscene language, and making threats or harassing others take place, which creates a hazardous environment.

There are also scenes, where persons refuse to disperse when ordered to do so by police officers during riots, protests, or other gatherings where individuals are instructed to leave the area but refuse to do so. Additionally, DPS recognizes the need to address urinating or defecating in public as this is a health hazard. We respectfully request that within §3119, language be included to specifically define these concerns, making it more efficient and effective for enforcement.

DPS is very much in support of this Senate Bill. Thank you and to the members of the Senate Standing Committee on Judiciary and Government, and Law, for giving us the opportunity on the inclusion of our comments, recommendations and concerns.

Sincerely,



Anthony I. Macaranas
Commissioner
Department of Public Safety



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Office of the Commissioner

Saipan, MP 96950

March 25, 2025

Honorable Vice President Karl R. King-Nabors
Chairman, Senate Standing Committee on Judiciary, Government, and Law
Senate
24th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature
P.O. Box 500129
Saipan, MP 96950



Subject: S.B. No. 24-28

Dear Chairman Karl R. King-Nabors,

I wholeheartedly support S.B. No.24-28, which seeks to establish clear definitions and penalties for disorderly conduct and public intoxication. This legislation is an essential step toward enhancing public safety and ensuring a welcoming atmosphere in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. By explicitly prohibiting disorderly behaviors, including loitering, public intoxication, and other unsightly or undesirable actions, we can significantly improve our image as a premier destination for both residents and visitors.

The negative impact of disorderly conduct on our communities cannot be overstated. Unwanted behaviors displayed by individuals in public spaces can create an uncomfortable and unsafe environment, deterring tourists and harming local businesses. When visitors encounter instances of public intoxication, aggressive behavior, or disturbances near business establishments, it tarnishes their experience and perception of the CNMI. Conversely, by instituting penalties for such conduct, we send a strong message that we are committed to maintaining a safe, respectful, and enjoyable atmosphere for everyone. Moreover, this bill not only seeks to penalize unwanted behaviors, but also fosters a sense of responsibility among individuals in our community. By addressing these issues head-on, we can reclaim our public spaces and ensure they reflect the beauty and hospitality that the CNMI is known for. A cleaner, safer environment will undoubtedly enhance our reputation, encouraging repeat visits and attracting new tourists who will contribute positively to our economy.

S.B. No. 24-28 is necessary for the CNMI to solidify its standing as a premier destination. By prohibiting disorderly conduct and ensuring public safety, we enhance both the quality of life for residents and the experience for visitors. I strongly urge my fellow legislators to support this critically important legislation. Together, we can create a more inviting and secure environment that uplifts our community and showcases the best of what the CNMI has to offer.

Sincerely,


Anthony C. Torres
Commissioner



May 5, 2025

The Honorable Corina L. Magofna
Chairwoman, Committee on Resources, Economic
Development and Workforce
The Senate
24th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature
Capitol Hill
Saipan, MP 96950

Re: Senate Bill No. 24-28

Dear Chairwoman Magofna:

Thank you for providing Senate Bill 24-28, the Disorderly Conduct and Public Intoxication Act of 2025. The Commonwealth Economic Development Authority (CEDA) supports the intent and implementation of this bill.

As you are aware, CEDA and The Marianas, as a whole, are developing plans and initiatives to stimulate and revive our economy. This involves collaboration amongst the various agencies in The Marianas that are involved in economic development such as the Department of Commerce, Department of Public Lands, the Department of Finance, the Marianas Visitors Authority, etc.

CEDA will be marketing The Marianas aggressively and intentionally highlighting various advantages to invest in The Marianas including its beauty and safety, especially when compared to competitor markets. As such, we will need to deliver on these advantages and statements when investors arrive in The Marianas.

This bill is aligned with these efforts given its intent is to ensure business and tourist sites are free from undesirable behaviors from any individual. This will only lead to beneficial effects in our tourist and business districts. Tourists will have confidence in the safety of The Marianas. They will have confidence in the Leaders and Government of The Marianas. Such tourists will provide word-of-mouth advertising that The Marianas is truly safe, and that it delivers what it says it will. The efforts we are making will not be as effective if tourists and visitors are discouraged from patronizing certain areas due to perceptions of safety and disorderly behaviors. The Marianas is a beautiful place and we must preserve



Comments on S.B. 24-28

May 5, 2025

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this condition for our residents and visitors alike. CEDA commends you for introducing not only a business and tourist friendly bill, but also a bill that will benefit our community as a whole. Thank you for your efforts that support economic development initiatives in The Marianas.

Respectfully,



Derek T. Sasamoto
Executive Director

xc: Senate President
Members, Senate Committee on REDW
CEDA Board of Directors
CEDA Executive Assistant

May 5, 2025

Senator Karl King-Nabors
24th CNMI Legislature

Subject: *Comments on Senate Bill No. 24-28*

Hafa Adai yan Tirow, Senator Nabors:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on Senate Bill No. 24-28, which addresses the critical issue of disorderly conduct and public intoxication across the Commonwealth.

We commend the 24th CNMI Legislature for recognizing the broad and harmful impacts of such behavior - not only on public order and safety, but also on the economic vitality of local businesses and CNMI's reputation as a safe, family-friendly destination. As outlined in the bill, disorderly conduct and public intoxication can intimidate customers, deter foot traffic, and erode the welcoming atmosphere that businesses work hard to cultivate.

The following are some creative ideas to support the intent of the Bill:

1. ***Establish Safe Hospitality Zones***

Designate areas—particularly in high-traffic visitor and business districts—as “Safe Hospitality Zones” with increased monitoring, public safety ambassadors, and rapid-response protocols. These zones could be supported through public-private partnerships that help fund safety enhancements such as improved lighting, emergency communication systems, and visible security presence during peak hours.

2. ***Launch a “Respect the Islands” Campaign***

Inspired by successful initiatives in places like Hawaii and New Zealand, this campaign would promote local values, cultural respect, and public behavior expectations for both residents and tourists. Involving youth, community clubs, and cultural groups could increase engagement and visibility while reinforcing pride in keeping the CNMI clean, safe, and welcoming.

3. ***Implement Diversion Programs for Offenders***

Introduce court-mandated community service or behavioral health interventions for first-time offenders in lieu of fines or incarceration. Examples include participating in clean up efforts at public sites, attending alcohol abuse counseling, or completing workshops on responsible behavior in public spaces – offering a rehabilitative and restorative approach.

4. ***Empower Local Businesses***

Support businesses with tools to deter disruptive conduct and report incidents effectively. This may include a standardized “Code of Conduct” signage, QR codes linked to reporting hotlines, and training for staff on de-escalation techniques. Creative incentives, like offering a complimentary hot plate off the menu at a restaurant or drinks from a store in exchange for filled trash buckets, may engage the public in promoting a safer, cleaner CNMI.

5. ***Utilize Data to Guide Policy***



Encourage our local enforcement agencies to collect and share anonymized data on incidents of disorderly conduct and intoxication. This data can be used to assess trends, inform policy refinement, and allocate resources more efficiently while providing transparency to both the public and stakeholders.

As stewards of this community where we live, work, and raise our families, we fully support the goals of Senate Bill No. 24-28. By combining strong enforcement with community education, public engagement, and compassionate rehabilitation efforts, we believe the CNMI can preserve its image as a premier destination and a place all can enjoy safely and responsibly.

Respectfully,



Jodina Attao
Chief Executive Officer
Northern Marianas Technical Institute

Christian Wei, Ph.D.
President, Eucon International University and
Eucon International School



A Call to Protect Our Islands: In Support of Senate Bill No. 24-28
Preserving the Dignity of Our Home for Future Generations

Dear People of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,

We love our islands. Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are more than dots on a map—they are our home, our heritage, our hope. With pristine beaches, deep cultural roots, warm families, and a peaceful lifestyle, we are proud to call this paradise our own. But lately, we've seen things that grieve our hearts. Open indecency, public solicitation, provocative imagery, and the commercial exploitation of sex in places that should be safe and sacred—our parks, beaches, and villages—are tarnishing the image and soul of our islands.

We cannot stay silent. Now is the time to stand and support Senate Bill No. 24-28.

1. A Voice for the Majority

This bill echoes the cry of the people. Parents, elders, teachers, and community leaders across CNMI are deeply concerned. They see what is happening in plain sight: men and women advertising sex at public bus stops; tourists taking sexually explicit photos on sacred cultural grounds; flyers or QR codes promising escort services; indecent clothing used as bait for commercial activity. Is this the future we want for our children?

This bill is not about hate. It's about hope. It's not about judgment. It's about justice—for our children, for our visitors, and for our identity.

2. Preserving Our Cultural Values and Dignity

We are a people of respect. Chamorro and Carolinian cultures uphold dignity, modesty, and communal responsibility. We value honor, not humiliation. We value purity, not profit off of immorality. Public acts that mock these values are not "freedom"—they are offenses to our way of life.

Senate Bill No. 24-28 draws a line in the sand, declaring that the Commonwealth is not for sale to indecency.

3. Protecting Our Tourism with Integrity

Tourism is vital to our economy, but what kind of tourism do we want? Do we want to become a destination known for sex trade and shame? Or a sanctuary of beauty, culture, and family-friendly travel?

This bill does not scare away tourists—it safeguards the kind of tourists we want. Those who respect our islands, cherish our values and help build a positive reputation around the world.

4. Balanced, Clear, and Just Lawmaking

TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2025

S.B. NO. 24-28, SD1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

To amend 6 CMC § 3113; to establish disorderly conduct and public intoxication crimes; and for other purposes.

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

1 **Section 1. Short Title.** This Act may be cited as the “Disorderly Conduct and
2 Public Intoxication Act of 2025”.

3 **Section 2. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature finds that the Marianas
4 Visitors Authority is striving to promote the Marianas that is a “Premier Destination” for
5 visitors. In addition to maintaining and sprucing up our islands and tourist and historical
6 sites, the Legislature finds that laws must be in place to protect the health, safety, and
7 welfare of our visitors as well as the general public. It is necessary to improve the CNMI’s
8 “Premier Destination and Image” by prohibiting disorderly conduct including loitering,
9 public intoxication and unsightly, unwanted, undesirable, unwelcoming and even
10 dangerous (etc., etc.) behaviors displayed or acted on by individuals who intrude or impose
11 unwanted conduct or actions against our community members or residents as well as our
12 tourists and visitors at public places near business establishments and tourist sites and
13 historical sites identified and recognized by the Marianas Visitors Authority.

14 The Legislature further finds that disorderly conduct and public intoxication
15 negatively impact businesses because the violator may harass and/or intimidate patrons or
16 potential customers, which will most likely cause the patrons to leave or discourage them
17 from entering the establishment. Consequently, this disorderly conduct harms businesses
18 and causes them to lose customers and revenue. In addition to businesses, disorderly
19 conduct and public intoxication at public places like the tourist sites and historical sites
20 harm the CNMI’s reputation as a safe and friendly “Premier Destination” for all visitors.

1 The Legislature must do its part in supporting the Marianas Visitors Authority's efforts in
2 promoting the CNMI as a safe, clean, and world-class destination. Accordingly, the
3 purpose of this legislation is to amend 6 CMC § 3113 and to establish disorderly conduct
4 and public intoxication crimes.

5 **Section 3. Amendment.** 6 CMC § 3113 is amended to read as follows:

6 **“§ 3113. Loitering Outside a Business Establishment on a Public Thoroughfare**
7 **or Tourist Site is for the Purpose of Luring, Enticing, or Soliciting Persons for**
8 **Commercial Gain is Hereby Prohibited.**

9 (a) A person commits loitering if the person is found on a public thoroughfare or
10 tourist site engaged in the following conduct:

11 (1) Attempting ~~more than one time~~ to stop or detain a person by shouting,
12 loudly calling, or beckoning to a person to lure, entice, or solicit a person for
13 commercial gain, whether for legal or illegal purposes; or

14 (2) Attempting to stop or detain a person by physically touching or grabbing
15 a person for the purpose of handing out fliers or handbills regarding a commercial
16 enterprise for a fee or to lure, entice, or solicit a person for commercial gain,
17 whether for legal or illegal purposes.

18 (3) Following or attempting to follow a person for the purpose of handing
19 out fliers or handbills regarding a commercial enterprise for a fee or to lure, entice,
20 or solicit a person for commercial gain, whether for legal or illegal purposes.

21 (b) ~~Public thoroughfare~~ For the purposes of this section:

22 (1) “Public thoroughfare” shall mean any sidewalk, square, mall, parking
23 lot, street, or beach area.

24 (2) “Tourist site” means any tourist site or historic site in the CNMI that is
25 identified or recognized by the Marianas Visitors Authority.

26 (c) Penalties.

27 (1) A person convicted of loitering under this section is punishable ~~may be~~
28 ~~punished~~ by fine of not more than \$500 ~~\$1000~~ and by imprisonment of not more
29 than 30 days.

1 (2) A second or subsequent conviction under this section is punishable by
2 a fine of not more than \$1000 and by imprisonment of not more than one year.”

3 **Section 4. Amendment.** Title 6, Division 3, Chapter 1, Article 1 of the
4 Commonwealth Code is hereby amended by adding a new section 3119 to read as follows:

5 **“§ 3119. Disorderly Conduct & Public Intoxication Prohibited.**

6 A person who commits any of the following acts is guilty of disorderly conduct, a
7 misdemeanor:

8 (a) A person who solicits anyone to engage in or who engages in lewd or dissolute
9 conduct in any public place or in any place open to the public or exposed to public view.

10 (b) A person who loiters in or about any toilet at a public place for the purpose of
11 engaging in or soliciting any lewd or lascivious or any unlawful act.

12 (c) A person who lodges in any public building, structure, vehicle, or place, whether
13 public or private, without the permission of the owner or person entitled to the possession
14 or in control of it.

15 (d) Public Intoxication.

16 (1) If a person is found in any public place under the influence of
17 intoxicating liquor, any drug, controlled substance, or toluene or any combination
18 of any intoxicating liquor, drug, controlled substance, or toluene in a condition such
19 that the person is unable to exercise care for his or her own safety or endangers the
20 safety of others or property, or

21 (2) If a person is found in a public place and by reason of being under the
22 influence of intoxicating liquor, any drug, controlled substance, or toluene or any
23 combination of any intoxicating liquor, drug, or toluene, interferes with or obstructs
24 or prevents the free use of any street, sidewalk, parking lot or other public way.

25 (e) For the purposes of this section:

26 (1) “Lewd conduct or acts” means acts that take place to arouse or gratify a
27 person or someone else’s sexual desires including touching, fondling and
28 masturbating.

1 (2) "Loiter" means to delay or linger without a lawful purpose for being at
2 the public place and for the purpose of committing a crime as opportunity may be
3 discovered.

4 (3) "Public" or public places" means any sidewalk, square, mall, parking
5 lot, street, or beach area located at the central business district in Garapan, Saipan,
6 especially near and around hotel and motel establishments, and all tourist sites
7 located in the CNMI.

8 (4) "Tourist sites" means tourist sites and historic sites in the CNMI that are
9 identified or recognized by the Marianas Visitors Authority.

10 (f) Penalties.

11 (1) A person convicted of disorderly conduct under this section may be
12 punished by fine of not ~~more than \$500~~ less than \$250 and ~~by imprisonment of not~~
13 ~~more than 30~~ 100 days of community service.

14 (2) A second ~~or subsequent~~ violation of any provision of this section is
15 punishable by a fine of not ~~more than \$2,000~~ less than \$500 and ~~by imprisonment~~
16 ~~of not more than one year~~ 200 hours of community service.

17 (3) A third or subsequent violation of any provision of this section is
18 punishable by being banned from the premises for one year, or fined not more than
19 \$5,000, or by imprisonment for 30 days."

20 **Section 5. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or the application of any such
21 provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent
22 jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or
23 circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

24 **Section 6. Savings Clause.** This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not
25 be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under
26 statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation, or order adopted under the statutes.
27 Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding instituted under or pursuant
28 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 7. Effective Date.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the
4 Governor or becoming law without such approval.

Date: 03/06/25

Introduced By: /s/
Sen. Corina L. Magofna

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:

/s/ Antonette R. Villagomez
Senate Legal Counsel

Some may fear this bill will limit personal freedom. But read carefully: the law targets public conduct for *commercial or promotional purposes*. It does not punish personal choices made in private. It does not criminalize fashion or art. It criminalizes open sexual solicitation, commercial promotion of immoral conduct, and the abuse of public space.

The language of the bill is clear. The penalties are fair. The intention is noble.

5. A Bill Born from Leadership and Love

This bill is not political theater. It is a public service. The senators behind this legislation have listened to the heartbeat of the people. They understand that true leadership means doing the hard things—not the easy things. They are drawing a moral boundary—not to control us, but to protect us.

They are declaring, “We will not stand by while our islands are defiled. We will act.”

Will We Be Silent—or Will We Stand?

Now we face a choice:

Will we stay silent while our islands lose their innocence and identity?

Or will we rise and say: “Enough. This is not who we are.”

Let us support Senate Bill No. 24-28—not as a restriction, but as a restoration.

A restoration of respect. A restoration of our values.

A restoration of hope for the generations to come.

For our children.

For our culture.

For our future.

Let us stand.