



TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

P.O. BOX 500586 SAIPAN, MP 96950

**JOHN PAUL P. SABLAN**  
CHAIRMAN

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 24-36  
DATE: September 12, 2025  
RE: House Bill No. 24-51

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

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Ways and Means to which was referred:

**House Bill No. 24-51:** To establish revolving accounts for the Department of Lands & Natural Resources; and for other purposes.

begs leave to report as follows:

### **I. RECOMMENDATION:**

After considerable discussion, your Committee recommends that House Bill No. 24-51 be passed by the House in the form of House Draft 1 (HD1).

### **II. ANALYSIS:**

#### **A. Purpose:**

The purpose of this Act is to establish revolving accounts for the Department of Lands & Natural Resources' Division of Land Registration & Survey and for public cemetery funds, allowing the collection and use of fees and penalties to support their operations, personnel, and maintenance, with the Secretary of DLNR serving as the expenditure authority for these funds.

HD CLERK'S OFFICE  
RECEIVED BY   
DATE 9/22/2025 TIME 8:14AM

B. Committee Amendments:

The Committee made the following amendments to strengthen the intent of this Act.

1. Page 3, Lines 1-2. Section 2682 (a) was amended to read as follows:

“(a) The Secretary of Finance shall establish a special account called the ~~There is hereby created the~~ “Division of Land Registration & Survey (DLRS) Revolving Account” where all funds collected pursuant to the fees and/or penalties promulgated by regulation under the Division of Land Registration & Survey (DLRS) shall be deposited. Monies deposited into this revolving fund shall be used to fund utilities, equipment, operations and/or personnel in DLRS.”

2. Page 3, Lines 15-19. Section 2616 (a) was amended to read as follows:

“(a) The Secretary of Finance shall establish a special account called the “Marpi Public Cemetery Fund Account” for the fees collected pursuant to this chapter. ~~The funds in this account shall be reserved and appropriated solely for the administration, maintenance, supervision and security of public cemeteries. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, monies in the Marpi Public Cemetery Fund Account shall be expended solely for the administration, maintenance, supervision security, and capital improvements of the Marpi Public Cemetery established under 3 CMC § 2622.~~”

C. Committee Findings:

Your Committee finds that the Division of Land Registration & Survey (DLRS) plays a crucial role in surveying, documenting, and managing land records for the public. While providing these essential services, DLRS currently does not generate revenue through fees or penalties. Establishing the “Division of Land Registration & Survey (DLRS) Revolving Account” will allow all fees and penalties collected pursuant to regulation to be deposited into this fund. Monies in this account shall be utilized to support utilities, equipment, operations, and personnel for DLRS, thereby creating a sustainable funding mechanism that reduces reliance on general appropriations and enhances the department’s capacity to maintain and improve its services effectively.

Additionally, the Committee finds that the Department of Lands & Natural Resources has broad oversight over all public cemeteries, including their maintenance, security, and ongoing improvements. Recent land transfers, such as the transfer of land in Marpi for cemetery purposes, highlight the necessity of a dedicated funding source to ensure proper management. To address this, the Committee supports establishing the “Marpi Public Cemetery Fund Account,” a special account into which fees collected pursuant to the chapter will be deposited. Notwithstanding any other law, monies in this account shall be expended solely for the administration, maintenance, supervision, security, and capital improvements of the Marpi

Public Cemetery established under 3 CMC § 2622. The Secretary of the Department of Lands & Natural Resources, in consultation with the Director of the Division of Parks and Recreation, will serve as the expenditure authority. This dedicated fund will ensure resources are specifically allocated to support cemetery management and improvements, promoting the sustainable management and security of public cemeteries. After thorough consideration and discussion, your Committee recommends that House Bill No. 24-51, as amended and reflected in HD1, be passed by the House to establish these essential funding mechanisms and support the ongoing work of the Department of Lands & Natural Resources.

D. Public Comments/Public Hearing:

On August 20, 2025, the Committee received comments from the following:

- Michael Cruz, Director of Division of Parks and Recreation, Department of Lands and Natural Resources - Written comment:

“This letter is to support HB 24-51, to establish revolving accounts for the Department of Lands and natural Resources; and for other purposes for interment fees for Marpi Public Cemetery... We appreciate your understanding and continued support as we work to enhance our cemetery and provide a fitting tribute to those who are resting at the Marpi Public Cemetery.”

- Joaquin B. Songsong, Director of Division of Land Registration & Survey, Department of Land and Natural Resources - Written comment:

“To establish revolving accounts for the Department of Lands and Natural Resources (DLNR) - specifically for the Division of Land Registration and Survey (DLRS) - in order to support operational sustainability, fund digitization projects, improve service delivery, and preserve critical land records and other operation.

We hope this letter receives your favorable consideration and approval. Your support for DLNR-DLRS will contribute significantly to the preservation and responsible management of our island’s land data and history.”

On August 28, 2025, the Committee received comments from the following:

- Sylvan O. Igisomar, Secretary of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources - Written comment:

“We appreciate this opportunity to provide our comment on the proposed legislation and we hope for its favorable passage in the near future.”

On September 12, 2025, the Committee received oral comments from the following:

- Cameron Elias Sablan Nicholas, Special Advisor to the Secretary, Department of Lands and Natural Resources - Oral comment:

“Good afternoon, Chairman Sablan, and honorable members of the House Standing Committee on Way and Means. My name is Cameron Nicholas, I’m the Special Advisor to the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources. I’m here today to express my support for House Bill 24-51, it’s to establish revolving accounts under the Department of Lands and Natural Resources. You know, the department could really use these funds, you know especially with the public cemetery. You know there’s a lot that comes, there’s a lot of costs that’s associated with it, so, this account would really help the division, and the, even for the Division of Land Registration and Survey. You know these, this division does not have any revolving funds, you know they’re heavily reliant on the general funds. So, this bill would help them establish a revolving account. So, we would really, really, you know, like for this committee to support this legislation. Thank you.”

- Natasha Tomokane, Invasive Species Coordinator, Department of Lands and Natural Resources - Oral comment:

“Hafa Adai, Tirow. My name is Natasha Tomokane, currently the Invasive Species Coordinator under DLNR, but working in partnership with the Division of Parks and Recreation. So on behalf of DLNR, I express strong support for the passage of this bill. The establishment of this revolving account will provide sustainable funding, to ensure that our public cemetery, an essential place of dignity, remembrance, and cultural significance, receives the care and maintenance it deserves. Thank you so much.”

- Rosemary Camacho, Acting Director, Division of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Lands and Natural Resources - Oral comment:

“Good afternoon Honorable Chair, and esteemed members of this committee. My name is Rosemary Camacho, and I am currently the Acting Director for the Division of Fish and Wildlife. I’m here today to offer support for House Bill 24-51, which is critical to allow the Department of Lands and Natural Resources to receive necessary funding support to execute objectives they are charged with carrying out. Such as, the management of the Marpi Public Cemetery, and for the Division of Lands Registration & Survey to provide essential public services to our community regarding land boundaries. Thank you for your time and your effort considering this bill, and for allowing me to lend my support.”

- Michael Cruz, Director of Division of Parks and Recreation, Department of Lands and Natural Resources - Oral comment:

“Good afternoon Chairman, and this ways and mean body. I am in full, full support of the 24-51, to establish a revolving account regarding the Marpi Cemetery. As you all know, this was a un-funded mandate and it, the cost to just maintain that area, it’s really costly, and we don’t even have a funding to help us out. But, it’s gonna be minimal, so we can, we’re it been, it’s been open. We’re just asking for your assistance in providing us a leverage to do some developments within the cemetery. So, all this funds that will be collecting will go back to the public cemetery, thank you. Sorry, my name is Michael Cruz, I’m the Director of Parks and Recreation, under the Department of Lands and Natural Resources.”

- Sylvan Igisomar, Secretary of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources - Oral comment:

“Tirow and Hafa Adai. My name is Sylvan Igisomar, Secretary of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources. I too, lend my voice in support of this bill that aims to create two accounts, revolving accounts for the Division of Lands and Survey, and the Division of Parks and Recreation, for purposes of the public cemetery for parks and recreation. We have had an interest from our clients at Lands and Survey, that they are willing to also pay a nominal fee for the services that they receive, and of course recognizing too that we don’t, we, the economy is pretty bad and, and we, most of the departments don’t have much in ways of the operational funds. This would greatly help the divisions continue to do their jobs, and also wish to request that consideration be made to also establish a revolving special account for DLNR to receive fees that are associated with submerged lands transactions, by way of the rights of ways, that is allowed by law for us to assess fees. And, I’m happy to discuss it further. Thank you.”

Written comments received have been attached as part of this committee report. Oral testimony can be provided upon request.

#### E. Legislative History:

House Bill No. 24-51 was introduced by Representative John Paul P. Sablan on August 15, 2025 and was subsequently referred to the House Standing Committee on Ways and Means for disposition.

#### F. Cost Benefit:

The enactment of House Bill No. 24-51, as revised in HD1, will not impose significant additional costs on the CNMI Government. The bill primarily establishes dedicated revolving accounts funded through fees and penalties collected by the Department of Lands & Natural Resources (DLNR), including the “Division of Land Registration & Survey (DLRS) Revolving Account” and the “Marpi Public Cemetery Fund Account.” These accounts are designed to be


self-sustaining, with funds allocated specifically for personnel, utilities, equipment, maintenance, and operational expenses, thereby reducing reliance on the government's general fund.


The creation of these revenue streams, along with the designation of the Secretary of DLNR as the authorized expenditure officer, enhances financial oversight and management. This approach ensures that resources are allocated efficiently and transparently, supporting the ongoing functions of land registration, surveying, and cemetery management without requiring additional budget allocations. Overall, this framework provides a cost-effective, sustainable means of delivering essential services, improving department capacity, and ensuring fiscal responsibility while minimizing the financial impact on the government.

**III. CONCLUSION:**


The committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of House Bill No. 24-51 and recommends its passage in the form of House Bill No. 24-51, House Draft 1.


Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rep. John Paul P. Sablan  
Chairman

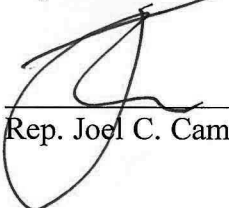
  
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Rep. Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao  
Vice Chairman


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Rep. Roy A. Ada, Member

  
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Rep. Vincent S. Aldan, Member


  
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Rep. Roman C. Benavente, Member

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Rep. Angelo A. Camacho, Member


  
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Rep. Joel C. Camacho, Member

  
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Rep. Joseph A. Flores, Member

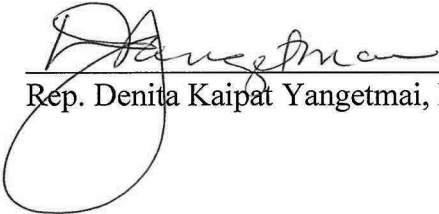
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Rep. Marissa R. Flores, Member

  
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Rep. Thomas John "TJ" DLC. Manglona, Member

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Rep. Julie M. A. Ogo, Member

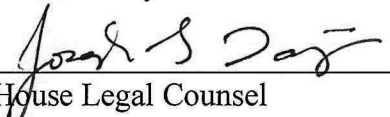
  
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Rep. Malcolm J. Omar, Member

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Rep. Patrick H. San Nicolas, Member

  
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Rep. Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, Member

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Rep. Ralph N. Yumul, Member

Reviewed by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
House Legal Counsel

Date: 9-16-25

ATTACHMENT: Michael Cruz, Director, Division of Parks and Recreation, August 20, 2025  
Joaquin Songsong, Director, DLRS, August 20, 2025  
Sylvan Igisomar, Secretary, DLNR, August 28, 2025  
Committee Amendment dated September 12, 2025  
House Bill No. 24-51, HD1



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
TEL:(670)-234-7405



August 20, 2025

To: Chairman John Paul (JP) P. Sablan  
Address: 24<sup>th</sup> Legislature PO BOX 500586, Saipan MP 96950  
Subject: Support for DLNR Revolving Account for Marpi Public Cemetery

Dear Chairman,

Hafa Adai yan Tirow,

This letter is to support HB 24-51, to establish revolving accounts for the Department of Lands and Natural Resources; and for other purposes for interment fees for Marpi Public Cemetery. We understand that any fees can be concerning, and we want to be transparent about the reasons behind these proposed fees

Our cemetery in Marpi is to provide a peaceful and well-maintained final resting place for your loved ones. We are committed to maintaining the dignity and beauty of our grounds, and to ensuring a serene environment for remembrance.

Overtime, the cost associated with maintaining the cemetery has increased significantly due to various factors, including:

**Rising Cost of Materials:**

The price for fuel, parts, PPE, and other essential materials have increased substantially.

**Increased Labor Cost:**

Maintaining the grounds, providing interment services, and managing the cemetery requires a dedicated team.

**Infrastructure Improvement:**

We are committed to enhancing the cemetery's infrastructure to better serve our community. This includes a fence, cremation section, and signage.

Rep. JP Sablan  
RECEIVED  
DATE BY 8/28/25  
Andrea T.



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
TEL:(670)-234-7405



**Long Term Sustainability:**

These fees, if approved, will ensure the long-term financial stability of the cemetery, allowing DLNR to continue providing quality services for years to come.

**The Interment Fees Will Directly Support:**

**Ground Maintenance:**

More frequent mowing, trimming, and landscaping to maintain the beauty and order of the cemetery.

**Infrastructure Repairs:**

Repair damage pathways, covers of the plots, and the base for the tombstone.

**Enhance Security:**

Improved security measures to protect the cemetery will provide a safe environment for visitors.

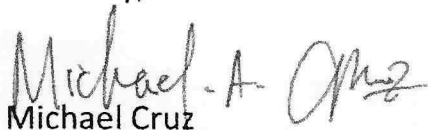
**Future Improvements:**

Funding for future enhancement, such as fencing, signage of Marpi Public Cemetery, and cremation boxes.

We understand that the fees may impact some families, and we are committed to working with SNILD for individuals who may require assistance

We appreciate your understanding and continued support as we work to enhance our cemetery and provide a fitting tribute to those who are resting at the Marpi Public Cemetery

Sincerely,

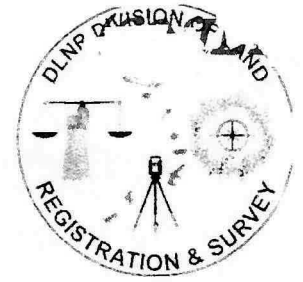
  
Michael Cruz

Director of Division of Parks and Recreation



## DLNR Division of Land Registration & Survey

Lower Base, Caller Box 10007  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 344-7405 Email: dlrs@dmpr.gov.mp



Chairman John Paul P. Sablan  
Vice Chairman BJ T. Attao  
Members  
Committee on Ways and Means  
House Of Representatives  
P.O. 500586  
Saipan, MP 96950

August 20, 2025

Rep. JP Sablan  
RECEIVED  
DATE BY 8/28/25  
Andrea T. [Signature]

**“ To establish revolving accounts for the Department of Lands & Natural Resources; and for the purposes.” DLNR – DLRS House Bill 24-51**

Hafa Adai/Tirow, Chairman John Paul Sablan,

The Division of Land Registration and Survey (DLRS) under the Department of Land and Natural Resources has been operating on a daily basis for years with minimal to no operational budget. Despite these limitations, the Division continues to serve the public and private sectors across Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

I am writing to bring to your attention several pressing needs and proposed solutions to enhance our services and preserve vital land records.

### **Digitization of Land Records and Maps**

The Division currently holds over **10,500 original maps** and **13,000 land documents** dating back as far as **1953**. These historical and legal documents are critical to land ownership, usage, and development. Unfortunately, many of them are deteriorating and are at risk of being permanently lost.

- **Challenge:** Aging and fragile records require immediate preservation.
- **Solution:** Implement a comprehensive digitization and e-recording system to securely store, manage, and update all land records. This will also improve access and service delivery to both government entities and private stakeholders.

## Development of a Modern Networking System

A robust and reliable IT infrastructure is essential for efficient service.

- **Objective:** Develop and implement a new networking system that ensures faster, more reliable access to land records and maps. This system will support public inquiries, inter-agency coordination, emailing, and business transactions more effectively.

## Addressing Resource Constraints

Given our limited resources, the Division faces challenges in meeting the growing demand for services.

- **Challenge:** Insufficient funding to sustain operations and modernization efforts.
- **Solution:** We propose the establishment of a revolving fund, supported by reasonable service fees, to generate sustainable revenue. Additionally, we will pursue interdepartmental partnerships to support digitization and infrastructure upgrade


## Infrastructure and Record Storage

To further support these improvements, we aim to expand and upgrade our filing and storage systems to ensure all land documents are housed in a safe, secure, and accessible location.

To establish revolving accounts for the Department of Lands and Natural Resources (DLNR)—specifically for the Division of Land Registration and Survey (DLRS)—in order to support operational sustainability, fund digitization projects, improve service delivery, and preserve critical land records and other operation.

We hope this letter receives your favorable consideration and approval. Your support for DLNR—DLRS will contribute significantly to the preservation and responsible management of our island's land data and history.

Thank you, Si Yu'us Ma'āse, and Ghilisow!



Joaquin B. Songsong  
Director, DLRS



# Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

## Department of Lands and Natural Resources

Blg No. 1315, Anatahan Drive, Capitol Hill Caller Box 10007

Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: 670-322-9834/9830



August 28, 2025

Honorable John Paul P. Sablan

Chairman

House Standing Committee on Ways & Means

24th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

P.O. Box 500586

Saipan, MP 96950

Andrea T.  
RECEIVED  
DATE BY 8/28/25  
Andrea T.

**Subject: Comment of House Bill No. 24-51, entitled, "To establish revolving accounts for the Department of Lands & Natural Resources"**

Tirow Chairman Sablan,

The Department of Lands & Natural Resources (DLNR) appreciates this opportunity to comment on House Bill No. 24-51. The Division of Land Registration and Survey (DLRS) and Division of Parks and Recreation (DPR) are divisions that fall under the umbrella of DLNR and we look forward to submitting our comments that affect the operations of the Department. With that being said, DLNR would like to express their support for the proposed legislation.

Pursuant to Section 2 of the proposed legislation, DLRS is a division that relies heavily on the CNMI's Annual Fiscal Year Budget. The division does not impose any fees for services and documents that they provide to the general public. Such services include land research and mapping information; Certificate of Titles; Approval of maps; and so forth. Section 2 intends to establish an account for DLRS where fees collected pursuant to agency regulations can be deposited. In an effort to transition to modern methods, such funds can be used for digitization of land records and maps; development of a modern networking system; infrastructure and record storage; and addressing resource constraints. For the stated reasons, DLNR strongly supports section 2.

Pursuant to Section 3, the proposed legislation aims to establish an expenditure authority for a revolving account that has been enacted from a previous law. Pursuant to 3 CMC §2624(b), DLNR has the general supervision of all public cemeteries and over ground maintenance, coordination of burial activities, and further improvements to all public cemeteries as may be required by law. DPR serves as the division that oversees land maintenance of areas that fall under DLNR's purview, including public cemeteries. With the recent opening of the Marpi Public Cemetery, which was conveyed by the Department of Public Lands (DPL) to DLNR


pursuant to 3 CMC §2622, DLNR and DPR will be faced with additional responsibilities ultimately resulting in higher costs. DLNR is in need of an appropriate revolving fund in order to cover costs associated with the maintenance and upkeep of all public cemeteries. For those reasons, DLNR strongly supports Section 3.

We appreciate this opportunity to provide our comment on the proposed legislation and we hope for its favorable passage in the near future.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (670)322-9830/9834 or via email at [sylvan.o.igisomar@gmail.com](mailto:sylvan.o.igisomar@gmail.com).

Your time and collaboration in this effort is greatly appreciated.

Ghillisow,

*for*   
for Sylvan O. Igisomar  
Secretary

CC: Speaker

**HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS  
AMENDMENT TO H.B. 24-51**

**OFFERED BY: Rep. Joel Camacho**



**DATE: 9/12/25**

**To amend subsection (a) of Section 2 of H.B. 24-51 to read as follows and to be adopted in the form of H.B. 24-51, HD1:**

(a) The Secretary of Finance shall establish a special account called the ~~There is hereby created~~ the "Division of Land Registration & Survey (DLRS) Revolving Account" where all funds collected pursuant to the fees and/or penalties promulgated by regulation under the Division of Land Registration & Survey (DLRS) shall be deposited. Monies deposited into this revolving fund shall be used to fund utilities, equipment, operations and/or personnel in DLRS.

**To amend subsection (a) of Section 3 of H.B. 24-51 to read as follows and to be adopted in the form of H.B. 24-51, HD1:**

(a) The Secretary of Finance shall establish a special account called the "Marpi Public Cemetery Fund Account" for the fees collected pursuant to this chapter. ~~The funds in this account shall be reserved and appropriated solely for the administration, maintenance, supervision and security of public cemeteries.~~ Notwithstanding any other provision of law, monies in the Marpi Public Cemetery Fund Account shall be expended solely for the administration, maintenance, supervision, security, and capital improvements of the Marpi Public Cemetery established under 3 CMC § 2622.

**Consistent with the intent of the foregoing amendments, I hereby also move to allow the Legal Counsel together with the House Clerk to make further non-substantive technical amendments that are strictly necessary to effectuate the intent of this floor amendment prior to transmittal.**

Date: 9-18-25  
JP

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:

  
House Legislative Counsel

**TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH**

**LEGISLATURE**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**AUGUST 15, 2025**

**Second Regular Session, 2025**

**H. B. 24-51, HD1**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

To establish revolving accounts for the Department of Lands & Natural Resources; and for other purposes.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE 24<sup>TH</sup> NORTHERN MARIANAS  
COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:**

1           **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature finds that the Division  
2 of Land Registration & Survey (DLRS), under the Department of Lands & Natural  
3 Resources (DLNR), is mandated by Public Law 3-79 to survey pre-war properties,  
4 record documentation and maps, review and clear all submitted check prints, and  
5 provide research services to the general public on a daily basis. Furthermore, they  
6 conduct land surveys and plats, hold hearings on disputed land claims, issue  
7 certificates of title, record such certificates and other documents with the  
8 Commonwealth recorder, and so forth. Despite providing these services, the DLRS  
9 does not charge fees after producing requested documentation. Cognizant of their  
10 ability to implement fees within their respective regulations, the Legislature finds  
11 that it would be appropriate to establish a revolving account where all funds  
12 collected pursuant to such enacted regulations can be deposited. Upon

1 promulgation, the proposed revolving account will be able to collect and deposit  
2 fees that can be utilized to fund personnel, operations, and other related costs.

3 The Legislature also finds that, pursuant to 3 CMC §2624(b), DLNR shall  
4 have general supervision over all public cemeteries, including ground maintenance,  
5 coordination of burial activities, and further improvements to all public cemeteries  
6 as required by law. Furthermore, pursuant to 3 CMC §2622, Lot 053 A 52  
7 containing approximately 25,350 square meters; Lot 053 A 26 containing  
8 approximately 20,843 square meters; and Lot 053 A 29 containing approximately  
9 23,226 square meters were transferred to DLNR for the purpose of establishing a  
10 new public cemetery in Marpi. As the department with general supervision  
11 authority over public cemeteries, the Legislature finds that it would be appropriate  
12 to allow the Secretary of DLNR to serve as the expenditure authority for all funds  
13 collected from public cemetery-related matters.

14 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to establish a revolving account for the  
15 Division of Land Registration & Survey (DLRS), and for other purposes.

16 **Section 2. Amendment.** Subject to codification by the CNMI Law Revision  
17 Commission, Title 1, Division 2, Part 1, Chapter 13, Article 4 of the  
18 Commonwealth Code is hereby amended by adding a new section to read as  
19 follows:

20 **“§ 2682. Division of Land Registration & Survey (DLRS)**  
21 **Revolving Account.**

1           (a) The Secretary of Finance shall establish a special account called the  
2           ~~There is hereby created the~~ “Division of Land Registration & Survey (DLRS)  
3           Revolving Account” where all funds collected pursuant to the fees and/or  
4           penalties promulgated by regulation under the Division of Land Registration  
5           & Survey (DLRS) shall be deposited. Monies deposited into this revolving  
6           fund shall be used to fund utilities, equipment, operations and/or personnel in  
7           DLRS.

8           (b) The expenditure authority of this revolving fund shall be the  
9           Secretary of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources in consultation  
10          with the Director of the Division of Land Registration & Survey.

11          (c) All funds collected and deposited into this Account shall be without  
12          fiscal year limitations.”

13          **Section 3. Amendment.** Title 3, Section 2626 is hereby amended to read as  
14 follows:

15                   **“§ 2626. Funding.**

16           (a) The Secretary of Finance shall establish a special account called the  
17           ~~“Marpi Public Cemetery Fund Account”~~ “Marpi Public Cemetery Fund Account” for the fees collected pursuant to  
18           this chapter. ~~The funds in this account shall be reserved and appropriated~~  
19           ~~solely for the administration, maintenance, supervision and security of public~~  
20           ~~cemeteries.~~ Notwithstanding any other provision of law, monies in the Marpi  
21           Public Cemetery Fund Account shall be expended solely for the

1       administration, maintenance, supervision, security, and capital improvements  
2       of the Marpi Public Cemetery established under 3 CMC § 2622.

3               (b) The expenditure authority of this special account shall be the  
4       Secretary of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources in consultation  
5       with the Director of the Division of Parks and Recreation.

6               (c) All funds collected and deposited into this Account shall be without  
7       fiscal year limitations.”

8               **Section 4. Severability.** If any provisions of this Act or the application of  
9 any such provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court  
10 of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its  
11 provisions to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid  
12 shall not be affected thereby.

13               **Section 5. Savings Clause.** This Act and any repealer contained herein  
14 shall not be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or  
15 acquired under statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation, or order adopted  
16 under the statutes. Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding  
17 instituted under or pursuant to prior law. The enactment of the Act shall not have  
18 the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying, any liability, civil or criminal,  
19 which shall already be in existence on the date this Act becomes effective.

20               **Section 6. Effective Date.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval by  
21 the Governor, or it becoming law without such approval.


Prefiled: 8/15/2025

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Introduced by: /s/ Rep. John Paul P. Sablan

Reviewed for introduction purposes only by:

/s/ Joseph M. Hallahan  
House Legal Counsel

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:

  
House Legal Counsel

Date: 9-12-25