

A BILL FOR AN ACT

To deregulate the hunting, taking, or possession of deer or Sambar deer in the CNMI; and for other purposes.

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

1 **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature finds that the deer population
2 in the CNMI is not native to our islands. As non-native species, deer should not to be
3 protected using public resources. If people wish to protect the deer population or raise deer
4 for personal or commercial consumption, they can do so on their private land. Accordingly,
5 the purpose of this legislation is to deregulate the hunting, taking, or possession of deer or
6 Sambar deer in the CNMI.

7 **Section 2. Amendment.** 2 CMC § 5104 is hereby amended by adding a new
8 subsection (d) to read:

9 “(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section 5104 or any other law to
10 the contrary, the hunting, taking, or possession of deer or Sambar deer in the CNMI
11 shall be deregulated and a license to hunt or possess a deer or Sambar deer in the
12 CNMI shall not be required as of January 1, 2026.”

13 **Section 3. Repealer.** Any regulations or references in Title 85, Subchapter 30.1 of
14 the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code to “deer” or “Sambar deer” shall be
15 repealed in their entirety.

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

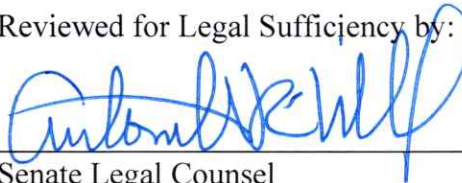
20 **Section 5. Savings Clause.** This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not
21 be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under

1 statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation or order adopted under the statutes.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

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

Date: 8/29/25

Introduced By: 
Sen. Manny Gregory T. Castro

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:

Senate Legal Counsel