

COPY



THE SENATE
Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature
P. O. Box 500129
Saipan, MP 96950

December 22, 2025

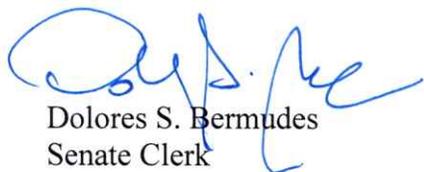
Senator Jude U. Hofschneider
Chairman
Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation
24th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Chairman Hofschneider:

I have the honor to transmit for Delegation action S.L.B. No. 24-03, entitled, "To amend 10 CMC §2521 (g) to provide for the suspension of Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission members' compensation; and for other purposes."

S.L.B. No. 24-03 has met the required provision of 1 CMC §1403 making its third appearance on the 9th Day, Second Regular Session, December 22, 2025.

Sincerely,


Dolores S. Bermudes
Senate Clerk

Attachments

cc: Delegation Clerk

Transmitted on:

Received by:  Date: 12/22/25

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

To amend 10 CMC § 2521(g) to provide for the suspension of Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission members' compensation; 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:**

Section 1. Findings and Purpose. The Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation finds that the compensation of the commissioners of the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) is primarily funded by the annual license fee paid by a casino operator. Without the casino license fee, there is no funding source for the compensation of the commissioners. In 2024, the sole casino operator surrendered its casino license and sold commenced selling its casino assets in Tinian. As such, there was no casino license fee paid for FY2025. The Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation further finds that there is no other funding source available to compensate the commissioners when there is no active casino operator. Accordingly, the purpose of this legislation is to suspend the compensation of the commissioners if there is no annual local budget approved or other appropriation due to lack of funds until such time that funding is available and approved through appropriation by the Delegation. In lieu of their annual compensation, the commissioners shall receive compensation of no more than \$60 for a full-day meeting and no more than \$30 for a half day or less meeting. The commissioners shall not be eligible for retroactive annual compensation payments after their annual compensation is suspended.

Section 2. Amendment. 10 CMC § 2521(g) is hereby amended to read as follows:

“(g) Commission members shall elect from among themselves a chairman and a vice- chairman to serve a term of two years. The Chairman and the vice-chairman may be

reelected. Members shall, no later than 60 days after the Commission receives its first application and application fee for a casino license, devote full time, without engaging in any other employment, to the affairs of the Commission during their tenure. Each member ~~may~~ shall receive compensation of \$55,000 annually from a budget adopted by the Commission for its operations and approved by the Tinian Legislative Delegation through appropriation; provided that if there is no appropriation due to lack of funds, the annual compensation of the commissioners shall be suspended until funding is available and approved by appropriation, and instead, the commissioners shall receive compensation of no more than \$60 for a full-day meeting and no more than \$30 for a half day or less meeting ~~the \$55,000 compensation shall apply to new commissioners.~~ No commissioner shall be given fringe benefits or retroactive annual compensation payments after their annual compensation is suspended. All members of the Commission shall have paid or be entitled to reimbursement for their expenses actually and necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties, including expenses of travel outside the Municipality of Tinian. The members of the Commission are not employees of the Commission or the Commonwealth government.”

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

Section 4. Savings Clause. This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation, or order adopted under the statutes. Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding instituted under or pursuant to prior law. The enactment of the Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying, any liability, civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence on the date this Act becomes effective.

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

Prefiled:

Date: 11/17/2005

Introduced By:


Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider


Sen. Karl R. King-Nabors


Sen. Francisco Q. Cruz

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:


Senate Legal Counsel