

SIXTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SPECIAL SESSION, 1989

AN ACT

To provide that the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) shall not refuse, for absence of an external circuit breaker box, electrical service connection to owners or occupants of existing residential structures in the Commonwealth who have on file, by September 1, 1989, an application for electrical service; further providing that CUC shall give public notice of specific electrical requirements necessary for residential electrical connection; and for other purposes.

Offered by Senators Benjamin T. Manglona, Joseph S. Inos,
Jose P. Mafnas and Manuel P. Villagomez

Date: April 14, 1989

SENATE ACTION

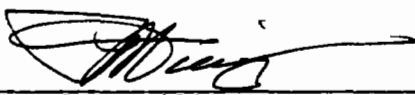
Referred to: Committee on Federal Relations & Independent Agencies

Second and Final Reading: April 14, 1989

HOUSE ACTION

Referred to: Committee on Judiciary, and Governmental Operations

First and Final Reading: April 14, 1989



Manuel P. Villagomez
Senate Legislative Secretary

1 mandate that CUC provide electrical service to residences with patently
2 dangerous or unsafe electrical systems.

3 Section 2. Definitions. As used in this Act:

4 (a) "Existing residence," shall mean a residential dwelling
5 that is ready and suitable for human occupancy;

6 (b) "Similarly related electrical equipment," shall mean
7 service switches, fuses, breakers, and similar electrical devices
8 or installations not previously required or not enforced by CUC
9 as a condition for electrical service connection to a customer's
10 residence.

11 Section 3. Electrical Service Connections - Exterior Breaker Box
12 Not Required. The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) shall not
13 refuse, for absence of an exterior or external N 3R-100A, 2 PST fused
14 or circuit breaker or similarly related electrical equipment, electrical
15 connection to any existing residence for which there is on file, by
16 September 1, 1989, an application for electrical service. Nothing in
17 this Section shall, however, require CUC to provide electrical service
18 connection to any residential dwelling with a patently dangerous or
19 unsafe electrical system.

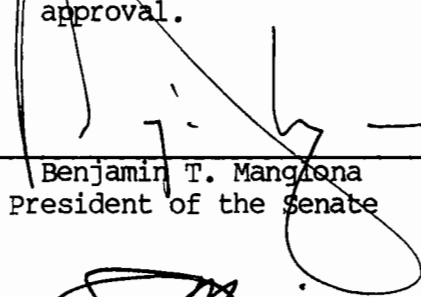
20 Section 4. CUC to Publish Notice of Electrical Equipment
21 Requirements for Electrical Service Connection. The Commonwealth
22 Utilities Corporation shall give at least ninety (90) days advanced
23 public notice of all electrical equipment and service entrance
24 equipment which the owner or occupant of a residential dwelling must
25 have in place to qualify for electrical service connection.

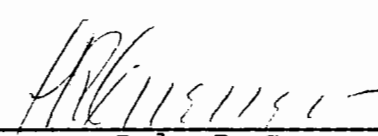
1 Such public notice shall be given in at least one newspaper of general
2 circulation in the Commonwealth.

3 Section 5. Release of Liability. The owners and occupants of
4 residential dwellings that qualify for an electrical service
5 connection, as the result of the operation of Section 3 of this Act,
6 shall, as a condition of connection, sign a written release form to be
7 provided by the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation. This release form
8 shall state that the Commonwealth Government and CUC, and their
9 respective officers, employees, and agents shall in no manner or
10 fashion be held liable for any injury or damage incurred by the owner
11 or occupant or their families, visitors, business visitors, or any
12 third parties entering the premise for whatever reason, resulting from
13 accident or failure of electrical facilities provided by the owner
14 or occupant. The Commonwealth government and CUC in no way waive claims
15 to sovereign immunity and by this Act expressly claim such immunity,
16 the provisions of Title 7, CMC, Division 2, Article 1, notwithstanding.

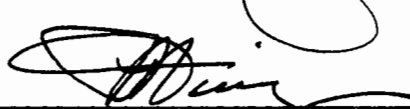
17 Section 6. Severability. If any portion of this Act is held
18 invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this
19 Act shall not be affected thereby.

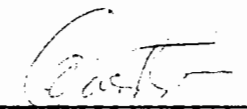
20 Section 7. Effective Date. This Act shall take effect upon the
21 approval of the Governor or upon its becoming law without such
22 approval.

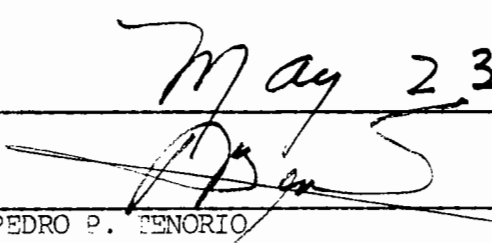

Benjamin T. Mangiona
President of the Senate


Pedro R. Guerrero
Speaker of the House

ATTEST:


Manuel P. Villagomez
Senate Legislative Secretary


Evelyn T. Castro
House Clerk


PEDRO P. TENORIO
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands