



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Benigno R. Fitial
Governor

Eloy S. Inos
Lieutenant Governor

Honorable Eli D. Cabrera
Speaker, House of Representatives
Seventeenth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

The Honorable Paul A. Manglona
Senate President
Seventeenth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Mr. Speaker and Mr. President:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law House Bill 17-192, entitled, "To amend 1 CMC §2261(b) to require that student representative to the Board of Education is alternately appointed from all public high schools in the Commonwealth; and for other purposes," which was passed by the Seventeenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

I commend the legislature for passing this measure as it updates the statute to take into consideration the growing number of public schools in the Commonwealth. This legislation now fairly alternates appointments of students from each public high school to the State Board of Education.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 17-50**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Benigno R. Fitial".

BENIGNO R. FITIAL
Governor

Caller Box 10007 Saipan, MP 96950 Telephone: (670) 664-2200/2300 Facsimile: (670) 664-2211/2311

CC: Lt. Governor
Office of the Attorney General
Press Secretary, Office of the Governor
State Board of Education
Special Assistant for Programs & Legislative Review
All Departments and Agencies



House of Representatives

SEVENTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586
SAIPAN, MP 96950

July 7, 2011

The Honorable Benigno R. Fitial
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern
Mariana Islands
Capitol Hill
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Governor Fitial:

I have the honor of transmitting herewith for your action **H. B. 17-192**, entitled: "To amend 1 CMC §2261(b) to require that student representative to the Board of Education is alternately appointed from all public high schools in the Commonwealth; and for other purposes.", which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Seventeenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Sincerely yours,



Linda B. Muña
House Clerk

Attachment



*Seventeenth Legislature
of the
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Fourth Special Session

May 12, 2011

Representative Raymond D. Palacios, of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*) in an open and public meeting with an opportunity for the public to comment, introduced the following Bill:

H. B. 17-192

AN ACT

TO AMEND 1 CMC §2261 (B) TO REQUIRE THAT STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION IS ALTERNATELY APPOINTED FROM ALL PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE COMMONWEALTH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Bill was referred to the House Committee on Education and placed on the Bill Calendar on May 24, 2011.

THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON FIRST AND FINAL READING, MAY 24, 2011;
without amendments and transmitted to the
THE SENATE.

The Bill was not referred to a Senate Committee.
THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE SENATE ON FIRST AND FINAL READING, JUNE 30, 2011;
without amendments.

H. B. 17-192 WAS RETURNED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON JULY 5, 2011.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda B. Muña".

Linda B. Muña, House Clerk



*Seventeenth Legislature
of the
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1ST DAY, FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION

MAY 24, 2011

H. B. 17-192

AN ACT

**TO AMEND 1 CMC § 2261(B) TO REQUIRE THAT
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD
OF EDUCATION IS ALTERNATELY APPOINTED
FROM ALL PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE
COMMONWEALTH; AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.**

Be it enacted by the Seventeenth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature:

1 Section 1. Findings. The Commonwealth Legislature finds that Article
2 XV, Section 1(c) of the NMI Constitution provides that "The governor shall
3 appoint three nonvoting ex-officio members to the board of education: one
4 member shall be a student attending a public school; one member shall be a
5 representative of nonpublic schools; and one member selected by an exclusive
6 bargaining representative of the teachers within the Department of Education." In
7 accordance with this constitutional mandate, 1 CMC § 2261(b) further establishes

HOUSE BILL 17-192

1 that of the three nonvoting ex officio members to the Board of Education, “one
2 member shall be a student attending a public secondary school, appointed on a
3 rotating basis by senatorial precinct.” The rotating basis requirement was to
4 ensure that all public high schools were alternately represented. This requirement
5 held true as there were only three public high schools, one public high school on
6 each senatorial district, at the time of the provision’s enactment in 1988. Since
7 then, the Third Senatorial District has established two additional public high
8 schools, namely Kagman High School and Saipan Southern High School.
9 Because of this, it is necessary to amend 1 CMC § 2261(b) to allow the student
10 representative be appointed on a rotating basis by individual public high schools
11 to ensure that students from all five public high schools are represented.

12 **Section 2. Amendment.** 1 CMC § 2261(b) is hereby amended to read as
13 follows:

14 “2261. Board of Education.

15 (b) The Governor shall appoint three nonvoting ex officio
16 members to the Board of Education as follows: one member shall be a
17 representative of a nonpublic school; one member shall be a student
18 attending a public secondary school, appointed on a rotating basis by each
19 respective public high school; and one member selected by an exclusive
20 bargaining process as a representative of the teachers within the Public
21 School System. These appointees may be reappointed, with the exception

HOUSE BILL 17-192

1 of the student representative, and shall serve at the pleasure of the
2 Governor.”

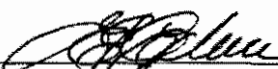
3 **Section 3. Severability.** If any provisions of this Act or the application
4 of any such provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a
5 court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its
6 provisions to persons or circumstances other than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

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


HOUSE BILL 17-192

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

Attested to by: 
Linda B. Muña, House Clerk

Certified by: 
SPEAKER ELICEO "ELI" D. CABRERA
House of Representatives
17th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

APPROVED this 11th day of AUGUST, 2011


BENIGNO R. FITIAL
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands