

Arnold I. Palacios
Governor



David M. Apatang
Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

September 10, 2024

LT 2024-118

The Honorable Karl R. King-Nabors
Chairman
Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation
Twenty-Third Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950


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

Dear Mr. Chairman and Mr. Speaker:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law **House Local Bill No. 23-14** entitled, "To amend 10 CMC §§2513 (dd) and 2531(d) as established by Tinian Local Law 21-09 by reducing the number of minimum sleeping units from 200 to 50; and for other purposes." The bill was passed unanimously by the Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation of the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Tinian Local Law No. 23-15**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,


DAVID M. APATANG
Acting Governor

cc: Governor; Attorney General; Commonwealth Law Revision; Secretary of Finance;
Public Auditor; Special Assistant for Administration; Mayor of Tinian and Aguiguan;
Programs & Legislative Review Office



TINIAN AND AGUIGUAN LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION
Second Senatorial District
Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

Senator Karl R. King-Nabors, Chairman
Senator Jude U. Hofschneider, Vice Chair

Senator Francisco Q. Cruz, Floor Leader
Rep. Patrick H. San Nicolas, Legislative Secretary

August 16, 2024

The Honorable Arnold I. Palacios
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Honorable Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building
Capitol Hill
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Governor Palacios:

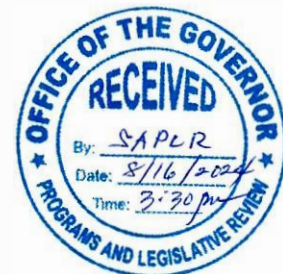
I am honored to transmit for your action **House Local Bill No. 23-14**, entitled, "To amend 10 CMC §§ 2513(dd) and 2531(d) as established by Tinian Local Law 21-09 by reducing the number of minimum sleeping units from 200 to 50; and for other purposes.", which was passed unanimously by the Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation, Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature on its First and Final Reading, a quorum duly present during its 1st Day, Fourth Regular Session held on August 14, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "FKP".

Frances Jean P. Kaipat
Delegation Clerk

Enclosure





**TINIAN AND AGUIGUAN LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION
SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT
TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
FOURTH REGULAR SESSION, 2024**

HOUSE LOCAL BILL NO. 23-14

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

To amend 10 CMC §§ 2513(dd) and 2531(d) as established by Tinian Local Law 21-09 by reducing the number of minimum sleeping units from 200 to 50; and for other purposes.

OFFERED BY

Representative Patrick H. San Nicolas
Prefiled on June 6, 2024
Introduced on June 20, 2024

HOUSE ACTION

Transmitted to Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation for action on
July 7, 2024

DELEGATION ACTION

Referred to:	None
Comments Solicited:	7/10/24: Mayor of Tinian and Aguiguan [Del. Matters 23-15] & Tinian & Aguiguan Municipal Council [Del. Matters 23-16]
Comments Received:	7/20/24: Mayors Comm. 23-06
Special Committee Report:	23-01 Adopted on August 14, 2024
Passed First & Final Reading:	August 14, 2024

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Frances", written over a horizontal line.

Frances Joan P. Kaipat
Delegation Clerk



**TINIAN AND AGUIGUAN LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION
SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT
TWENTY-THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE**

THIRD SPECIAL SESSION, 2024

H. L. B. 23-14

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

To amend 10 CMC §§ 2513(dd) and 2531(d) as established by Tinian Local Law 21-09 by reducing the number of minimum sleeping units from 200 to 50; 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:**

1 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE**

2 The Twenty-Third Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation finds that in order to
3 accommodate the change in our current economic situation as a result of the global effect of
4 pandemic, businesses needed to reassess their structure to remain in operation and allow a chance
5 to recover and grow. The Tinian and Aguiguan Delegation further finds that that in the interest of
6 encouraging and fostering tourism and the casino gaming industry on Tinian, it is necessary to
7 amend Tinian Local Law 21-09 in order to make Tinian more “investor friendly” and more
8 competitive in the Pacific region. The Tinian Legislative Delegation and the entire leadership are
9 committed to continue support to make needed changes in the policy to ensure the casino industry

1 on the island remains a viable option for economic development. Accordingly, the purpose of this
2 local legislation is to reduce the number of required sleeping units under the definition of “hotel”
3 or “approved hotel” from two hundred to fifty.

4 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.**

5 10 CMC § 2513 (dd), as established by Tinian Local Law 21-09, is hereby amended to
6 read as follows:

7 “(dd) “Hotel” or “approved hotel” means building containing a minimum of 50 ~~200~~
8 sleeping units, each of which shall contain at least 325 square feet measured to the center of
9 perimeter walls, including bathroom and closet space and excluding hallways, balconies and
10 lounges, each containing private bathroom facilities, and each held available and used regularly
11 for the lodging of tourists and guests and conforming in all respects to the agreement referred to
12 in 10 CMC § 2532. In no event shall the main entrance or only access to an approved hotel be
13 through a casino.”

14 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.**

15 10 CMC § 2531 (d), as established by Tinian Local Law 21-09, is hereby amended to read
16 as follows:

17 “(d) the conduct of internet gaming pursuant to a casino license, in accordance with this
18 chapter and any other applicable Act, the regulations established by the commission to regulate
19 internet gaming and internet gaming operators, and the operating agreement relating to the
20 particular license permitting the conduct of internet gaming, is lawful. Operating internet gaming
21 is conditioned on having a hotel with at least fifty (50) units ~~two hundred (200) units which may~~

1 ~~be built in phases of 100 units per phase as authorized by TCGCC~~ and an operational Hotel-casino
2 complex casino and the implementation of a geolocation software limiting internet gaming
3 activities to within intra-island borders of the Second Senatorial District and between jurisdictions
4 where the conduct of internet gaming is legal.”

5 **SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY.**

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

10 **SECTION 5. SAVINGS CLAUSE.**

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

17 **SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

18 This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the Governor or it becoming law without
19 such approval.

CERTIFIED BY:

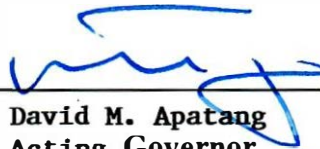


Karl R. King-Nabors
Chairman
Tinian & Aguiguan Legislative Delegation



Joel C. Camacho
Acting Speaker
23rd House of Representatives

Approved this 10th day of September, 2024.



David M. Apatang
Acting Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands