

**Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Session, 2017

\_\_\_\_\_  
H. B. 20- 19

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

To amend 6 CMC §3156 (b) by requiring a hotel or resort attached to a golf course to have a minimum of eighteen (18) holes in order to be eligible to conduct electronic gaming activities as defined in 6 CMC §3156(a)(6).

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE TWENTIETH NORTHERN MARIANAS  
COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:**

1           **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature finds that Public Law  
2 18-30 amended 6 CMC §3156 by exempting enclosed areas and resorts attached  
3 to a golf course from gambling activity restrictions contained in 6 CMC §3155.  
4 However, the Legislature finds that the current language of the foregoing  
5 amendment may be construed to include, by way of example, nine (9) hole golf  
6 courses or, par three (3) golf courses. The current language contains no specific  
7 standards for the term golf course. The Legislature takes notice of the popularity  
8 of the sport of golf among tourists and believes that minimum standards should  
9 apply in order to qualify for the golf course exemption.

10           **Section 2. Amendment.** 6 CMC §3156(b) is amended as follows:

11                   “(b) In order to be exempt from this article, the gaming activities  
12 described under subsections (a)(6) must be operated within the Third  
13 Senatorial District in an enclosed area at a hotel or resort premises having  
14 100 or more rooms ~~or with fewer than 100 rooms so long as the hotel is~~

1 ~~attached to a golf course.~~ A hotel or resort with fewer than 100 rooms  
2 shall also be exempt provided such hotel or resort is attached to an  
3 operational golf course with a minimum of eighteen (18) holes and  
4 provided that such hotel or resort has an ownership or leasehold interest in  
5 such golf course.”

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

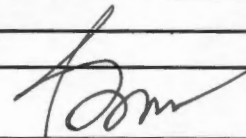
11 **Section 4. Savings Clause.** This Act and any repealer contained herein  
12 shall not be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or  
13 acquired under statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation or order adopted  
14 under the statutes. Repealers contained in this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

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


Prefiled: 1/24/17

Date: 1/24/17

Introduced by:

  
Rep. Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:

  
House Legal Counsel

  
  
  
Honorable. Barenitz  
