Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

_____ Regular Session, 2017 H. B. 20-38

A BILL FOR AN ACT

To transfer the licensing and regulatory functions of the Department of Finance in respect to poker, pachinko and electronic gaming machines to the Commonwealth Casino Commission

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TWENTIETH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:

Section 1. Findings. The Commonwealth Casino Commission was established to regulate casino gaming by the exclusive casino licensee. The poker, pachinko and electronic gaming machines regulated by the Department of Finance are similar to the gaming devices regulated by the Commonwealth Casino Commission. In order to achieve consistency in regulation, all gaming devices should be regulated by the same regulatory body. This legislation will place the licensing and regulation of all gaming devices under the authority of the Commonwealth Casino Commission.

Section 2. Amendment. 4 CMC Section 2314 is amended by adding the following new subsections (m) and (n):

"(m) The Commonwealth Casino Commission shall have the authority to license and regulate Gambling Devices as defined in 6 CMC Section 3154,

1 including poker amusement machines, pachinko slot machines, electronic
2 gaming machine, and electronic table games.
3 (n) The Commonwealth Casino Commission shall replace the Department
4 of Finance as the licensing and regulatory authority in respect to poker
5 amusement machines, pachinko slot machines, electronic gaming
6 machine, and electronic table games."
7 **Section 3. Transition Provisions.**
8 The regulations of the Department of Finance in effect on the effective
9 date of this Act covering poker amusement machines, pachinko slot machines,
10 electronic gaming machine, and electronic table games shall continue in effect as
11 regulations of the Commonwealth Casino Commission until repealed or modified
12 by the Commonwealth Casino Commission.
13 **Section 3. Severability.** If any provisions of this Act or the application
14 of any such provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a
15 court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its
16 provisions to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid
17 shall not be affected thereby.
18 **Section 4. Savings Clause.** This Act and any repealer contained herein
19 shall not be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or
20 acquired under statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation, or order adopted
21 under the statutes. Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding

1 instituted under or pursuant to prior law. The enactment of the Act shall not have
2 the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying, any liability, civil or criminal,
3 which shall already be in existence on the date this Act becomes effective.
4 **Section 5. Effective Date.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval by
5 the Governor, or its becoming law without such approval..

Prefiled: 2/8/17

Date: Feb 8, 2017 Introduced By:

Rep. Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:

House Legal Counsel

Ivan Blanco