



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Ralph DLG. Torres
Governor

Victor B. Hocog
Lieutenant Governor

The Honorable Rafael S. Demapan
Speaker
House of Representatives
Twentieth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Capitol Hill
Saipan, MP 96950

14 JAN 2017

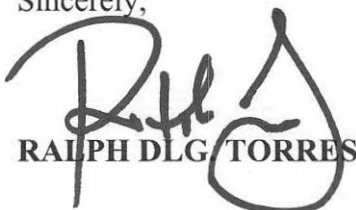
The Honorable Arnold I. Palacios
President
The Senate
Twentieth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Capitol Hill
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Mr. Speaker and Mr. President:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law **House Bill No. 19-118, HD1**, entitled, "To amend Title 4 Economic Resources, Division 3 Businesses and Provisions, Subsection § 3103 Board of Professional Licensing Tenure; Officers; Vacancies," which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Nineteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 19-77**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,


RALPH DLG TORRES



House of Representatives

19th NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 500586
SAIPAN, MP 96950

December 12, 2016

The Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern
Mariana Islands
Capitol Hill
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Governor Torres:

I have the honor of transmitting herewith for your action **H. B. No. 19-118, HD1**, entitled: **"To amend Title 4 Economic Resources, Division 3 Businesses and Professions, Subsection §3103 Board of Professional Licensing Tenure; Officers; Vacancies."**, which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Nineteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Sincerely yours,

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

Linda B. Muña
House Clerk

Attachment



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

Second Regular Session

December 16, 2015

Representative Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, of Saipan, Precinct 5 (*for himself*, Representatives Roman C. Benavente, and Vinson F. Sablan) in an open and public meeting with an opportunity for the public to comment, introduced the following Bill:

H. B. No. 19-118, HD1

AN ACT

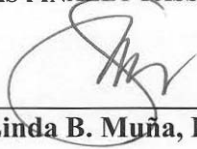
**TO AMEND TITLE 4 ECONOMIC RESOURCES, DIVISION 3
BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS, SUBSECTION §3103
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING TENURE; OFFICERS;
VACANCIES.**

The Bill was referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations, which submitted Standing Committee Report 19-90; adopted 3/29/16.

**THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON
FIRST AND FINAL READING, MARCH 31, 2016;**
with amendments in the form of H. B. 19-118, HD1 and transmitted to the
THE SENATE.

The Bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary, Government and Law.
THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE SENATE ON FIRST AND FINAL READING, DECEMBER 2, 2016;
without amendments and was returned to
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THE BILL WAS FINALLY PASSED ON MARCH 31, 2016.



Linda B. Muña, House Clerk



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

Seventh Day, Third Regular Session

March 31, 2016

H. B. No. 19-118, HD1

AN ACT

**TO AMEND TITLE 4 ECONOMIC RESOURCES, DIVISION 3
BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS, SUBSECTION §3103 BOARD OF
PROFESSIONAL LICENSING TENURE; OFFICERS; VACANCIES.**

**Be it enacted by the Nineteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth
Legislature:**

1 **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature finds that the Board of
2 Professional Licensing has examined the requirements set forth in 4 CMC §3103 and in order
3 to further safeguard the life, health, and property of the people of the Commonwealth of the
4 Northern Mariana Islands, recommends that amendments should be made to the existing
5 statute.

6 The Legislature finds that currently there is a shortage in the CNMI of skilled and
7 educated professionals who are qualified to serve on the Board of Professional Licensing.
8 Specifically, professionals who are skilled and educated in the fields of architecture, land
9 surveying, land architecture and property appraisal. The purpose of this Act is to circumvent
10 the shortages in qualified professionals by removing the term limit of members of the Board
11 of Professional Licensing by amending 4 CMC § 3103. The amendment will help to prevent
12 Board vacancies as well as help to ensure consistency in regulations.

HOUSE BILL 19-118, HD1

1 **Section 2. Amendments.** 4 CMC § 3103 is amended to read as follows:

2 **“§ 3103. Board of Professional Licensing Tenure; Officers; Vacancies.**

3 The members of the Board shall serve for six years. The officers of the Board
4 shall be elected every two years. The Board shall elect, by the majority vote of a
5 quorum of its members, a Chairperson, a Vice-chairperson, and a Secretary. In the
6 event of a vacancy on the Board for reason resulting in an unexpired term and the
7 governor has failed to appoint a successor within three months after the vacancy
8 occurs, the Board may appoint a provisional member to serve in the interim until the
9 governor makes an appointment.”

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

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

HOUSE BILL 19-118, HD1

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

Attested to by:




Linda B. Muña, House Clerk

Certified by:



SPEAKER RAFAEL S. DEMAPAN
House of Representatives
19th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

Approved this 14th day of January, 2016 7



RALPH HLG. TORRES
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands