

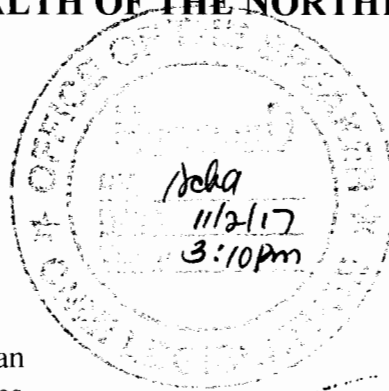


COM. COMM. 20-120  
(HOUSE)

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Ralph DLG. Torres  
Governor

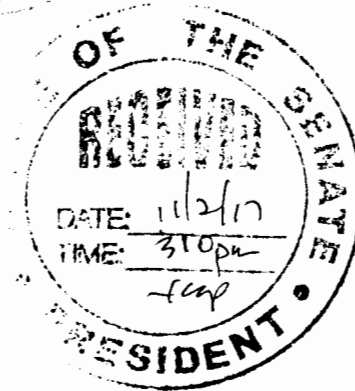
Victor B. Hocog  
Lieutenant Governor



01 NOV 2017

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

The Honorable Arnold I. Palacios  
Senate President, The Senate  
Twentieth 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 No. 20-20, HD1, entitled, "To amend Title 9, Division 2, Chapter 1 § 2104 to provide veterans a discounted benefit for the vehicle registration fee; and for other purposes," which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 20-25**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

RALPH DLG. TORRES

cc: Lt. Governor; Press Secretary; Department of Public Safety; Public Auditor; Special Assistant for Administration; Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review

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DATE 11/2/17 TIME 4:23 PM



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

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**First Regular Session**

**January 31, 2017**

**REPRESENTATIVE LORENZO I. DELEON GUERRERO** of Saipan, Precinct 5 (*for himself*, Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Jose I. Itibus, Edwin K. Propst, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., and Edmund S. Villagomez,) in an open and public meeting with an opportunity for the public to comment, introduced the following Bill:

**H. B. No. 20-20, HD1**

**AN ACT**

**TO AMEND TITLE 9, DIVISION 2, CHAPTER 1 § 2104 TO  
PROVIDE VETERANS A DISCOUNTED BENEFIT FOR THE  
VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

The Bill was referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations, which submitted Standing Committee Report 20-27; adopted 6/27/17.


**THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON  
FIRST AND FINAL READING, JUNE 27, 2017;**

*with amendments* in the form of H. B. No. 20-20, 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, SEPTEMBER 26, 2017;**

*without amendments and was returned to*  
**THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**

**THE BILL WAS FINALLY PASSED ON JUNE 27, 2017.**

  
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**Linda B. Muña, House Clerk**



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

FIRST DAY, FIFTH SPECIAL SESSION

JUNE 27, 2017

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**H. B. No. 20-20, HD1**

AN ACT

**TO AMEND TITLE 9, DIVISION 2, CHAPTER 1 § 2104 TO PROVIDE  
VETERANS A DISCOUNTED BENEFIT FOR THE VEHICLE  
REGISTRATION FEE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

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

1           **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature finds that many brave men and  
2 women of the Commonwealth have willingly answered the call to defend the freedoms we  
3 are enjoying by fighting for our country not only in foreign lands but also in our islands.  
4 Veterans have contributed significantly to protect our freedoms through their dedicated and  
5 unselfish military service to our island and country.

6           The Legislature finds that Public Law No. 18-22 and Public Law No. 19-10 were in  
7 enacted into law to provide discounted benefits for the issuance of a veteran license plate and  
8 operators license fee. In addition to the aforementioned benefits, many states and territories  
9 have extended additional support to veterans such as providing for a discounted benefit for  
10 the annual vehicle registration fee.

HOUSE BILL 20-20, HD1

1           Therefore, the Legislature appreciates our veterans and respectfully recognizes the  
2 merits to reward their dedication and unselfish military service. The intent of this Act is to  
3 amend Title 9, Division 2 Chapter 1 § 2104 by providing additional discounted benefit to  
4 veterans regardless of whether or not the individual has a veterans license plate.

5           **Section 2. Amendment.** Title 9, Division 2, Chapter 1 § 2104 is hereby amended by  
6 adding a new subsection (b) to read as follows:

7                   “(a) There shall be paid to the Director of Finance for the registration of  
8 vehicles the following fees:

9                           (1) Bicycles, \$3;

10                           (2) Mopeds, motor scooters, and motorcycles up to 100cc, \$20;

11                           (3) Motorcycles and motor scooters over 100cc, \$30;

12                           (4) Pickups, jeeps, sedans, automobiles, and other motor vehicles not  
13 exceeding six passengers or one-half ton capacity and weighing less than  
14 2,000 pounds, \$50;

15                           (5) Trucks, buses and self-propelled equipment and machinery by  
16 gross vehicle weight in pounds as specified by the manufacturer at the time of  
17 the original sale or entry into the Commonwealth; whichever is greater:

18                                   (A) Under 2,999 pounds or fraction thereof, \$50;

19                                   (B) 3,000 to 4,999 pounds or fraction thereof, \$100;

20                                   (C) 5,000 to 7,499 pounds or fraction thereof, \$200;

21                                   (D) 7,500 pounds and over \$400;

22                           (6) Low boys, \$50;

23                           (7) All other self-propelled vehicles, \$100;

24                           (8) For duplicate or substitute registration cards and plates: subsections  
25 (a)(2) and (a)(3) of this section, \$5; subsections (a)(4), (a)(5), and (a)(6) of this  
26 section, \$10; and subsection (a)(7) of this section, \$20.

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**HOUSE BILL 20-20, HD1**

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1           (b) The new and annual registration fee, regardless of whether or not the  
2           vehicle has a Veterans License Plate, for (a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3), and (a)(4) for a Veteran  
3           shall be 25% less than the fee charged for a similarly registered vehicle. A copy of the  
4           Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty from the Department of  
5           Defense (DD 214) or certification from the Military and Veterans Affairs Office,  
6           which signifies proof that he/she served in the U.S. military services, shall be  
7           furnished to the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Finance in order  
8           to provide for the discounted benefit of a vehicle registration fees.”


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

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

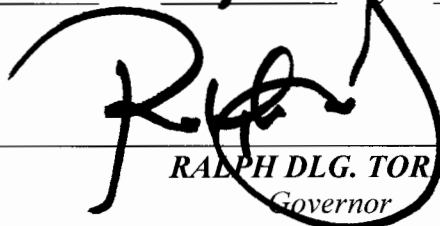
HOUSE BILL 20-20, HD1

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*  
*20<sup>th</sup> Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature*

Approved this 1<sup>st</sup> day of November, 2017

  
**RALPH DLG. TORRES**  
*Governor*  
*Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*