



RALPH DLG. TORRES  
Governor

VICTOR B. HOCOG  
Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH of the NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

28 MAR 2018

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

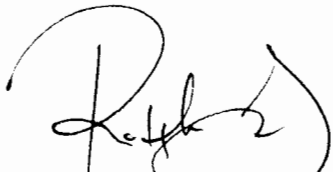
The Honorable Arnold I. Palacios  
Senate President, The Senate  
Twentieth Northern Marianas  
Commonwealth Legislature  
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Mr. Speaker and Mr. President:


This is to inform you that I have signed into law House Bill No. 20-70, SD1 entitled, "To clarify sections 20129 and 20130 relating to the CNMI Veterans Cemetery." which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 20-49**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

  
**RALPH DLG. TORRES**

cc: Lt. Governor; Press Secretary; Attorney General's Office; Military Liaison and Veterans Affairs; Public Auditor; Special Assistant for Administration; Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review

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

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**Second Special Session**

**April 21, 2017**

REPRESENTATIVE LORENZO I. DELEON GUERRERO of Saipan, Precinct 5 (*for himself*), in an open and public meeting with an opportunity for the public to comment, introduced the following Bill:

**H. B. No. 20-70, SD1**

**AN ACT**

**TO CLARIFY SECTIONS 20129 AND 20130 RELATING TO THE  
CNMI VETERANS CEMETERY.**

The Bill was referred to the House Committee on Federal and Foreign Affairs, which submitted Standing Committee Report No. 20-68; adopted 9/6/17.

**THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON  
FIRST AND FINAL READING, OCTOBER 11, 2017;**  
*without amendments* and transmitted to the  
**THE SENATE.**

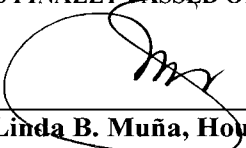
The Bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Fiscal Affairs, which submitted Standing Committee Report No. 20-71; adopted 2/2/18.

**THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE SENATE ON FIRST AND FINAL READING, FEBRUARY 8, 2018;**  
*with amendments* in the form of H. B. No. 20-70, SD1.

**H. B. 20-70, SD1 WAS RETURNED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON FEBRUARY 9, 2018.**

The House of Representatives accepted the Senate amendments and passed H. B. No. 20-70, SD1 during its 3rd Day, Third Regular Session on February 16, 2018.

**THE BILL WAS FINALLY PASSED ON FEBRUARY 16, 2018.**

  
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**Linda B. Muña, House Clerk**



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

THIRD DAY, THIRD REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 16, 2018

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**H. B. NO. 20-70, SD1**

AN ACT

**TO CLARIFY SECTIONS 20129 AND 20130 RELATING TO THE  
CNMI VETERANS CEMETERY.**

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

1           **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature finds that the Commonwealth  
2 received a Veterans Cemetery, which is owned and operated by the Commonwealth requires  
3 a separate funds account that should be formally established by law. The purpose of this  
4 legislation is to officially establish a CNMI Veterans Cemetery account that is separate and  
5 apart from the General Fund.

6           **Section 2. Amendment.** Title 1, Division 2, Part 1, Chapter 1, Article 7,  
7 Sections 20129 and 20130 of the Commonwealth Code are amended to read as follows:

8                   **§ 20129. CNMI Veterans Cemetery Revolving Fund.**

9                   (a) There is hereby established a special account called the CNMI Veterans  
10 Cemetery Revolving Fund (BU 1963) separate from the general fund. Any fees,  
11 donations or contributions to the veterans' cemetery in connection with the use of the  
12 cemetery shall be deposited in the CNMI Veterans Cemetery Revolving Fund and  
13 shall be used for the maintenance of the cemetery without legislative appropriation.

14                   (b) All fees collected for the registration and use of United States Armed

## HOUSE BILL 20-70, SD1

1 Forces veteran vehicle license plates pursuant to Public Law 14-16 shall be deposited  
2 into the CNMI Veterans Cemetery Revolving Fund (BU1963) and held separate from  
3 the General Fund.

4 (c) [unchanged]

5 (d) All fees collected shall be used for the upkeep of the veteran's cemetery  
6 grounds and its associated facilities.

7 (e) The executive officer of the Office of Military Liaison and Veteran Affairs  
8 shall submit a report describing the account status, deposits and detailed expenditure,  
9 of the funds in the revolving account established under subsection (a) of this section.  
10 The report shall be submitted not later than 30 days after June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year to the  
11 chairpersons of the House Standing Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate  
12 Standing Committee on Fiscal Affairs.

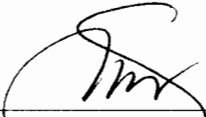
13 **§ 20130. Maintenance.** The Office of Military Liaison and Veterans Affairs  
14 shall maintain the grounds and facilities of the veteran's cemetery.”

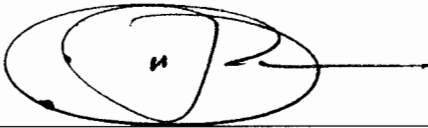
15 **Section 3. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or the application of any such  
16 provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent  
17 jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or  
18 circumstances other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

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


HOUSE BILL 20-70, SD1

1 Section 5. Effective Date. This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the  
2 Governor or 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 28<sup>th</sup> day of MARCH, 2018

  
RALPH DLG. TORRES  
Governor  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands