



Arnold I. Palacios
Governor

David M. Apatang
Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

31 JAN 2023

The Honorable Edith E. Deleon Guerrero
President of the Senate
Twenty-Third Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

The Honorable Edmund S. Villagomez
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Third Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Madam President and Mr. Speaker:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law **Senate Bill No. 22-47, SD1, HD1** entitled, "To amend 1 CMC § 2482(b) to authorized the Central Statistics Division to request vital statistics data and fish, game, wildlife and endangered and threatened species data," which was passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Second Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 22-27**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,


ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
Governor

cc: Lt. Governor; Attorney General's Office; Commonwealth Law Revision Commission; Public Auditor; Department of Commerce, Division of Fish and Wildlife; Health and Vital Statistic Office; Department of Lands and Natural Resources; Programs and Legislative Review Office



THE SENATE
Twenty-Second Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature
P. O. Box 500129
Saipan, MP 96950

December 28, 2022

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

Dear Governor Torres:

I have the honor of transmitting herewith for your action Senate Bill No. 22-47, SD1, HD1, entitled: "To amend 1 CMC § 2482(b) to authorize the Central Statistics Division to request vital statistics data and fish, game, wildlife and endangered and threatened species data," which was passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Second Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Sincerely,


Dolores S. Bermudes
Senate Clerk

Attachments

PROGRAMS & LEGISLATIVE REVIEW
RECEIVED BY: Amy Shaw
DATE & TIME: 12/29/2022 10:30 am



THE SENATE
TWENTY-SECOND NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE BILL NO. 22-47 SD1, HD1

AN ACT

To amend 1 CMC § 2482(b) to authorize the Central Statistics Division to request vital statistics data and fish, game, wildlife and endangered and threatened species data

SENATE ACTION

Offered by Senator(s): Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero

Date: May 10, 2021

Referred to: Committee on Resources, Economic Development, and Programs

Standing Committee Report No.: 22-36 Adopted 8/12/21

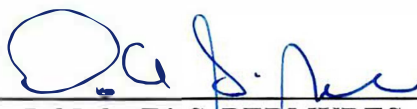
Final Reading: Accepted and passed HD1 on December 28, 2022

HOUSE ACTION

Referred to: None

Standing Committee Report No.: None

First and Final Reading: November 30, 2022


DOLORES S. BERMUDES
SENATE CLERK



THE SENATE
TWENTY-SECOND NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION, 2021

S. B. NO. 22-47, SD1, HD1

AN ACT

To amend 1 CMC § 2482(b) to authorize the Central Statistics Division to request vital statistics data and fish, game, wildlife and endangered and threatened species data.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE TWENTY-SECOND NORTHERN MARIANAS
COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:**

1 **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature finds that the Central Statistics
2 Division at the Department of Commerce was established, among other things, to make
3 provisions for the collection, tabulation, compilation, publication, and reporting of official
4 statistics and to ensure the accuracy of statistics and the efficiency of the statistical system
5 by establishing a comprehensive coordination of statistical activities and realignment of
6 statistical operations in the CNMI. Although there is a list of official statistical data that the
7 Central Statistics Division is authorized to collect and compile, there are a some very
8 important data that may, but is not required, to be collected by the Central Statistics
9 Division for analysis and recording purposes.

10 The Legislature finds that although the Central Statistics Division is already
11 required to collect health, welfare and morbidity data, the division is not required to
12 specifically collect vital statistics data as defined in 1 CMC § 26005(m), which includes
13 data derived from certificates and reports of birth, death, fetal death, induced termination
14 of pregnancy, and related reports. These vital statistics data are crucial to policy-making
15 decisions and fiscal appropriations of the CNMI government.

16 The Legislature further finds that fish, game, wildlife and endangered and
17 threatened species data are collected by the Division of Fish and Wildlife. However, the

SENATE BILL NO. 22-47, SD1, HD1

1 data is not required to be submitted to, nor collected by, the Central Statistics Division for
2 data collection and recording purposes. The statistics data collected by the Division of Fish
3 and Wildlife are critical in determining the health and stock of our fish, game, wildlife and
4 endangered and threatened species. These data are instrumental in assisting elected leaders
5 make informed decisions about sustainable fishing, hunting, and harvesting of our
6 resources. Accordingly, the purpose of this legislation is to authorize the sharing of the
7 vital statistics data as defined in 1 CMC § 26005(m) and fish, game, wildlife and
8 endangered and threatened species data collected by the Division of Fish and Wildlife to
9 the list of information to be used by the Central Statistics Division.

10 **Section 2. Amendment.** 1 CMC § 2482(b) is hereby amended to read as follows:

11 “(b) The Central Statistics Division is authorized to request, collect, compile and
12 report all official statistics covering social, economic, and demographic fields as required
13 for the purpose of making policy decisions and to carry out the purposes of this article and
14 to conduct pertinent censuses and surveys. Information shall be collected to enable the
15 production of official statistics relating to the following:

- 16 (1) Population and housing;
- 17 (2) Health, welfare and morbidity;
- 18 (3) Law enforcement and the administration of justice;
- 19 (4) Data relating to social and physical environment;
- 20 (5) Labor force, employment and unemployment;
- 21 (6) Accidents and injuries;
- 22 (7) Income expenditure and taxation;
- 23 (8) Land tenure and land use;
- 24 (9) Assets and liabilities;
- 25 (10) Prices;
- 26 (11) Trade and finance;
- 27 (12) Travel and transportation;
- 28 (13) Economic, financial, manufacturing, production, and administrative
29 activities;

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1 ~~(14) Request from the Health and Vital Statistics Office~~ Vital statistics data
2 as defined in 1 CMC § 26005(m) from the Health and Vital Statistics Office;

3 ~~(15) Request from the Department of Lands and Natural Resources~~ Fish,
4 game, wildlife and endangered and threatened species data from the Department of
5 Lands and Natural Resources;

6 (16) All government maintenance and operation programs; and

7 (17) Other related matters.”

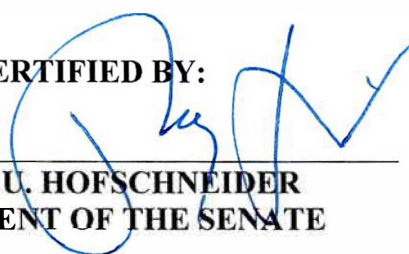
8 **Section 3. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or the application of any such
9 provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent
10 jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or
11 circumstances other than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

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

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

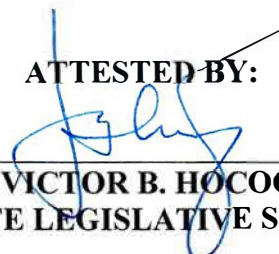
SENATE BILL NO. 22-47, SD1, HD1

CERTIFIED BY:



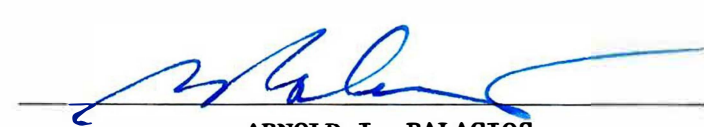
JUDE U. HOFSCHEIDER
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

ATTESTED BY:



VICTOR B. HOCOG
SENATE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY

Approved this 31st day of January, 2022³



ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands