

21ST NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

\_\_\_\_\_ Session, 2019

H. B. 21- 62

A BILL FOR AN ACT

To restrict the deduction of unpaid gambling obligations from gross revenues.

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

1           **Section 1. Findings.** Although gambling is allowed in the Commonwealth,  
2 gambling can have an adverse effect on the community. Further, making loans or  
3 extending credit for the purpose of gambling can foster problem gambling. This  
4 Act discourages lending for the purpose of gambling by providing that unpaid  
5 balances on loans extended for gambling shall not be deducted from gross revenues  
6 in determining the tax on gross revenues.

7           **Section 2. Amendment.** Title 4, Division 1, Chapter 3 of the  
8 Commonwealth Code is amended by adding a new section 1310 to read as follows:

9           “§1310. Limitation on deductions from Gross Revenue.  
10           No deduction shall be allowed from gross revenues for the unpaid balance  
11           of any obligation or credit extended for gambling or gaming.”

12           **Section 3. Severability.** If any provisions of this Act or the application of  
13 any such provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court

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1 of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its  
2 provisions to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid  
3 shall not be affected thereby.

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6 acquired under statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation, or order adopted  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

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

Filed: June 13, 2019

Date: 06/13/19

Introduced by:

Rep. Ralph N. Yumul

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:

J. F. Coel  
House Legal Counsel

Handwritten signatures of Rep. Ralph N. Yumul, El Progreso, and Christina Sablan.