

P.L. 11-61



GOV. COMM. 11-387  
(HOUSE)

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Pedro P. Tenorio  
Governor

Jesus R. Sablan  
Lt. Governor

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The Honorable Diego T. Benavente  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Eleventh Northern Marianas  
Commonwealth Legislature  
Saipan, MP 96950

JAN 12 1999

and

12 1999

The Honorable Paul A. Manglona  
President of the Senate  
Eleventh Northern Marianas  
Commonwealth Legislature  
Saipan, MP 96950

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Dear Mr. Speaker and Mr. President:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law House Bill No. 11-33, **HS1**, entitled, "To amend 9 CMC, Section 5807(b) and to add a new subsection (f) to prohibit the launching of boats or other watercraft from beaches," which was passed by the Eleventh Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

I realize this measure may cause some inconvenience to those who have been using the beach to launch their boats or other watercraft. However, we must all do our part in preserving and safeguarding the natural beauty of our islands, as well as its environment.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 11-61**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

  
PEDRO P. TENORIO

CC: Secretary of Public Safety  
Administrator, Marianas Visitors Authority  
Special Assistant for Programs & Legislative Review

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ELEVENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE  
FIFTH SPECIAL SESSION, 1998

PUBLIC LAW NO. 11-61  
HOUSE BILL NO. 11-33, HS1

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## AN ACT

To amend 9 CMC Section 5807(b) and to add a new subsection (f) to prohibit the launching of boats or other watercraft from beaches

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**Offered by Representatives:**  
and Melvin L. O. Faisao

Manuel A. Tenorio

**Date:** January 22, 1998

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### HOUSE ACTION

Referred to: Committee on Natural Resources

Standing Committee Report No. 11-14

First and Final Reading: July 6, 1998

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### SENATE ACTION

Referred to: Committee on Resources, Economic Development and Programs

Standing Committee Report: None

Second and Final Reading: December 17, 1998

  
Evelyn C. Fleming  
House Clerk

ELEVENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

PUBLIC LAW NO. 11-61

H. B. NO. 11-33, HS1

FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 1998

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AN ACT

To amend 9 CMC Section 5807(b) and to add a new subsection (f) to prohibit the launching of boats or other watercraft from beaches.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE ELEVENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH  
LEGISLATURE:

1           Section 1. Findings. The Legislature finds that due to the increased use of the beaches  
2 of the Commonwealth, the risks of environmental degradation which accompany such use  
3 have become much greater. Particularly damaging to the beaches is the constant and continued  
4 traffic by motor vehicles to launch watercraft and other beach accessories. The tire ruts at the  
5 shoreline contribute substantially to erosion, endangering not just the beach but the properties  
6 adjacent to it. This is in addition to any other associated sources of pollution, such as  
7 improperly disposed of refuse, as well as fuel and oil spills, as well as carbon residue from  
8 exhaust; all of which can be deadly to life in the inter-tidal zone.

9           Section 2. Amendment. 9 CMC Section 5807(b) is hereby amended as follows:

10           "(b) It is unlawful for any motor vehicle to enter or go upon any beach area or  
11 historic site or tourist site within the Commonwealth. 'Beach Area' means those areas  
12 of unconsolidated deposits along the shore with their seaward boundary being at the  
13 low water mark or reef flat platform level extending in a landward direction not less  
14 than 150 feet. 'Historic sites or tourist sites' means the boundaries of any area or site so  
15 designated by the Marianas Visitors Bureau."

16           Section 3. Amendment. 9 CMC Section 5807 is amended by the addition of a new  
17 subsection (f) which shall read as follows:


18           "(f) it is unlawful to launch boats and other watercraft by means of a motor  
19 vehicle, boat trailer or any similar device into the ocean from any beach site other than  
20 a launch pad specifically designed for such a use; violation of which shall be punished  
21 by a fine of \$200 and/or one month in jail."

1           Section 4. Severability. If any provision of this Act or the application of any such  
2 provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent  
3 jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or  
4 circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

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

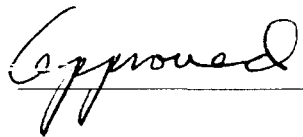
12           Section 6. Effective Date. This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the Governor  
13 or upon its becoming law without such approval.


**CERTIFIED BY:**

  
**DIEGO T. BENAVENTE'**  
**Speaker**  
House of Representatives

**ATTESTED BY:**

  
**EVELYN C. FLEMING**  
House Clerk

 Approved this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1999

  
**PEDRO P. TENORIO**  
**Governor**  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands