



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Benigno R. Fitial
Governor

Timothy P. Villagomez
Lieutenant Governor

The Honorable Oscar M. Babauta
Speaker, House of Representatives
Fifteenth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

SEP 26 2006

The Honorable Joseph M. Mendiola
Senate President, The Senate
Fifteenth 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. 15-155, entitled, "To amend 4 CMC §§ 1402 (c) and (d), excise tax exemption for renewable energy products and products bearing the ENERGY STAR rating; and for other purposes," which was passed by the Fifteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 15-30**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Benigno R. Fitial".

BENIGNO R. FITIAL

cc: Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General
Secretary, Department of Finance
Secretary, Department of Public Works
Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Special Assistant for Management and Budget
Director of Personnel, Office of Personnel Management
Executive Director, Commonwealth's Law Revision Commission
Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review



The House of Representatives
NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586
SAIPAN, MP 96950

August 24, 2006

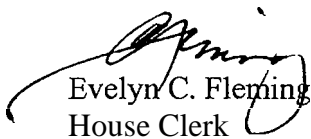
PUBLIC LAW NO. 15-30

The Honorable Benigno R. Fitial
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern
Mariana Islands
Capitol Hill
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Governor Fitial:

I have the honor of transmitting herewith for your action H. B. No. 15-155, entitled: "To amend 4 CMC §§ 1402(c) and (d), excise tax exemption for renewable energy products and products bearing the ENERGY STAR rating; and for other purposes." The Bill was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Fifteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Sincerely yours,


Evelyn C. Fleming
House Clerk

Attachment



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FIFTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
FIFTH DAY, SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 2006

PUBLIC LAW NO. 15-30
H. B. No. 15-155

AN ACT

To amend 4 CMC §§ 1402(c) and (d), excise tax exemption for renewable energy products and products bearing the ENERGY STAR rating; and for other purposes.

In the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Offered by Representatives: Justo S. Quitugua and Arnold I. Palacios

Date: July 28, 2006

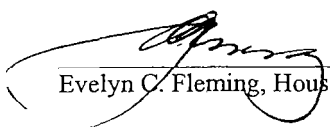
Referred to: None
Public Hearing: None
Standing Committee Report: None

Passed First and Final Reading on August 11, 2006

In the SENATE

Referred to: None
Public Hearing: None
Standing Committee Report: None

Passed Final Reading on August 17, 2006


Evelyn C. Fleming, House Clerk



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FIFTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION, 2006

PUBLIC LAW NO. 15-30
H. B. No. 15-155

AN ACT

To amend 4 CMC §§ 1402(c) and (d), excise tax exemption for renewable energy products and products bearing the ENERGY STAR rating; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE FIFTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:

1 **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature finds that to move the
2 Commonwealth towards energy self-sufficiency is imperative. There is great need to pursue
3 the acquisition and use of products that will generate power from renewable energy sources,
4 lower the use of fossil fuels, and lower the demand for electrical power from the CUC. The
5 Legislature further finds that financial incentives are often the most powerful form of
6 persuasion, and are necessary to encourage and empower businesses, utilities, and private
7 citizens.

8 Therefore, the purpose of this act is to empower and encourage businesses and private
9 individuals to pursue the acquisition and use of products that utilize alternative energy
10 sources and products that conserve the use of energy from any source, by providing excise
11 tax exemptions.

12 **Section 2. Amendment.** 4 CMC § 1402 (c)(6) is amended to read as follows:

13 “(6) Equipment, machinery, merchandise, devices, and other items which
14 produce, or are components of a system that produces, electric power from wind,
15 solar, water, landfill gas, waste, geothermal sources, ocean thermal, ocean current or
16 wave energy, biomass, municipal solid waste, biofuels, or fuels derived from organic
sources, hydrogen fuels, or fuel cells where the fuel is derived from renewable
sources.”

1 Section 3. Amendment. 4 CMC § 1402(c) is amended by adding a new (13):

2 "(13) Equipment, machinery, merchandise, devices, and other items which are
3 certified ENERGY STAR by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S.
4 Department of Energy."

5 Section 4. Amendments. 4 CMC Division 1 § 1402(d) is hereby amended by adding
6 a new (7) and (8):

7 "(7) Equipment, machinery, merchandise, devices, and other items which
8 produce, or are components of a system that produces, electric power from wind,
9 solar, water, landfill gas, waste, geothermal sources, ocean thermal, ocean current or
10 wave energy, biomass, municipal solid waste, biofuels, or fuels derived from organic
11 sources, hydrogen fuels, or fuel cells where the fuel is derived from renewable
12 sources.

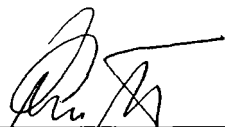
13 (8) Equipment, machinery, merchandise, devices, and other items which are
14 certified ENERGY STAR by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S.
15 Department of Energy."

16 Section 5. Severability. If any provision of this Act or the application of any such
17 provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent
18 jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or
19 circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

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

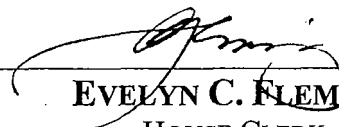
1 **Section 7. Effective Date.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the
2 Governor, or becoming law without such approval.

CERTIFIED BY:



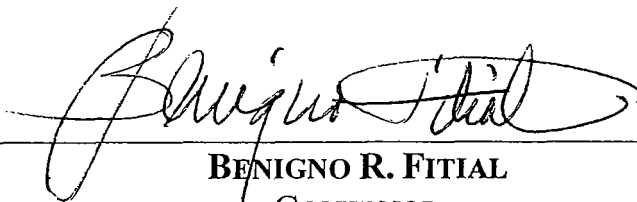
OSCAR M. BABAUTA
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

ATTESTED TO BY:



EVELYN C. FLEMING
HOUSE CLERK

APPROVED on this 26th day of SEPTEMBER, 2006



BENIGNO R. FITIAL
GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS