

**FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT
NINTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE**

ROTA LOCAL LAW NO. 9-2

FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 1994

**SENATE LOCAL
BILL NO. 9-5**

A LOCAL ACT

To create a fish reserve in Sasanhaya in Rota which shall extend from Puña Point to the Coral Gardens, and for other purposes.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE ROTA LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION PURSUANT TO
CHAPTER 4 OF DIVISION 1 OF TITLE 1 OF THE COMMONWEALTH CODE:**

Section 1. Findings. The First Senatorial District Delegation finds that there is a need to preserve the natural beauty, pristine marine environment and the historical wreckage in the Sasanhaya Bay of Rota, especially from Puña Point to the Coral Gardens. The Delegation further finds that this area is a valuable tourist attraction and that its preservation would be a boost to this industry. The Delegation further finds that the protection of marine life in this area will be best accomplished by establishing a fish reserve within which fishing and other potentially harmful activities shall be restricted.

Section 2. Fish Reserve. This Act shall create a fish reserve, to be located in the Sasanhaya Bay of Rota, between and including Puña Point and the Coral Gardens. The boundaries of said reserve will be delineated by buoys to help the public identify the area and comply with the regulations, and also greatly assist law enforcement. Killing or removing, or attempting to remove, any marine animal, including but not limited to any fishes, coral (live or dead), lobster, shellfish, clams or octopus shall be prohibited within this reserve. Shell removal shall also be prohibited. Any other activities which are exploitive or destructive to the marine life and/or the World War II wrecks (specifically the sub chaser and the Japanese freighter Shoun Maru), shall be strictly prohibited within this fish reserve.

Section 3. Enforcement. Enforcement and management of this Act shall be the responsibility of the Director of the Department of Natural Resources, in consultation with the Chief of Fish and Wildlife and the Resident Director of the Department of Natural Resources in the First Senatorial District. Such enforcement shall be pursuant to the provisions contained in 2 CMC, Division 5, Chapter 1, Section 5109.

Section 4. Severability. If any provision of this Act or the application of any such provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the

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

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

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

CERTIFIED BY:

/s/ Vianney B. Hocog
REP. VIANNEY B. HOCOG
CHAIRMAN
ROTA LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

/s/ Juan S. Demapan
JUAN S. DEMAPAN
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

Approved this 13th day of October, 1994.

/s/ Froilan C. Tenorio
FROILAN C. TENORIO
GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS