

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 10443

To amend title 28, to provide for a district court for the district of the Northern Mariana Islands.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 17, 2024

Mr. SABLAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 28, to provide for a district court for the district of the Northern Mariana Islands.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Article III Judicial
5 Independence Act of 2024”.

6 **SEC. 2. NEW JUDICIAL DISTRICT.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 5 of title 28, United
8 States Code is amended by inserting after section 114 the
9 following:

1 **“§ 114a. Northern Mariana Islands**

2 “The Northern Mariana Islands constitutes one judi-
3 cial district. Court shall be held at Saipan.”.

4 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
5 for such chapter is amended by inserting after the item
6 pertaining to section 114 the following:

“114a. Northern Mariana Islands.”.

7 **SEC. 3. CONVERSION OF EXISTING COURT AND JUDGE.**

8 (a) COURT.—For purposes of establishing the district
9 court under section 114a of title 28, United States Code,
10 the facilities and property of the District Court for the
11 Northern Mariana Islands under section 1 of the Act of
12 November 8, 1977 (48 U.S.C. 1821) shall be converted
13 to the use of the court under such section 114a.

14 (b) JUDGE.—The judge for the District Court for the
15 Northern Mariana Islands under section 1 of the Act of
16 November 8, 1977 (48 U.S.C. 1821), as of the date of
17 enactment of this Act shall be deemed to have been ap-
18 pointed as the judge for the district court for the Northern
19 Mariana Islands under section 114a of title 28, United
20 States Code. Such judge shall hold office during good be-
21 havior, pursuant to section 134 of title 28, United States
22 Code.

23 (c) REPEAL.—Section 1 of the Act of November 8,
24 1977 (48 U.S.C. 1821) is repealed.

1 **SEC. 4. JUDGES IN TERRITORIES AND POSSESSIONS.**

2 Section 373 of title 28, United States Code, is
3 amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “, the District
5 Court of the Northern Mariana Islands,”; and

6 (2) in subsection (e), by striking “, the District
7 Court of the Northern Mariana Islands,”.

8 **SEC. 5. APPLICABILITY.**

9 The amendments made by this Act shall not affect
10 the tenure of office or right to continue to receive salary
11 after resignation, retirement, or failure of reappointment
12 of any district judge for the district of the Northern Mar-
13 iana Islands who is in office on the date of enactment of
14 this Act.

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