

(S. B. 21)

(No. 6-2017)

(Approved January 30, 2017)

AN ACT

To amend Section 5 of Act No. 80-1991, as amended, known as the “Municipal Revenues Collection Center Act,” to set forth the manner in which mayors shall be elected as members of the Governing Board of CRIM; and for other related purposes.

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

Act No. 80-1991, as amended, created the Municipal Revenues Collection Center (CRIM, Spanish acronym). CRIM is a municipal entity independent from all other government agencies, which was created as part of the Municipal Reform process. Moreover, CRIM was entrusted with the Administration of the Municipal Property Tax Act on behalf of the municipalities.

CRIM provides fiscal services to municipalities relating to property taxes, and is responsible for reporting, assessing, collecting, receiving, and allocating public funds derived from the property tax revenues, the state subsidy, the Electronic Lottery proceeds, and any other funds as provided by law for the benefit of Puerto Rico’s municipalities.

The purpose of this Bill is to establish the manner in which mayors shall be elected as members of the Governing Board of CRIM, the majority of which shall belong to the political party that polled the highest number of votes in the immediately preceding general election.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF PUERTO RICO:

Section 1.- Subsection (a) of Section 5 of Act No. 80-1991, as amended, known as the “Municipal Revenues Collection Center Act,” is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 5.- Governing Board – Composition.-

The Center shall be governed by a Governing Board composed of eleven (11) members, nine (9) of which shall be mayors representing all the municipalities of Puerto Rico and the remaining two (2) members shall be the President of the Government Development Bank and the Commissioner of Municipal Affairs.

(a) Election of the Mayors Members of the Board.—The mayors members of the Board shall be elected by secret ballot of all incumbent mayors as of the election date in an assembly duly convened for such purposes by the Secretary of State. Five (5) of the mayors members of the Board shall belong to the party that polled the highest number of votes in the immediately preceding general election and to the entity representing the mayors’ group of said party. The remaining four (4) members shall be selected from among the other mayors who have won municipalities in said general election and belong to the entities representing the mayors affiliated to the minority parties, except that in the event that they are not sufficient to cover said four (4) positions, the party that polled the highest number of votes in the immediately preceding general election shall elect the members needed to complete the total of members of the Board. To achieve a fair representation of the municipalities in the Board, of the five (5) and four (4) mayors to be members of the Board who belong to the party that polled the highest number of votes in the immediately preceding general election, and to the entity representing the mayors’ affiliated to minority parties, respectively, one must be from a municipality with a population of 75,000 or more inhabitants, one must be from a municipality with a population of more than 40,000 but less than 75,000 inhabitants,

and one must be from a municipality with less than 40,000 inhabitants. Each entity representing mayors shall prescribe, by regulations, the geographical areas to which their municipalities shall belong.

(b) Election Assembly.—The assembly to elect the mayors members of the Board must be held not later than thirty (30) days following the second Monday of the month of January following each general election. Two-thirds ($2/3$) of the total of incumbent mayors shall constitute a quorum as of the date the same is held, and the affirmative vote of a majority of those present at the assembly shall be required to declare the mayors members of the Board as elected. If the required quorum is not achieved in the first assembly, the Secretary of State shall call a second assembly not later than forty-eight (48) hours after the holding of the first assembly. The mayors present at said assembly shall constitute a quorum. The Secretary of State shall adopt the rules and procedures to nominate and elect the mayors members of the Board after consulting with the entities or organizations that represent the municipalities.

(c) ...”

Section 2.- Effectiveness.

This Act shall take effect immediately after its approval.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the Secretary of State that the following **Act No. 6-2017 (S. B. 21)** of the **1st Regular Session** of the **18th Legislative Assembly of Puerto Rico**:

AN ACT to amend Section 5 of Act No. 80-1991, as amended, known as the “Municipal Revenues Collection Center Act,” to set forth the manner in which mayors shall be elected as members of the Governing Board of CRIM; and for other related purposes.

has been translated from Spanish to English and that the English version is correct.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, on this 14th day of September, 2017.

Orlando Pagán-Ramírez
Acting Director