I MINA' TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN 2015 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. <u>50</u> -33 (COR)

Introduced by: Rory J. Respicio

AN ACT TO AMEND §8121 OF CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 4 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO THE ANNUITY PAYMENTS OF CERTIFIED, REGISTERED OR LICENSED HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL, OR ANCILLARY SERVICE PERSONNEL EMPLOYED BY THE JUDICIARY OF GUAM

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Intent. The Judiciary of Guam Client Services & 1 Family Counseling Division provides a variety of direct therapeutic, psychological, 2 evaluative, consultative, and educational services to the court, its clientele, and the 3 community. These services include forensic and psychological evaluations; 4 individual, couples/conciliation, and family counseling; group counseling; and in-5 house consultation and counseling. To address the continued availability of these 6 services, it is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to provide the Judiciary of Guam 7 with the same exemption to the provisions of 4 GCA §8121 that allow certified, 8 registered, or licensed health care professionals, or ancillary service personnel, 9 employed by the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority, the Guam Behavioral Health 10

and Wellness Center, and the Department of Public Health and Social Services, to

2 receive annuity payments if they are employed by the courts for any period of time.

This provision will allow the Judiciary of Guam to introduce evidenced based practices to improve probation services, update and improve the effectiveness of the Alternative Sentencing Office and its programs, adopt and implement risk and needs assessment tools to develop case management plans, and improve the responsiveness of referral services for behavioral health, substance abuse and developmental disabilities.

Section 2. §8121 of Chapter 8 of Title 4 of the Guam Code Annotated is hereby amended as follows:

"§ 8121. Same. Suspension of Annuity Payment. (a) A retired member who subsequently becomes an employee eligible for membership under § 8106 of this Title prior to January 1, 1999, shall, upon becoming so employed, have that member's right to receive payment of that member's annuity suspended for the duration of that member's employment, but all other rights pertaining to that member's annuity provided by this Article, including automatic increases therein, shall be retained by that member. The provisions of this Section shall not be applicable to any retired Judge or Justice designated and assigned by the Chief Justice to perform judicial duties in the courts of Guam as provided for in § 6115 of Title 7 GCA, or

any person employed by the Department of Education in Guam schools, as a substitute teacher or as a Certified Augmentation Teaching Service (CATS) employee as that term is defined by Title 17 GCA § 3127(b). Such employment shall be subject to the provisions of Subsection (d) of this Section.

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The provisions of this Section shall not be applicable to any certified, registered or licensed health care professional, or ancillary service personnel, employed by the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority, the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, the Department of Public Health and Social Services, and the Judiciary of Guam; academic faculty positions at the University of Guam and the Guam Community College; a limited term police officer employed by the Guam Police Department, to include Police Officers I, II, III and Sergeant I & II, performing duties such as patrol officers, narcotic officers, criminal investigators and school resource officers; or limited term school bus drivers or automotive mechanics employed by the Department of Public Works; provided, that such person(s) occupies such positions for which no other qualified/certified applicants was available, and that such employment shall be on a fiscal year basis; subject to the provisions of Subsection (d) of this Section.

The provisions of this Section shall not be applicable to employee(s) of the Office of the Governor, employee(s) of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, unclassified employee(s) appointed by the Governor of Guam, and heads of autonomous agencies appointed by a governing board. An employee of the Governor or Lieutenant Governor's office or unclassified employee appointed by the Governor of Guam and heads of autonomous agencies appointed by a governing board who has previously retired shall become a member of the Defined Contribution Retirement System."