

I MINA TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN  
2015 (First) Regular Session

Bill No. 171-33 (COR)

Introduced by:

R.J. Respicio 

AN ACT TO MANDATE THAT THE BUREAU OF  
STATISTICS AND PLANS (BSP) COLLECT DATA ON  
THE AMOUNT AND TYPE OF ALL PRODUCE  
IMPORTED TO GUAM, SUCH INFORMATION TO BE  
LISTED QUARTERLY BY TYPE OF PRODUCE ON BOTH  
THE BSP AND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S  
WEBSITES.

2015 SEP -4 PM 4: 05  


1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

2 SECTION 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslatura Guahan*

3 finds that our island imports a significant amount of produce that could be

4 grown here in Guam. Our island's farmers are capable of providing many

5 of the varieties of fruits and vegetables that consumers need and desire, yet

6 information on the type and quantity of the individual fruits and

7 vegetables imported into Guam is not readily available. *I Liheslatura*

8 further finds that Chapter 68 of 5 GCA mandates the Department of

9 Agriculture to ensure that the crops of the farmers and the fish products of

10 the fishermen of Guam are first procured by agencies of the government,

11 such as Department of Education, Department of Youth Affairs,  
12 Department of Corrections, the Guam Memorial Hospital, and the  
13 Government House. At a recent public hearing on the nomination of the  
14 new Director of Agriculture, former Vice-Speaker Ted S. Nelson, who  
15 sponsored, the provision noted that this law had never been fully complied  
16 with by executive agencies.

17 *I Liheslatura* intends that the Bureau of Statistics and Plans be  
18 mandated to expand and publish their data on the types and amounts of all  
19 produce imported into Guam, to include the type and individual amounts  
20 of the various types of produce being imported, for each calendar quarter.  
21 As part of this process, the Bureau shall also incorporate data on  
22 government procurement of local produce. This data resource will be  
23 beneficial not only for government policy makers but also for our island's  
24 farmers, who will be better able to know which crops to plant, how much  
25 they need to produce, how much they may be able to export, and which  
26 imports can be substituted by local products.

27           **SECTION 2. A NEW Sub item (j) is *added* to Title 5 GCA Chapter 1**

28   **§ 1209, to read:**

29   **“(j) Agriculture Data Collection.** The Bureau *shall* separate data collected  
30 relative to the types and amounts of all types of produce imported into  
31 Guam, and report such data on a quarterly and annual basis. Such data  
32 shall be posted on the Bureau’s web site and the Department of  
33 Agriculture’s website, to include the poundage of each type of produce.  
34 The Bureau shall also collect data on a quarterly basis on all government  
35 procurement of local produce by the Department of Education,  
36 Department of Youth Affairs, Department of Corrections, the Guam  
37 Memorial Hospital, Government House, and any other government  
38 agencies involved in such procurement. This data should be made  
39 available to the media. Copies of the posting in printed format shall be  
40 made available at the Department of Agriculture’s offices. All departments  
41 and agencies that handle documents containing information on the data  
42 required to be collected and published herein shall cooperate with the  
43 Bureau to ensure the completion of the reports as required herein.”