MINA'BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2005 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 131 (EC)

Introduced by:

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L.A. Leon Guerrero

AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE ENFORCEMENT OF ACCESSIBLE PARKING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ACT THROUGH THE AMENDMENT OF SECTIONS 3401.1 (h) AND (e) OF ARTICLE 4 OF CHAPTER 3 OF TITLE 16, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; BY ADDING A NEW ITEM (3)(d) TO SECTION 12108 OF CHAPTER 12 OF TITLE 16, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND TO APPROPRIATE FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,000) TO THE DEPARTMENT OF INTEGRATED SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES (DISID) FOR TRAINING OF PERSONS DESIGNATED TO ISSUE CITATIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

2 Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. I Liheslaturan Guahan 3 finds that while there is an existing law that provides for accessible parking for persons with disabilities and that this law also includes fines 4 and penalties for violators, lack of enforcement has resulted in physical 5 hardship and distress for those persons with disabilities wishing to park 6 7 in the accessible area but are unable to because of those who are illegally parked. Current law stipulates that the Guam Police Department, 8 individuals designated by the Department of Integrated Services for 9 Individuals with Disabilities (DISID), Nonprofit Organizations (NPOs) 10 and private security personnel can issue citations for those violating the 11 law. However, because of the lack of funding, enforcement has been 12 problematic. 13

Additionally, *I Liheslatura* finds that persons who are authorized to issue citations should be inclusive of the community.

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Therefore, it is the intent of *I Liheslatura* to make the Accessible Parking for Persons with Disabilities Act more enforceable, by appropriating funds for the training of individuals to issue citations to violators of this law and to include other stakeholders in the community.

Section 2. Subsection (h) of Section 3401.1 of Article 4 of Chapter 3 of Title 16, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby amended to read:

"(h) Private Persons Authorized to Issue Citations. Private and Government Security Personnel; Mayors; Vice Mayors; Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities personnel; persons from the public designated by the Director of the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities; and persons who are designated by the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities and employed selected by Nonprofit Organizations (NPOs) representing or serving people with disabilities and who are designated by the Director of the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities, are hereby authorized to issue citations to enforce the provisions of this Act Section provided they obtain proper training in law enforcement, as evidenced by a certificate of completion from an accredited law enforcement academy or institute. Citation forms may be distributed by the Traffic Violations Bureau Guam Police Department for use in the enforcement of this Chapter."

Section 3. Subsection (e) of Section 3401.1 of Article 4 of Chapter 3 of Title 16, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby amended to read:

"(e) A violation of subsections (b), (c) or (d), of this Section shall be punished by a fine of not less than Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) and not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00). All fines are imposed by the court shall be deposited into the Accessible Parking Fund maintained by the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities pursuant to 5 GCA §50111(c). Additionally, upon issuance of a citation, a vehicle which is illegally parked pursuant to this Subsection may be towed, and the owner of the vehicle shall be liable for reasonable towing expenses, which charges shall constitute a lien against the offending vehicle."

Section 4. A new item (3)(d) is hereby added to Section 12108 of Chapter 12 of Title 16, Guam Code Annotated, to read as follows:

"(d) A tow truck owner or operator who has been instructed by a law enforcement officer or any persons authorized by 16 GCA §3401.1(h) to implement 16 GCA §3401.1."

Section 5. There is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities the Sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) for the purpose of funding for the training of persons designated by the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities, pursuant to 16 GCA §3401.1(h), to issue citations to enforce the provisions of the Accessible Parking for Persons with Disabilities Act (16 GCA §3401.1).

Section 6. Severability. If any of the provisions of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any other provision or application of this Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are severable.