

MINA BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN
2005 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. *162(ec)*

Introduced by:

Mike Cruz M.D. *me*
J.A. Lujan

**AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 9 (B) OF CHAPTER IV OF PUBLIC
LAW 27-106 TO STREAMLINE THE PROCESS TO MAKE AVAILABLE
EXISTING FUNDING FOR THE
GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY.**

1 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:**

2 **Section 1. Legislative Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* recognizes that, as a
3 consequence of it's indigent care load, the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority
4 ("GMHA") requires financial support beyond the Authority's existing revenues
5 if it is to adequately meet the Hospital's mission of providing quality health care
6 for the people of Guam. To address this need, in part, the FY 2005 Budget
7 provides for \$4 million in funding to GMHA to cover the cost of billings for
8 uninsured residents which have gone through in-house and all other GMHA-
9 endorsed collections processes and have been transferred to the category of or
10 officially deemed "bad debt". *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* is concerned that, nine
11 months into the fiscal year, the intent of this provision is not being fully met
12 inasmuch none of this funding has been released to GMHA despite the fact that
13 the Hospital continues to suffer from major shortages of cash resources. For this
14 reason, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that this process should be streamlined further
15 so that this vitally needed funding will be made available to our Hospital.

16 **Section 2.** Section 9(b) of Chapter IV of Public Law 27-106 is hereby
17 *amended* to read as follows:

18 "(b). The sum of Four Million Dollars (**\$4,000,000.00**) is hereby appropriated
19 from the General Fund to the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority ("GMHA") ~~the~~

1 ~~Department of Public Health and Social Services (“DPHSS”) to be administered by the~~
2 ~~Medically Indigent Program and Medicaid Program for medical services provided by the~~
3 ~~Guam Memorial Hospital (“GMH”). GMH may invoice DPHSS for uninsured residents~~
4 ~~for those services or billings which have gone through in-house and all other GMHA-~~
5 ~~endorsed collections processes and have been transferred to the category of or officially~~
6 ~~deemed “bad debt.” Invoices shall be pursuant to the MIP benefits and cost~~
7 ~~reimbursement schedule. DPHSS shall be entitled to two percent (2%) of the Four~~
8 ~~Million Dollars (\$4,000,000.00) appropriated herein for administration costs for~~
9 ~~processing according to this Section. Subsequent collections of any “bad debt” paid for~~
10 ~~by this appropriation shall be reimbursed by Guam Memorial Hospital to the Medically~~
11 ~~Indigent Program at the DPHSS.~~

12 ~~The Director of DPHSS shall provide a quarterly financial report to the Speaker~~
13 ~~of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* of the allocation and expenditures associated with the~~
14 ~~appropriations contained herein.”~~