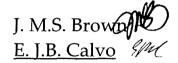
## MINA'BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2005 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No 220 (EC)

Introduced by:



AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT ARTICLE 2 OF CHAPTER 14 OF TITLE 12 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, **RELATIVE** TO AUTHORIZING **GUAM** WATERWORKS AUTHORITY TO ISSUE REVENUE BONDS AND OTHER INDEBTEDNESS FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING THE WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEM OF GUAM; AND APPROVING TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE ISSUANCE OF ONE OR MORE SERIES OF SUCH BONDS PURSUANT TO SUCH ARTICLE FOR SUCH PURPOSES.

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

- 2 Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. I Liheslaturan Guåhan, finds that the
- 3 condition of Guam's water and wastewater infrastructure has seriously deteriorated
- 4 over the past decades. The severe limitations of the infrastructure to reliably deliver
- 5 clean and safe drinking water has negatively impacted the quality of life of the People
- 6 of Guam. Additionally, it is reasonable to assert that Guam's economic development
- 7 is also being negatively impacted by the inability of a failed system to deliver the
- 8 most basic of all utility services.

This finding is further supported by the conclusions of a recent study completed by Brown and Caldwell, an engineering firm hired to assess the condition of Guam's water and wastewater infrastructure and to formulate a Master Plan for the development of an infrastructure that will have the capacity to support current and future demands for reliable and quality water and wastewater utility services.

This same conclusion was also reached by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA). After many years of warning from the U.S. EPA about the inability of Guam Waterworks Authority's (GWA) infrastructure to provide clean and safe drinking water and properly dispose of the wastewater, the U.S. EPA filed a lawsuit in the Federal District Court against the GWA to place the agency in receivership. A receivership status will essentially mean that the U.S. EPA will have the authority to select a third party of its choice to take over the GWA operation in order to get the long standing deficiencies corrected. All costs incurred will ultimately have to be paid for by the rate payers of Guam.

Section 2. Recognizing that placing GWA into receivership is not a desirable position to be in, the Consolidated Commission on Utilities (CCU), a newly created governing entity, successfully persuaded the U.S. District Court of Guam to allow the CCU to undertake the responsibility of rectifying the long standing problems. Hence, the promulgation of the Stipulated Order which outlines the corrective actions that GWA shall undertake. The GWA, under the auspices and direction of the CCU has taken many steps to improve the system, including hiring a professional management team, cutting costs, and enacting policies that ensure improvements are made.

However, notwithstanding the CCU's efforts, the new construction and upgrades that will be needed are estimated to cost approximately Two Hundred Twenty Million Dollars (\$220,000,000.00). Indeed, despite the fact that the Stipulated Order places a stringent time line for the corrective actions to be accomplished, an

even more compelling reason to ensure the timely upgrade and improvement of Guam's water and wastewater infrastructure is simply because the People of Guam deserve no less.

In addition to the estimated cost of Two Hundred Twenty Million Dollars (\$220,000,000.00) to meet the terms of the Stipulated Order, there are the additional costs of rebuilding, rehabilitating and modernizing the system which are expected to cost an additional Two Hundred Thirty Million Dollars (\$230,000,000.00) thereby bringing the total that GWA needs to Four Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (450,000,000.00).

The CCU and GWA, in coordination with the Guam Economic Development & Commerce Authority (GEDCA), have been diligently working on completing the administrative prerequisites to borrow from the bond market the capital required to accomplish the upgrades. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* fully recognizes the magnitude of the tasks that lie ahead and the need for timely action to be taken. It is in this spirit that *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* sets forth the policies herein that will enable the efficient and timely achievement of goals and objectives aimed at improving the quality of life of the People of Guam.

**Section 3.** Article **2** of Title 12, Chapter 14 of the Guam Code Annotated, is hereby repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

20 Article 2
21 Guam Waterworks Authority Revenue Bonds an

## Guam Waterworks Authority Revenue Bonds and Other Indebtedness

**§14201. Short Title**. This Article may be cited as the Guam Waterworks Authority Revenue Bond Act.

§14202. Definitions. The following terms wherever used or referred to in this Article or in any indenture entered into pursuant hereto (except to the extent modified therein in accordance with this

Article), shall have the following meanings, respectively, unless a 1 2 different meaning appears from the context: 3 "Authority" has the meaning given in 12 G.C.A. §14102. a. "Board" has the meaning given in 12 G.C.A. §14102. 4 b. 5 "Bonds" means bonds, notes or other evidences of c. indebtedness. 6 "Bondholder" or "holder of bonds" or any similar term 7 d. 8 means any person who shall be: 9 the bearer of any outstanding bond or bond i. 10 registered to bearer or not registered; or 11 the registered owner of any such outstanding bond ii. 12 or bond which shall at the time be registered other than to 13 bearer. "Credit provider" means any municipal bond insurance 14 e. 15 company, bank or other financial institution or organization which is 16 performing in all material respects its obligations under any credit 17 support arrangements for some or all of the bonds. 18 f. "Credit provider reimbursement agreement" means any 19 agreement providing for the Authority to repay, from revenues, 20 amounts advanced by a credit provider as credit support for bonds. 21 "Credit support" means a policy of insurance, a letter of 22 credit, a stand-by purchase agreement, revolving credit agreement or 23 other credit arrangement pursuant to which a credit provider provides 24 credit or liquidity support with respect to the payment of interest, 25 principal or the purchase price of any bonds. "Guam Waterworks Authority Act" means Chapter 14 of 26 h. 27 Title 12 of the Guam Code Annotated.

i. "Indenture" means an agreement pursuant to which bonds are issued, regardless of whether such agreement is expressed in the form of a resolution of the Board or by other instrument.

- j. "Organic Act" means the Organic Act of Guam as amended and in effect on the effective date of this Article (Title 48, §1421 et seq. of the United States Code.).
- k. "Payment agreement" has the meaning given such term in 12 G.C.A. §14236.
- l. "Person" includes any individual, firm, corporation, association, partnership, trust, business trust or receiver or trustee or conservator for any thereof, and also includes the United States, Guam or any public corporation, political subdivision, city, county or district or any agency or instrumentality of the United States or of Guam.
- m. "Revenue" means all gross income and other amounts received or receivable by the Authority as revenues of any kind from the ownership or operation of any part of the system, including all rates, fees and charges (including ground water, surface water and treated water charges and all wastewater service charges), received by the Authority for providing water and sewer services, all amounts received by the Authority pursuant to any payment agreement, and all proceeds of insurance or grants covering business interruption loss (and related losses and expenses) relating to the system, and all other income and revenue howsoever derived by the Authority from the ownership or operation of, or arising from, the system, together with all interest, profits or other income derived from the investment of amounts in the Guam Waterworks Authority Revenue Fund.

1	n. "System" means the water and wastewater systems, now
2	or hereafter existing, owned and/or operated by the Authority or its
3	contractors, agents or subcontractors.
4	o. "System operation and maintenance costs" means such
5	reasonable and necessary current expenses of the Authority, paid or
6	accrued, for operation, maintenance and repair of the System as may be
7	determined by the Board, and the term may include at the Board's
8	option, except as limited by contract or otherwise limited by law,
9	without limiting the generality of the foregoing:
10	i. legal and overhead expenses of the Authority
11	directly related and reasonably allocable to the administration of
12	the system;
13	ii. fidelity bond and insurance premiums appertaining
14	to the system or a reasonably allocable share of a premium of any
15	blanket bond or policy pertaining to the system;
16	iii. contractual services, professional services, salaries,
17	administrative expenses, and costs of labor appertaining to
18	system;
19	iv. the costs incurred in the collection of all or any part
20	of the Revenues; and
21	v. any costs of utility services furnished to the system
22	by the Authority or otherwise.
23	p. "United States" means the United States of America.
24	§14203. Powers of Board; Incurring Indebtedness. Pursuant to
25	Paragraph Section 50103(k), Chapter 50, Title 12 G.C.A., the Board,
26	through the agency of GEDCA by statutory legislation, has power and
27	is hereby authorized, in addition to and in amplification of all other

powers conferred upon the Board by the Guam Waterworks Authority Act or any other provision of this Chapter or by any law of Guam or of the United States, to exercise any or all of the powers granted to the Board by this Article. The Board, through the agency of GEDCA, may at any time or from time to time, by statutory legislation, may incur indebtedness:

(a) pursuant to 12 G.C.A. §14235; or

(b) by the issuance of bonds to raise funds for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, improving, equipping, maintaining, repairing, renewing, replacing, reconstructing or insuring the system, or any part thereof, or for the purpose of refunding any such bonds or any other prior obligations of the Authority, or for any combination of such purposes for which bonds may be issued and secured as provided in this Article.

It is hereby declared that the system is and shall be a public improvement or undertaking as that term is used in Section 11 of the Organic Act (§1423a, Title 48, U.S. Code). All indebtedness issued by the Authority pursuant to this 12 G.C.A. §14203 shall be repayable only from funds of the Authority available therefore or solely from revenues of the system and, therefore, will not be and shall not be deemed to be public indebtedness of Guam as that term is used in said\_Section 11.

§14204. Amounts of Rates and Charges; Refunds. Except to the extent otherwise permitted or required by an indenture or any contract relating to indebtedness issued by the Authority, all rates and charges shall at all times be fixed to yield annual revenues at least equal to the annual principal payments and interest charges and reserve fund requirements on all bonds at any time issued and outstanding

hereunder, the annual system operation and maintenance costs and the annual principal payments and interest charges on all other outstanding indebtedness issued by the Authority. An indenture or contract of indebtedness may provide for payment from revenues of refunds of rates and charges that are collected in error and that are refundable by the Authority.

§14205. Validity of Authorization and Issuance of Bonds and

§14205. Validity of Authorization and Issuance of Bonds and Incurring of Other Indebtedness. The validity of the authorization and issuance of any bonds by the Authority is not dependent on nor affected in any way by:

- (a) Proceedings taken by the Authority for the acquisition, construction or improvement of the system or any part thereof;
- (b) Any contracts made by the Authority in connection with the acquisition, construction or improvement of the system or any part thereof; or
- (c) The failure to complete the system or any part thereof for which bonds are authorized to be issued.

§14206. Board to Determine Issuance of Bonds and Incurring of Other Indebtedness; Guam Not Liable for Indebtedness; Authority Only Liable as Provided by Indenture or Contract.

- (a) The Board shall determine the time, form and manner of issuance of bonds.
- (b) No bond issued or sold pursuant to this Article shall be or become a lien, charge or liability against the government of Guam or against the Authority or against any property or funds of the government of Guam or the Authority, except to the extent of the pledge or revenues or part of revenues, as may be provided by the

indenture pursuant to which such bonds are issued and every such bond shall contain a recital on its face stating that neither the payment of the principal or any part thereof, nor of any interest thereon, is a debt, liability or obligation of Guam.

§14207. Board to Declare Purpose and Maximum Amount of Bonds to be Issued. Before issuing any bond or bonds, the Board shall declare the purpose for which the proceeds of the bonds proposed to be issued shall be expended and shall specify the maximum amount of bonds to be issued or sold for such purpose. Bonds shall not be issued or sold for such purpose in an amount exceeding such specified maximum.

§14208. Indenture Providing Terms and Conditions of Bonds. The Authority may enter into indentures providing for the aggregate principal amount, date or dates, maturities, interest rates or methods for determination thereof, denominations, form, registration, transfer and interchange of any bonds and coupons issued pursuant to this Article and the terms and conditions on which the same shall be executed, issued, secured, sold, paid, redeemed, funded and refunded. Each taker and subsequent holder of the bonds or coupons, whether the coupons are attached to or detached from the bonds, has recourse to all the provisions of the indenture and of this Article and is bound thereby.

§14209. Issues of Bonds. An indenture may provide for one or several issues of bonds and that bonds may be issued in series or that any issue may be divided into one or more divisions with different maturities or dates of issue, different rates of interest or methods for determining such rates, or different terms and conditions for the bonds of the several series or divisions. It is not necessary that all bonds of the

same authorized issue be of the same kind or character, have the same security, or be of the same interest rate, but the terms thereof shall in each case be as authorized by the Board.

§14210. Covenants and Agreements That May Be Contained in Indenture. An indenture pursuant to which bonds are issued may include any and all covenants and agreements on the part of the Authority as the Board deems necessary or advisable, including without limiting the generality of the foregoing, any one or more of the following:

- (a) A provision that payments of principal and interest of bonds shall be secured by all or by part of revenues and provisions creating one or more funds or accounts to be held by the Authority into which all or any part of revenues shall be deposited:
  - (i) for payment of the principal of and interest on bonds at or prior to maturity; or
  - (ii) for reserve or sinking funds for the further security of bonds.
  - (iii) All moneys in any such fund or account shall be paid out by the Authority or its agent to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds when due or when redeemed or purchased prior to maturity, as provided in any indenture.
- (b) A provision requiring the Authority or its agent, as trustee as hereinafter provided, to pay or cause to be paid punctually the principal of all such bonds and the interest thereon on the date or dates, or at the place or places and in the manner mentioned in such bonds and in the coupons appertaining thereto in accordance with such indenture.

(c) A provision requiring the Authority to operate the system continuously, to the extent reasonably practicable under conditions as they may from time to time exist, in an efficient and economical manner.

- (d) A provision requiring the Authority to maintain the system and to make all necessary repairs, renewals and replacements to the system and to keep the system at all times in good working order and condition.
- (e) A provision requiring the Authority to preserve and protect the security of the bonds and the rights of the holders thereof and to warrant and defend such rights.
- (f) A provision requiring the Authority to pay and discharge or cause to be paid and discharged all lawful claims for labor, materials and supplies or other charges which, if unpaid, might become a lien or charge upon revenues or any part thereof, or which might impair the security of the bonds.
- (g) A provision which limits, restricts or prohibits any right, power or privilege of the Authority to mortgage or otherwise encumber, sell, lease or dispose of the system or any part thereof, in any manner that impairs or impedes the operation of the system or any part thereof necessary to secure adequate revenues or that otherwise impairs or impedes the right of the holders of bonds with respect to such revenues.
- (h) A provision requiring the Authority to fix, prescribe and collect annually rates or other charges in connection with the water and sewer services furnished from the system which, together with other available revenues, will be:

- (i) sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds as they become due and payable, together with such additional sums as may be required for any bond reserve fund or account or other fund or account created by the indenture for the security of such bonds;
- (ii) sufficient to pay the annual system operation and maintenance costs; and
- (iii) in such additional amount as shall be provided in the indenture for the further security or protection of such bonds.
- (i) A provision that no water or sewer service shall be furnished free of charge to any person, except to the extent permitted by the indenture.
- (j) A provision requiring the Authority to hold or cause to be held in trust the revenues or any part of revenues pledged to the payment of such bonds and the interest thereon, or to any fund or account created by any indenture relating to such bonds for the further security or protection of such bonds and to apply such revenues or any part of revenues or cause them to be applied only as provided in the indenture and to invest all or any part of such revenues pending such application in such securities and subject to such limitations as are specified in the indenture.
- (k) A provision defining the power of the Authority in applying the proceeds of the sale of any issue of bonds for the acquiring, constructing or completing of the system or any part thereof.
- (l) A provision permitting the Authority to issue additional bonds or one or more additional series of bonds, equally secured with bonds theretofore issued under the indenture, for the purpose of

acquiring, constructing or completing, improving or extending the system or any part thereof or for the purpose of refunding any prior bonds or any other prior obligations of the Authority; and a provision limiting the power of the Authority to issue any additional bonds so secured or any other additional bonds for such purpose.

- (m) A provision requiring, specifying or limiting the kind, amount and character of insurance (or any reserve fund or funds in lieu of insurance) to be maintained by the Authority on the system or any part thereof and the use and disposition of the proceeds of any such insurance thereafter collected or of the moneys in any such reserve fund.
- (n) A provision specifying the events of default and the terms and conditions upon which any or all of the bonds of the Authority then or thereafter issued may become or be declared due and payable prior to maturity, and the terms and conditions upon which such declaration and its consequences may be waived.
- (o) A provision designating the rights, limitations, powers and duties arising upon breach by the Authority of any of the covenants, conditions or obligations contained in the indenture.
- (p) A provision prescribing a procedure by which the terms and conditions of the indenture may be subsequently amended or modified with the consent of the Authority and the vote or written consent of the holders of a specified principal amount or specified proportion of the bonds issued and outstanding, including provisions for meetings of bondholders and for the manner in which the consent of the bondholders may be given and specifically stating the effect of such amendment or modification upon the rights of the holders of all of the

bonds and interest coupons appertaining thereto, whether attached thereto or detached therefrom.

- (q) With respect to any provision relating to the modification or amendment of an indenture, the Authority may agree that bonds held by the Authority, Guam, the United States or any instrumentality of either thereof (including every public corporation, political subdivision, city, county, district, board, agency or instrumentality of any kind of class) shall not be counted as outstanding bonds, or be entitled to vote or assent, but shall, nevertheless, be subject to any such modification or amendment.
- (r) A provision limiting the right of action by individual bondholders in the event of a default by the Authority or proscribing the procedure for the conduct of any such action by an individual bondholder.
- (s) A provision permitting the Authority to purchase outstanding bonds of the Authority from any moneys or funds or accounts referred to in the indenture or otherwise legally available for such purpose.
- (t) A provision for any working capital fund or account or contingency fund or account relating to the system.
- (u) A provision for the replacement of lost, destroyed or mutilated bonds or coupons.
- (v) A provision or provisions relating to such other acts and matters as may be necessary or convenient or desirable in order better to secure the bonds or to make the bonds more marketable.

## §14211. Trustee for Authority and Holders of Bonds.

- (a) The Authority or any agent designated by the Authority shall act as trustee for the Authority and the holders of bonds issued hereunder and the Authority may authorize the trustee to act on behalf of the holders of the bonds or any stated percentage thereof and to exercise and prosecute on behalf of the holders of the bonds such rights and remedies as may be available to the holders.
  - (b) The Authority may provide in an indenture:
  - (i) for the deposit of all or any portion of the revenues with the Authority and for the holding thereof by the Authority in one or more separate funds or accounts in the Guam Waterworks Authority Revenue Fund; and
  - (ii) for the transfer to the trustee of all or any portion of the revenues as are provided as security for the bonds and for the holding thereof by the trustee in one or more separate funds or accounts. All money in each such fund or account shall be disbursed only as provided herein and in the indenture.
- §14212. Duties and Powers of Trustee. The Authority shall prescribe in any indenture the duties and powers of the trustee with respect to the issuance, authentication, sale and delivery of the bonds provided for in such indenture and with respect to the payment of principal of and interest on such bonds, the redemption thereof, the registration and discharge from registration thereof and the management of any and all funds provided as security therefore.
- §14213. Issuance and Interchange of Coupon and Registered Bonds. An indenture may provide that bonds may be issued as coupon bonds or as registered bonds and for the interchange of coupon bonds for registered bonds and registered bonds for coupon bonds, and may

provide that bonds shall be registered as to principal only or as to both principal and interest or otherwise as the Authority may determine.

§14214. Redemption of Bonds Prior to Maturity. An indenture may provide that bonds may be redeemed prior to maturity upon such terms, conditions and upon such notice as are stated in the indenture and upon the payment of such premium as may be fixed by the indenture.

§14215. Places of Payment. An indenture may provide for the payment of the principal and interest of bonds at any one or more places in Guam or in the United States and in any specified coin or currency of the United States.

§14216. Execution and Authentication of Bonds. An indenture may provide for the execution and authentication of bonds by the manual or facsimile signature of any one or more officers of the Authority and by additional authentication by endorsement by the manual signature or a signature stamp of any one or more officers of the Authority or of any agent designated by the Authority as trustee. If any officer or agent whose signature, countersignature or endorsement appears upon the bonds or coupons ceases to be an officer or agent before the delivery of the bonds or coupons, his signature, countersignature or endorsement is nevertheless valid and of the same force and effect as if he had remained such officer or agent until the delivery of the bonds and coupons.

§14217. Dates and Maturities of Bonds. Bonds shall bear dates prescribed by the Authority in the indenture providing for their issuance. Bonds may be serial bonds, term bonds or sinking fund bonds with such maturities as the indenture shall specify. No bond by

its terms shall mature more than fifty (50) years after its date of issuance.

§14218. Sale of Bonds. Bonds authorized to be issued under this Article shall be sold by the Authority for cash, in accordance with the provisions of a resolution providing for such sale adopted by the Board. The bonds may be sold at either public or private sale, and upon such terms and conditions as shall be authorized by the Board, which may provide that the bonds may be sold at less than their par or face value.

§14219. Payment of Bonds from Sources Other Than Revenues. The Authority may use and expend all or any part of any funds other than revenues or proceeds of any property owned by it other than the system, whether received by gift, appropriation or otherwise (if not restricted as to the use of such funds or proceeds of property by the terms of gift or trust or provision of law) for the payment of bonds issued pursuant to the provisions of this Article and of interest due thereon.

§14220. Payments Which May be Made Out of Proceeds of Sale of Bonds. The proceeds of sale of any bonds may be expended for any one or more of the following purposes, all as provided in the indenture relating to such bonds:

(a) For payment of any costs or expenses of the acquisition, construction or improvement of the system or any part thereof or any costs or expenses incidental thereto, including payment to the United States or any other public body for the portion to be borne by the Authority of the cost of any work done by the United States or such public body for or jointly or in conjunction with the Board;

1	(b) For payment of any engineering, inspection, legal,
2	consultants' or paying agents' fees relating or incidental to:
3	i. the acquisition, construction or improvement of the
4	system or any part thereof; or
5	ii. the authorization, issue or sale of bonds;
6	(c) For payment of any costs or expenses relating to the
7	authorization, issuance or sale of bonds;
8	(d) For deposit in any one or more reserve funds or accounts in
9	lieu of insurance or in any working capital fund or account or
10	contingency fund or account relating to the system;
11	(e) For payment of interest on bonds during the projected
12	period of acquisition, construction or improvement of the system or any
13	part thereof for the acquisition, construction or improvement of which
14	such bonds have been issued and for a period of not to exceed three (3)
15	years thereafter;
16	(f) For deposit in any reserve or sinking fund;
17	(g) For the payment of the principal of and interest on any
18	indebtedness incurred pursuant to 12 G.C.A. §14235 that is by its
19	terms repayable from the proceeds of sale of bonds; or
20	(h) For the payment of any prior bonds or other obligations of
21	the Authority.
22	§14221. Bonds May be Secured by Revenues of System. An
23	indenture may provide that payment of the bonds and the interest
24	thereon shall be secured by a pledge of and lien upon all or any portion
25	of the revenues of the system. Any such pledge and lien shall be valid
26	and binding from the time the pledge is made. The revenues pledged
27	and thereafter received by the Authority or by any trustee, depository

or custodian shall be deposited in the Guam Waterworks Authority Revenue Account and shall be immediately subject to the lien of such pledge without any physical delivery thereof or further act, and the lien of such pledge shall be valid and binding against all parties having claims of any kind in tort, contract or otherwise against the Authority or such trustee, depository or custodian, irrespective of whether the parties have notice thereof. The indenture by which such pledge is created need not be recorded.

§14222. Temporary Bonds. An indenture may provide that pending the actual issuance or delivery of definitive bonds, the Authority may issue temporary or interim bonds, certificates or receipts or any denomination whatsoever and with or without coupons, to be exchanged for definitive bonds when ready for delivery.

§14223. Replacement of Bonds or Coupons. The Authority may provide for the replacement of lost, destroyed or mutilated bonds or coupons.

§14224. Tax Exemptions. Bonds issued pursuant to the provisions of this Article and the interest or income therefrom are exempt from taxation to the extent permitted by the provisions of Section 11 of the Organic Act.

§14225. Bonds as Legal Investments and as Security For Performance of Any Act. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all bonds issued pursuant to the provisions of this Article are legal investments for all trust funds and for the funds of all banks, both commercial and savings and may be deposited as security for the performance of any act whenever any evidence of indebtedness of

Guam may be so deposited and may also be used as security for the deposit of public moneys in banks in Guam.

§14226. Refunding Bonds. The Authority may provide for the issuance, sale or exchange of refunding bonds for the purpose of redeeming or retiring any bonds issued under the provisions of this Article or any other prior obligations of the Authority. All provisions of this Article applicable to the issuance of bonds are applicable to refunding bonds and to the issuance, sale or exchange thereof.

§14227. Use of Other Funds for System. In addition to the proceeds of any bonds issued and sold pursuant to this Article, the Authority may use for the payment of the costs of acquisition, construction or improvement of the system or any part thereof any available money or funds of the Authority and any money or funds made available to the Authority by any person or provided from any source which may be expended for the accomplishing of the purposes set forth in this Article or in the Guam Waterworks Authority Act.

§14228. Insurance. The Authority may insure against loss of revenues from any cause whatsoever. The Authority may insure against public liability or property damage from any cause. An indenture may provide for the carrying of such insurance or any other insurance in such amount and of such character as shall be specified in such indenture, for the payment of the premiums thereon and for the disposition of all proceeds received from any such insurance. At the option of the Board, or as provided in any indenture, any insurance may be provided by funded reserves or any other means.

§14229. Pledge by the Government of Guam. The government of Guam is fully committed to ensuring that the Authority has the

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ability to implement the capital improvements authorized to be paid by this legislation in order to meet the needs of Guam ratepayers for reliable and affordable services. The government also is fully committed to ensuring that bondholders are protected to ensure full and timely repayments of their loans. In order to mirror the previous pledge that allowed Guam Power Authority to successfully re-enter the financial markets as found in 12 G.C.A. § 8113.3, and to model similar language found in laws authorizing debt for the Guam International Airport Authority, the government of Guam hereby pledges that while any bonds of the Authority issued under this Article remain outstanding and not fully performed or discharged (a) to maintain the rights, powers and duties of the Board and the Guam Public Utilities Commission, or their respective successors in accordance with law, to fulfill the terms of any agreements made with bondholders in accordance with this Article, (b) to maintain the rights and remedies of bondholders provided in this Article and any indenture, (c) to protect the exclusive right of the Authority to operate or maintain within Guam any water or wastewater system operated by the government or its designees by preventing the acquisition, operation, maintenance or permitting of any instrumentality of the Government or any other public or private agency, entity or person to operate a separate and competitive water and/or wastewater system, and (d) not to transfer any additional non-system operating responsibilities or other unfunded mandates to the Authority without providing for the payment of the costs of such additional responsibilities, with the exception of annual supplemental annuity and COLA contributions paid by the Authority

on behalf of retired employees of the Authority (or its lawful predecessors) as may be required by the laws of Guam.

§14230. Guam Waterworks Authority Construction Fund. The proceeds from the sale of all bonds authorized by this Article shall be deposited to the credit of a fund to be designated as the Guam Waterworks Authority Construction Fund, which fund is hereby created. The money in said Construction Fund shall be expended in the manner provided by law for any of the purposes authorized by this Article, including any or all of the purposes specified by 12 G.C.A. §14222, and for such other purposes, subject to the restrictions provided by law or by such indenture, as may be authorized by such indenture.

§14231. Guam Waterworks Authority Revenue Fund. All revenues received from the operation of the system shall be deposited to the credit of the Guam Waterworks Authority Revenue Fund, which fund is hereby created. Moneys in the Guam Waterworks Authority Revenue Fund may be used for any of the following purposes in the order of priority set forth in any indenture as provided in §14210(j):

- (a) to pay principal or interest on any bonds;
- (b) to pay any amounts due and owing under any payment agreement or any credit provider reimbursement agreement;
- (c) to pay the annual system operation and maintenance costs;
- (d) for any other purposes of the Authority; all as provided in any indenture or indentures and subject to any restrictions provided by law or any indenture.
- §14232. Investment of Money in Funds. Moneys in the Guam Waterworks Authority Construction Fund and Revenue Fund may be

invested by the Authority and any revenues in any other fund or account held by or on behalf of the Authority or its agent may be invested by the Authority or its agent, as the case may be, in any investment authorized by any indenture providing for the issuance of bonds. All interest or other earnings received pursuant to such investments shall be collected by the Authority or its agent, as the case may be, and shall be deposited to the credit of the fund or account from which such interest or other earnings are derived, unless otherwise provided in an indenture.

§14233. Use of Balances of Funds and of Surplus Money in **Funds**. Any balance remaining in any of the funds or accounts created by this Article or any indenture after payment of all costs, expenses and charges required or authorized to be expended therefrom, may be allocated and used for such other purposes relating to the acquisition, construction, improvement, operation and maintenance of the system or to the Authority, as the Board may determine, subject to the limitations and restrictions in any indenture. After all bonds shall have been fully paid and discharged or provision for their payment and discharge irrevocably made, any surplus moneys in any fund or account created by this Article or any indenture shall, subject to the limitations and restrictions in any indenture, be transferred to the Authority and shall be and remain available for the acquisition, construction, improvement, maintenance or operation of the system or for any other purposes of the Authority herein or hereafter authorized by law.

§14234. Appropriation of Money in Funds. All money in the funds and accounts created by this Article or any indenture is hereby

appropriated for expenditure in carrying out the purposes herein and therein provided.

§14235. Short Term Borrowing. Pursuant to the agency of GEDCA, the Board may at any time or from time to time, by resolution adopted by a majority of the members of the Board, authorize the Authority to incur indebtedness, with the approval of the governor, for any lawful purpose for any period not exceeding five (5) years evidenced by contract with any person. Any such indebtedness shall be incurred subject and subordinate to any contractual obligation of the Authority to the holders of any bonds and the principal thereof and interest thereon may be repaid:

(a) from revenues; or

(b) if incurred for a purpose for which bonds may be issued, from revenues or from the proceeds of sale of bonds.

The total cumulative amount borrowed pursuant to this section shall not exceed Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00).

§14236. Payment Agreements. In addition to and in amplification of the powers conferred upon the Board by the Guam Waterworks Authority Act, this Article or any other law of Guam or of the United States, the Board has power and is hereby authorized to cause the Authority to enter into any contracts in connection with, or incidental to, the issuance of bonds or other indebtedness, or the carrying of any investment or program of investment or entering into or maintaining any agreement which secures bonds or other indebtedness (each, a "payment agreement"), which the Board determines to be necessary or appropriate to place the obligation or investment of the Authority, as represented by the bonds or such indebtedness,

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investment, program of investment or agreement and the contract or contracts, in whole or in part, on the interest rate, currency, cash-flow, or other basis desired by the Board in furtherance of the purposes of this Chapter, including, without limitation, contracts commonly known as interest rate swap agreements or contracts providing for payments based on levels of, or changes in, interest rates, or contracts to exchange cash flows or a series of payments, or contracts, including, without limitation, interest rate floors or caps, options, put or call to hedge payment, rate, spread, or similar exposure with the parties, selected by the means, and containing the payment, security, default, remedy, and other terms and conditions, authorized by the Board, after giving due consideration for the creditworthiness of the counterparties, where applicable, including any rating by a nationally recognized rating agency or any other criteria as may be appropriate; provided, that any amounts received by the Authority pursuant to any payment agreement shall constitute revenues and that any obligation of the Authority under any payment agreement shall be payable solely from revenues.

Any payment agreement may include a provision that any obligation of the Authority under any such payment agreement shall be secured by all or by part of revenues; provided that, at the time of execution and delivery of each payment agreement, any such provision shall be in compliance with and shall not violate or breach any provision of any indenture then in effect with respect to bonds.

§14237. Credit Enhancement. The Board has the power and is hereby authorized to cause the Authority to enter into such contracts or agreements with such banks, insurance companies or other financial institutions as it determines are necessary or desirable to improve the

security and marketability of the bonds or the security of the government's obligations under any contract or agreement entered into under 12 G.C.A. §14236. Such contracts or agreements may contain an obligation to reimburse, with interest, any such banks, insurance companies or other financial institutions for advances used to pay principal of or interest on the bonds and to indemnify any such banks, insurance companies or other financial institutions for costs and expenses incurred in connection with any such advance; provided, that any obligation of the Authority under any reimbursement agreement shall be payable solely from revenues.

Any reimbursement agreement may include a provision that the obligations of the Authority under the agreement shall be secured by all or by part of revenues; provided that, at the time of execution and delivery of each such agreement, any such provision shall be in compliance with and shall not violate or breach any provision of any indenture then in effect with respect to bonds.

§14238. No Personal Liability. No member of the Board, employee of the Authority or elected official of the government of Guam shall be individually or personally liable for the payment of any amounts due on any bonds, or for any other liability arising in connection with the bonds; provided, however, that nothing in this 12 G.C.A. §14238 shall relieve any employee or elected official from the performance of any ministerial duty required by law.

§14239. Waiver of Immunity. Notwithstanding any substantive or procedural provision of Chapter 6 of Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, the Authority shall not be entitled to immunity from any suit or action in contract on the indebtedness authorized by this Article. For the

purposes of this Act only, immunity is waived as to the award of attorney fees in connection with any suit brought to enforce any right or obligation given under this Act or in connection with the enforcement of the terms of any agreement or indenture that arises directly from the issuance of bonds.

§14240. Construction of Article. This Article shall be liberally construed to carry out the objects and purposes and the declared policy of Guam as in this Article set forth. Nothing contained in this Article shall be construed directly or by implication to be in any way in derogation or limitation of powers conferred upon or existing in the Authority or the Board by virtue of any provisions of the Organic Act or laws of Guam."

Section 4. Local Sales of Bonds. The Authority shall undertake its best efforts to cause a portion of any bonds issued pursuant to Article 2, Chapter 14, Title 12, Guam Code Annotated and approved pursuant to Section 4 of this Act, to be offered for sale to residents of Guam, as well as to residents of other jurisdictions, if and to the extent that such offer and any sales resulting from such offer do not increase the costs to the Authority of issuing and repaying such bonds. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, these bonds may be sold to employees of the Guam Waterworks Authority.

Section 5. Approval of Guam Waterworks Authority Revenue Bonds. The Legislature, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*, pursuant to Section 50103 of Title 12 of the Guam Code Annotated, hereby approves the issuance and sale by the Authority of revenue bonds pursuant to Article 2, Chapter 14, Title 12, Guam Code Annotated (the "Act") in one or more series or issues; provided that the issuance, terms and conditions of the bonds shall have been approved by the Guam Public Utilities Commission, and further provided that such bonds shall have a principal amount not to exceed Two

Hundred Million (\$220,000,000) shall have a final maturity not later than 2050, shall bear interest at such rate or rates and shall be sold for such price or prices as shall result in a yield to the bondholders not exceeding 6 percent per annum (treating payments and receipts under any interest rate hedging contracts as if they were payments to and receipts from the bondholders), and shall be issued and sold in the manner, for the purposes and subject to the requirements and limitations provided in Article 2, Chapter 14, Title 12, Guam Code Annotated.