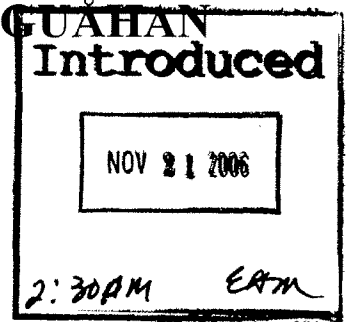


MINA'BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2006 (SECOND) Regular Session



Bill No. 392 (EC)

Introduced by:

J.M.S. Brown 

**AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §12015.7 OF TITLE 12 G.C.A.,
DIVISION 1, CHAPTER 12, ARTICLE 1 RELATIVE TO
AUTHORIZING THE GUAM POWER AUTHORITY AND
THE GUAM WATERWORKS AUTHORITY TO AMEND
AND MODIFY EXISTING LIFELINE RATES FOR
APPROVAL BY THE CCU AND THE PUC IN ORDER TO
PROVIDE RATE RELIEF TO LOW INCOME
CUSTOMERS.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that low income customers of the Guam Power Authority (GPA) and the Guam Waterworks Authority (GWA) are suffering from high utility expenses that represent a significant part of their income, particularly those who live on a fixed income. The existing lifeline rates do not distinguish between the rich and the poor, but apply to all customers. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* authorizes GPA and GWA to amend and modify existing eligibility criteria for lifeline rates to submit to the Consolidated Commission on Utilities (CCU) and the

1 Public Utilities Commission (PUC) for approval, so as to provide rate relief to
2 low income customers only.

3 **Section 2. GPA and GWA Authorized to Amend and Modify Existing**
4 **Lifeline Rates for approval by the CCU and the PUC:** A new TITLE 12
5 G.C.A., DIVISION 1, CHAPTER 12, ARTICLE 1 §12015.7 is added to read:

6 **§12015.7 Establishment of Targeted Lifeline Rates for power**
7 **and water service.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
8 Consolidated Commission on Utilities (CCU) shall establish and
9 modify from time to time, Targeted Lifeline Rates for local power and
10 water service, which are consistent with policies and procedures used
11 in other jurisdictions to benefit low income payers, with such rates to
12 be submitted to the PUC for approval.

13 (a) **Eligibility Criteria.** Subscribers are eligible for the
14 Targeted Lifeline Rate for single residential power and
15 water service, if they meet the low income eligibility
16 criteria. The program is designed to benefit those
17 subscribers who are receiving assistance through one
18 or more of the following programs: Federal Public
19 Housing Assistance, food stamps, Medicaid, Low
20 Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
21 and such other income criteria as may be established by
22 the CCU.

1 **(b) Certification.** Subscribers must obtain a “Certification of
2 Eligibility” from the Department of Public Health &
3 Social Services (DPHSS), or the Guam Housing and
4 Urban Renewal Authority (GHURA) in order to qualify
5 for Targeted Lifeline Rates, or such other certification
6 requirements as may be established by the CCU, in
7 order to limit the benefits to low income rate payers.
8 This certification must be renewed on an annual basis
9 to demonstrate that the subscriber still qualifies for
10 discounted rates.

11 **Section 3. Severability.** *If* any provision of this Act or its application to
12 any person or circumstance is found to be invalid or contrary to law, such
13 invalidity shall *not* affect other provisions or applications of this Act which
14 can be given effect without the invalid provisions or applications, and to this
15 end the provisions of this Act are severable.