MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2008 (Second) Regular Session

24/ Bill No. (LS)

Introduced by:

I.P. Guthertz R.J. Respicio B. J.F. Cruz₁

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CAN

AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §60111 TO CHAPTER 60 OF TITLE 5GCA TO PROHIBIT THE IMPORTATION AND USE OF RODENTICIDES ON COCOS ISLAND AND ITS SURROUNDING WATERS AND TO PROTECT THE GUAM RAIL (KO'KU) FROM FURTHER EXPERIMENTATION ON COCOS ISLAND.

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

2 Section 1. A new §60111 is added to Chapter 60 of Title 5GCA to read as follows:

3 "**§60111(a) Legislative Findings.** I Liheslaturan Guåhan finds that the Guam Rail 4 (Ko'Ku) is the official bird of Guam and is an endangered species that needs to be 5 protected. As a community we must continue to protect the existence of the Ko'Ku. We the people of Guam are grateful for the intentions of Department of Agriculture in saving 6 7 the Ko'Ku. However, we are very much against any experimentation that will cause 8 more harm than good to the Ko'Ku. In addition, the proposed plan to release the (16) 9 Ko'Ku on Cocos Island in order to proliferate has been found to be unacceptable by 10 many constituents due to the fear of poisons released on Cocos island and eventually into 11 our waters, as well as, potentially endangering other species. Past experiments resulted 12 in 580 out of 600 rails expiring on Rota and 100% died in experiments at Andersen Air 13 Force Base. This has caused much concern to many citizens. Therefore, we need to stop 14 further experimentations on the Ko'Ku unless an approved plan is before the 15 Liheslaturan Guåhan and to ensure that §50114 of Chapter 50 of Title 10 GCA is

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1 enforced.

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§60111(b) Protective Measures. The Cocos Island Guam Rail Introduction Project,
Guam Department of Agriculture, and Guam Environmental Protection Agency must
take any and all necessary protective measures to ensure the longevity of the Ko'Ku in
any proposed or future experimentation. The Guam Department of Agriculture and Guam
Environmental Protection Agency shall not participate in the Cocos Island Guam Rail
Reintroduction Project or any project involving the introduction of the Ko'Ku on Cocos
Island unless all concerns are addressed.

9 §60111(c) Prohibitions. The Guam Department of Agriculture, Guam Environmental 10 Protection Agency, and any/or any other instrumentality of the Government of Guam, 11 either on it's own volition or in a joint initiative with any U.S. Federal Government 12 instrumentality or any other for profit or non-profit organization is prohibited from using 13 any poisons chemical compounds or other products intended to destroy species currently 14 inhabiting Cocos Island and the surrounding waters now or in the future."

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