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MINA'BENTE NUEBE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN TWENTY-NINTH GUAM LEGISLATURE 2008 (SECOND) Regular Session

2008 MPR -8 FM

Bill No. 267 (EC)

Introduced by:

Edward J.B. Calvo Frank F. Blas, Jr. F. T. Ishizaki

AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 4 OF TITLE 4 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED **RELATIVE** TO **ENHANCED PLACEMENT** PROGRAM; **CLARIFYING** GOVERNMENT AGENCIES THAT ARE AFFECTED **DISPLACEMENT** THE OF EMPLOYEES CAUSED BY OUTSOURCING AND PRIVATIZATION; PRESCRIBING DEFINITIONS AND ELIGIBILITY OF SEPARATED CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES AFFECTED BY REORGANIZATION.

1 RE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GHAM:

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2	Section 1. Enhanced P	Placement for Public Employees Displaced Due to	
3	Outsourcing. Article 6 of Chapter 4, Title 4 of the Guam Code Annotated is hereby		
4	repealed and reenacted to read as follows:		
5	"ARTICLE 6.		
6	Enhanced Placement for Public Employees		
7	Displaced Due to Outsourcing.		
8	§4601.	Definitions.	
9	§4602.	Eligibility.	
10	§4603.	Enhanced Placement .	
11	§4 604.	Retention of Seniority.	

1	§4605.	Period of Eligibility.	
2	§4606.	Establishment of List.	
3	§4607.	Agency Required to Notify Individuals	
4		Registered for Enhanced Placement	
5		Program.	
6	§4608.	Positions Reserved for Enhanced	
7		Placement Registrants.	
8	§4609.	Enhanced Placement Program	
9		Reappointment.	
10	§4610.	Reactivation of Registered Guam	
11		Telephone Authority Employees.	
12	§4611 .	Effective Date of Act.	
13	§4612.	Severability.	
14			
15	§4601. Definitions. For	purposes of this Article, the following	
16	words ands phrases are defined to mean:		
17	(a) "Agency" or "department" means each and every line department		
18	or agency of the Executive Branch; every instrumentality; any board,		
19	commission or comparable unit of government, any of whose members are		
20	elected, appointed by I Maga'lahen Guåhan, I Liheslatura or the Judiciary;		
21	public corporations; every educational institution excepting academic personnel		
22	of the University of Guam and the Guam Community College; the Judicial		
23	Branch; the Legislative Branch; Public Defender Corporation; and every public		
24	entity hereafter to be created by law.		
25	(b) "Classified employee" m	eans an employee in the classified service	

of the government of Guam as provided within Title 4 G.C.A. §4102.

(c) "Classified position" means a vacant or occupied position of the classified service of the government of Guam.

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- (d) "Privatization" means a function of a government agency that converted from governmental to private control or ownership pursuant to Title 1 G.C.A. §1800.
- (e) "Separated" means termination or discharged as a result of privatization.
- §4602. Eligibility. Any classified employee of a government of Guam agency or department which is undergoing a process of complete privatization; and, who will be separated from government service as a result of such shall be eligible for enhanced placement. Classified employees still under probation shall *not* be eligible for enhanced placement.
- **Enhanced Placement**. Classified employees eligible for **§4603.** enhanced placement shall be granted by a government of Guam agency or department the right of first refusal for an opened and vacant government of Guam classified position provided that such classified employee shall meet all qualifications for such position and further provided that such position is vacant and has been opened for recruitment for bona fide reasons with an actual intent to fill such position under the merit system. Enhanced placement is not available when a classified position has been opened government-wide or for the purpose of promotion. When more than one (1) person eligible for enhanced placement applies for a vacant and opened classified position subject to the provisions of this Article, the process of selection between such persons eligible for enhanced placement shall be competitive as would normally be the case under the provisions of the merit system. This right of first refusal shall supercede any previously passed Law, which gives preferential hire treatment (e.g. 4GCA, Section 4104.1 Preferences for Scholarship Recipients.).

§4604. Retention of Seniority. Any employee hired pursuant to the provisions of enhanced placement as defined in this Article shall receive the same pay grade and step received at the time of separation or pay that is closest to but not more than as is normally associated with the employee's new position.

§4605. Period of Eligibility. A classified employee eligible to participate in enhanced placement, as detailed in this Article, shall acquire such eligibility upon the final approval of the relevant privatization directly affecting such employee by *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* or in the absence of a legislative approval process, upon the date with such instruments as shall mandate the relevant privatization are enacted. Such eligibility shall remain in effect for a period of *no more than* two (2) years.

Registrants that decline a job offer (either voluntary or involuntary, shall be permanently removed as an enhanced placement registrant.

Funding for the placement of former employees under the Enhanced Placement Program shall come from the sale of the affected government of Guam function or entity, or any previous sale.

placement shall register with the Department of Administration. Persons eligible for enhanced placement shall register *no later than* one hundred twenty (120) days after the date upon which they have acquired eligibility for enhanced placement as detailed in \$4605 of this Article. The Department of Administration shall maintain, update and deliver at the beginning of each month, and on a monthly basis, such registry of eligible persons to all personnel divisions of all personnel divisions of all agencies that are independent of the Department of Administration's personnel services. The independent Agency Personnel offices, shall submit a list of Enhanced Placement Program

Registrants employed as a result of the program at their agency by the last business day of each month. The Department of Administration in turn, shall reconcile all lists received and issue an updated registry to all independent agencies at the beginning of the following month. A person is *not* eligible for referral to an open and vacant classified position subject to the provisions of enhanced placement as described in this Article, until such time as they have registered in accordance with the provisions of this Section. The Department of Administration shall develop policies and procedures consistent with this Article and disseminate them to the independent agency personnel offices.

Enhanced Placement Program. The Department of Administration personnel services (or applicable independent personnel agency office) must notify Enhanced Placement registrants of any open funded vacancy that they qualify for no later than five (5) working days via telephone. Should the Department of Administration personnel services (or applicable independent personnel agency office) fail to make telephone contact, notification shall be made by mail with verified returned receipt, to a registered Enhanced Placement Program individual of the position.

Any position to which a registered enhanced placement individual is qualified shall not be filled within the government of Guam, until, a waiver is received in writing from the qualified enhanced placement registrants declining such position no later than five (5) working days upon verbal notification by telephone of the job offer, or if notified by registered mail, five (5) working days from the postmarked date; when such position is government-wide and/or for promotion; or, upon an emergency declaration by *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

The qualified enhanced placement registrant's right shall be automatically waived and the offer shall be extended to the next individual on the Enhanced Placement Program list, or if none, then the position shall be open for regular recruitment. A signed waiver must be submitted to the Department of Administration personnel services division, (or applicable independent personnel agency office). In the event the qualified registrant fails to submit a signed waiver within five (5) working days from the date of the offer, the offer shall be considered an involuntary declination.

Suring the active period of eligibility for enhanced placement, all registered individuals shall be afforded to fill a vacant classified position announced as "Open" through enhanced placement. A registered individual that applies for an "Open" vacant classified position shall have their application evaluated and if qualified shall be given preferential hire status at whatever hiring agency has a vacancy at that point in time. The Department of Administration personnel services (or applicable independent personnel agency office), must have a recruitment GG-l. If there is no GG-1 at the time of evaluation or the establishment of an eligibility list, Recruitment shall review the eligibility list before certification once a GG-1 is submitted.

- (b) Former employees reappointed under this program may apply to those agencies outside the umbrella of the Department of Administration personnel services to include the Guam International Airport Authority, Guam Power Authority, Guam Water Works, Guam Visitors Bureau, and the Port Authority of Guam provided a funding source is identified.
- §4610. Reactivation of Registered Guam Telephone Authority Employees. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article, former Guam Telephone Authority employees who had previously registered with the

Department of Administration and have not been placed under the Enhanced Placement Program, shall be reactivated as Enhanced Placement registrants for a period of one (1) year effective the date of this Act and shall be eligible for placement at only autonomous departments and agencies and public corporations such as: Guam Community College, Guam Power Authority, Guam Waterworks Authority, Port Authority of Guam, the University of Guam and the Guam International Airport Authority. This opportunity shall not apply to those registrants who have declined enhanced placement either voluntary or involuntarily.

- §4611. Effective Date of Act. This Act shall take effect upon enactment and shall not affect in the interim, any other improvements necessary to be done in carrying out the purpose of this Act.
- **§4612. Severability.** If any provisions of this Act or its application to any person or circumstances is found to be invalid or contrary to law, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Law which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this Law are severable."