

MINA BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN
2007 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 33 EC

Introduced by:

R. J. Respicio
J.P. Guthertz
T.R. Muña Barnes

**AN ACT TO CREATE A COMMISSION ON COMMUNITY
SUPPORT OF THE MILITARY MISSION IN GUAM**

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

2 **Section 1. Statement of Legislative Findings and Purpose.** *I Mina Bente*
3 *Nuebe Na Liheslaturan Guahan* finds that the people of Guam are supportive of the
4 U.S. military mission in Guam and are proud of Guam's contribution to the
5 nation's defense, and the U.S. military presence contributes significantly to the
6 island's economy and must be factored into any successful strategy for economic
7 growth for our island. *I Liheslatura* also recognizes that serious concerns continue
8 to exist regarding political status, ancestral lands, and the Chamorro right to self-
9 determination, each of which affect civilian-military relations in Guam.

10 *I Liheslatura* has determined that it is in the public's interest to assess and
11 coordinate Guam's economic, promotional, and infrastructure policies on an
12 ongoing basis, with the goal of encouraging and fostering the deployment of
13 more military units to Guam, while simultaneously developing strategies to
14 reach greater mutual understanding on issues directly affecting the Chamorro
15 people and federal-local relations.

16 The community's interest in military expansion is broadly recognized and
17 pursued by not only government agencies such as the Guam Economic
18 Development and Commerce Authority, but also by private entities such as the
19 Guam Chamber of Commerce. Ongoing increases in military activity will serve

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1 the interests of our people well with respect to expansion of our economy and
2 creation of new private sector jobs. It will also raise the awareness among federal
3 and military officials of those issues relating to land and status that directly affect
4 the Chamorro people.

5 *I Liheslatura* further finds that this objective can more effectively be
6 realized by adopting a Team Guam approach to the local promotion and support
7 of the military mission in Guam, as well as to issues regarding federal-local
8 relations. *I Mina Bente Nuebe Na Liheslaturan Guahan* therefore finds that a
9 commission should be established to help coordinate and support all aspects of
10 government policy and private sector efforts in support of achieving the best
11 results for all concerned.

12 **Section 2. Creation of the Commission on Community Support of the**
13 **Military Mission in Guam.** A new Chapter 23 is added to Title 1 of the Guam
14 Code Annotated to read:

15 **“Chapter 23**

16 **Commission on Community Support of the Military Mission in Guam**

17 **Section 2301. Creation of the Commission on Community Support of**
18 **the Military Mission in Guam.** There is established a Commission on
19 Community Support of the Military Mission in Guam for the people of Guam
20 which shall be composed of twelve (12) members including the Chairperson. The
21 Governor shall serve as Chairperson of the Commission. Three (3) members of
22 the Commission shall be appointed by the Governor, of which one (1) shall be a
23 member of the Guam Chamber of Commerce and one (1) shall be a member of a
24 Chamorro rights organization who has been selected by the combined
25 memberships of the various organizations. Three (3) members shall represent the

1 Legislature, of which one (1) shall be a member of and be selected by, the
2 Legislature's minority; one (1) member shall be the Chairperson of the standing
3 committee with specific jurisdiction over Federal Affairs; and one (1) member
4 shall be appointed by the Speaker, who may appoint himself. One (1) member
5 shall be appointed by the Mayors Council from among the membership of the
6 Mayors Council. One (1) member to represent the youth of Guam shall be
7 appointed from among the qualified members of the Guam Youth Congress by
8 the Speaker of the Youth Congress, who may appoint himself. The Administrator
9 of the Guam Economic Development and Commerce Authority and the General
10 Manager of the Guam Visitors Bureau shall also be members of the Commission.
11 Guam's Delegate to the United States Congress shall be an ex-officio member.
12 The Commission shall choose a vice-chairperson from among the members of the
13 Commission. No person shall be eligible to serve as a member of the commission
14 unless he or she shall be a citizen of the United States qualified to vote in Guam.
15 Members shall serve so long as they retain the positions they occupy or are
16 members of the groups they represent when appointed. The term of any non-
17 elected member appointed by the Governor shall expire with the term of the
18 appointing authority. Vacancies in membership shall be filled in the same
19 manner as the original appointment.

20 **Section 2302. Goals and Purposes of the Commission.** The Commission
21 on Community Support of the Military Mission in Guam shall have two
22 purposes:

23 1) The formation of a "Team Guam" approach, involving all
24 elements of the public and private sector, for the preservation
25 and expansion of the military mission on Guam. The

1 Commission shall facilitate the coordination of public sector
2 and private sector initiatives and policies in this regard
3 including, but not limited to, policies related to Guam's public
4 image, infrastructure, public services, and land use.

5 2) The development of new initiatives to support the current
6 military mission on Guam and to foster its expansion."