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

Bill No. 333 (EC)

Introduced by:

Ray Tenorio

2008

JUL 14 PH 5: 07.5

AN TO ADD A NEW ITEM 15 TO §58104 OF CHAPTER 58 TITLE 12 AND A NEW §12233 TO ARTICLE 2 OF CHAPTER **12 OF TITLE 10 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO** AUTHORIZING THE GRANTING OF **OUALIFYING** PRACTICING CERTIFICATES FOR PHYSICIANS IN SPECIALTIES OF CRITICAL NEED.

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

Section 1303 of Title 5, Guam Code Annotated is hereby amended 2 Section 1. 3 to read:

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## § 58104. Eligibility Defined.

A Qualifying Certificate shall only be issued to the following 5 entities: 6

Any trust, partnership, sole proprietorship, Limited Liability 7 Partnership ('LLP'), Limited Liability Company ('LLC'), corporation formed 8 under the laws of Guam, or possessions corporation as defined in § 58106 of this 9 10 Chapter, engaged, or about to engage in any of the following activities:

- 1. agriculture;
- 2. aquaculture;
- 3. mariculture: 13
- 14 4. manufacturing;
- 15 5. commercial fishing;
- 6. services: 16
- 17 7. tourism;

1 8. improvement of real property for purposes which are specifically determined by the Authority to be beneficial, desirable, and necessary for the 2 3 economic development of Guam; 9. insurance issuance, either by commercial insurers, reinsurers, or 4 captive insurers which meet the requirements of 22 GCA Chapter 15, Article 3; 5 10. export trading company, as defined in 11 GCA § 26101(d), if the 6 main office of the export trading company is established on Guam; 7 11. producing water or disposing of wastewater, or both, jointly with 8 9 the Guam Waterworks Authority; 10 12. operating on a military base on Guam a Base Operating Service 11 Contract; 12 13. a small business entity operating on a military base on Guam, a 13 Base Operating Service contract, or as a subcontractor to a BOS Contractor; and 14 14. a global internet infrastructure services company(ies) providing Internet connectivity and co-location facilities and its/their tenant-sellers in the 15 sales of goods, services and information over the Internet; provided that: 16 17 (i) the seller is legally established in and operates from Guam; (ii) the sale does not include the local sale of goods, services and 18 19 information: 20 (iii) the sale is conducted exclusively through the Internet; and (iv) the seller does not sell or distribute in any fashion material that 21 22 is harmful to minors as that term is defined in the Internet Tax Freedom Act, a part of the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 1998, Public Law Number 105-277. 23 For purposes of this Paragraph, a "minor" is a person under the age of eighteen 24 (18). 25

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1 15. Licensed Physicians practicing in specialties of critical need on Guam as determined by §12233 of Article 2 of Chapter 12 of Title 10, Guam Code 2 3 Annotated. 4 5 Section 2. A new Section 12233 is hereby *added* to Article 2 of Chapter 12 of 6 Title 10, Guam Code Annotated to read: 7 §12233. Designated Critical Specialties List. (a) The Board shall, by 8 administrative rules and regulations, develop and maintain a list of designated critical 9 specialties of medical practice. The list shall be furnished to the Guam Economic 10 Development and Commerce Authority within Ten (10) days, Saturdays, Sundays and 11 Government Guam Holidays excepted, following each addition or deletion a specialty 12 from the list. 13 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Item (a) of this Section, in the absence of a 14 critical specialties designation by the Board, a physician practicing on Guam or 15 16 physician considering licensing to practice on Guam may petition the Guam Economic and Commerce Authority Board to designate a specialty as critical to Guam. The 17 18 petitioner shall include: 19 (1) Verifiable patient to doctor ratios for Guam 20 (2) The economic feasibility of practicing on Guam 21 (3) Comparisons of the cost to patients for such services compared to offisland treatment, temporary housing, airfare and loss of wages included, 22 23 and 24 (4) Any other items required by the Guam Economic and Commerce Authority 25

1 (c) Nothing herein shall be construed to constitute the automatic or implied 2 awarding of a Qualifying Certificate to a physician practicing in a designated critical 3 needs specialty. The awarding of Qualifying Certificates shall remain the authority of 4 the Guam Economic and Commerce Authority Board, by contract, and *may* require 5 concessions from the awardee that *may* include, but not be limited to:

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(1) A minimum number of days of practice on Guam per year that the Qualifying Certificate is valid, and

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(2) The acceptance of various forms of public assistance for payment of services such as Medicaid, Medicare and the Medically Indigent Program (MIP) and private insurance.

11 Qualifying Certificates can only be awarded to Guam physicians and their clinics 12 that file a Guam personal and/or corporation/partnership Income Tax Return. In the 13 case of partnership or corporate income, only the tax related to income earned on Guam 14 may be considered for a Qualifying Certificate rebate. In the event a clinic's 15 partnership or corporate taxable income includes from physicians in a non-critical 16 designated specialty, the Guam Economic Development and Commerce may prorate the 17 Qualifying Certificate rebate.