

*I MINA 'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*  
2008 (Second) REGULAR SESSION

Bill No. 337 (EC)

Introduced by:

J.V. Espaldon

**An Act to Authorize the Expenditure of Two Hundred Fifty  
Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) from General Fund Revenues in  
Excess of Fiscal Year 2008 Projections, as adopted in P.L. 29-19,  
for Eradication of the Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle.**

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

**Section 1. Authorization to Expend General Fund Revenues in Excess of Fiscal Year  
2008 Projections for Eradication of the Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle. (a) Statement of Intent.**

The Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (CRB) was first detected on Guam in September of 2007 in the Tumon Bay area. Since then efforts have been made to control its spread through the distribution of pheromone bucket traps, a restriction on the disposal of coconut tree leaves from the quarantine area, and surveillance of adjacent areas to determine if the control methods were effective. Initially these traps were put in place to ring the Tumon Bay quarantine area in the hopes of limiting the spread of the infestation. However, a July 13, 2008 report from the University of Guam Cooperative Extension Service (GCES) notes that there have been verified reports of beetle activity outside the quarantine area, including sightings in Adelup and Piti to the south and in Yigo to the north.

The Guam CRB Eradication Program is currently in a holding pattern due to budgetary issues. The delay of account establishment, payment and processing within the government of Guam has resulted in the sanitation contractor stopping all work. Federal funds designated to the Guam Department of Agriculture have been redirected to the GCES to carry out the remainder of the work for Fiscal Year 2008. This shift in funds has set the eradication efforts back sixty (60) days due to new paper work and the need to hire and retrain personnel. The CRB Incident Command is currently trying to secure federal funding to carry out most of the project work, but local funding must be released in a timely manner to cover the costs of the current operations.

As of July 2008, scouting and rapid response crews have been redeployed to sanitation and treatment, putting the quarantine area at risk of being breached. Newly discovered infestation reveals a new generation of beetle is ready to emerge within 30-45 days.

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1           **(b)**    *I Maga 'lahen Guåhan* is hereby authorized to make available Two Hundred Fifty  
2    Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) from Fiscal Year 2008 General Fund revenues that are in excess of  
3    the General Fund revenues, as adopted in P.L. 29-19, to the University of Guam Cooperative  
4    Extension Service for the funding of the Guam Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (GCRB) Eradication  
5    Program. This funding shall continue to be available until expended, shall not be subject to the  
6    governor's transfer authority, and is exempt from the Bureau of Budget and Management Research's  
7    allotment control.

8           **(c)    Reporting requirement.**    The Guam CES shall submit quarterly reports to *I*  
9    *Maga 'lahen Guåhan* and *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* detailing the expenditure of funds authorized in this  
10   Act.