I MINA 'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2009 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 4-31(45)

Introduced by:

T.R. MUNA-BARNES

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE ANTONIO B. WONPAT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY, GUAM TO ISSUE DIFFERENTIAL PAY TO EMT-B CERTIFIED FIREFIGHTERS OF THE AIRCRAFT RESCUE AND FIRE FIGHTING UNIT

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

- 2 Section 1. Legislative findings and intent. I Liheslaturan Guåhan
- 3 finds that the differential pay to EMT-B certified firefighters and other
- 4 essential first responders receive the benefit of differential pay as per the
- 5 present state of law. Firefighter's employed at the A.B. Won Pat International
- 6 Airport Authority's Airport Rescue and Fire Fighting Unit also have EMT
- 7 certifications, but are not authorized by Guam law to be paid differential pay.
- 8 Many of the firefighters at the airport have either allowed their EMT
- 9 certification to lapse or choose not to acquire the additional certification.
- 10 ILiheslatura further finds that EMT services at our islands only airport is
- 11 essential to the protection of the airport, its stakeholders, our islands
- 12 visitors and residents. In addition, EMT service is a mandatory Federal

- 1 requirement for island residents leaving on commercial flights for medical
- 2 evacuation. Although airport firefighters and first responders provide first
- 3 aid response to emergency calls within the airport premises, many times a
- 4 call to the Guam Fire Department needs to be made in order for EMT
- 5 services to be provided, causing a delay in service. Just like in any
- 6 emergency, a delay of even a minute can mean a life or death situation.
- 7 Therefore, it is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to encourage airport
- 8 firefighters and rescue personnel to gain EMT certification in order to ensure
- 9 life-saving skills are readily available to all patrons of our island's only
- 10 commercial airport.
- 11 Section 2. A new subsection is added to §6223 of Title 4 Guam Code
- **12** Annotated, relative to Firefighters EMT Duty, to read as follows:
- 13 (a) Antonio B. Won Pat International Airport Authority, Guam,
- 14 Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Unit EMT-B Differential Pay.
- 15 A Firefighter in the Antonio B. Won Pat International Airport Authority,
- 16 Guam, Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Unit (ARFF) who is certified
- 17 Emergency Medical Technician-Basic (EMT-B) and who actually performs
- 18 as an EMT-B during a period when he or she is assigned as an EMT-B shall
- 19 be entitled to differential pay calculated at the rate of his or her regular
- 20 wage plus fifteen percent (15%). The differential shall be applicable only
- 21 during a time of actual performance. The employee shall be compensated

- 1 hourly for the actual time of performance. Nothing herein shall require any
- 2 ARFF personnel to become EMT-B certified. Such certification shall be
- 3 strictly voluntary."