

I MINA' TRENTA I UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2011 (First) Regular Session

Bill No. 173-31 (COR)

Introduced by:

2011 APR 29 AM 11:22
B.J.F. Cruz
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Aline A. Yamashita, Ph.D.

**AN ACT TO CREATE THE TASK FORCE ON THE PREVENTION OF
SEXUAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN BY ADDING A NEW ARTICLE 4 TO
CHAPTER 13 OF TITLE 19 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. A new Article 4 is hereby *added* to Chapter 13, Title 19 of the
Guam Code Annotated to read as follows:

“Article 4

The Task Force on the

Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children

§13400. Title. This Article shall be known, and may be cited as the “Task
Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children.”

§13401. Task Force Composition. The Task Force shall be comprised of
the following:

(1) A representative of the Courts of Guam appointed by the Chief
Justice;

(2) The Director of the Department of Public Health and Social
Services or his designee;

(3) The Director of the Department of Mental Health & Substance
Abuse or his designee;

1 (4) The Attorney General of Guam or his designee;

2 (5) The Superintendent of the Department of Education or his
3 designee;

4 (6) The Chief of Police of the Guam Police Department or his
5 designee;

6 (7) The Director of the Victims Advocates Reaching Out or his
7 designee;

8 (8) The Executive Director of Catholic Social Services or his
9 designee;

10 (9) The Director of Sanctuary Incorporated or his designee; and

11 (10) The Chairperson of the Association of Individual, Marriage and
12 Family Therapists or his designee.

13 The Attorney General shall convene the Task Force until a presiding officer
14 is selected by a majority vote of the membership. The members of the Task Force
15 shall serve without compensation.

16 **§13402. Duties of The Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of**
17 **Children.** The Task Force shall meet at the call of the presiding officer and make
18 recommendations for preventing child sexual abuse in Guam.

19 In making recommendations, the Task Force shall:

20 (1) Gather information concerning child sexual abuse throughout
21 Guam;

22 (2) Receive reports and testimony from individuals, Government of
23 Guam agencies, community-based organizations and any other public and
24 private organizations;

25 (3) Create goals for local policy that would prevent child sexual
26 abuse; and

1 (4) Submit a report with its recommendations to *I Maga'laha*
2 *Guåhan* and *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* by April 1, 2013. Any further
3 recommendations shall be transmitted annually thereafter.

4 **§13403. Task Force Recommendations.** The Task Force recommendations
5 may include proposals for specific statutory changes and methods to foster
6 cooperation among and improving services of Government of Guam agencies,
7 community-based organizations, and other public and private organizations to
8 prevent and reduce child sexual abuse on Guam.

9 **§13403. Policies Addressing Sexual Abuse.** The Task Force shall adopt
10 and recommend policies addressing sexual abuse of children that may include age-
11 appropriate curriculum for students in pre-K through 5th grade; training for school
12 personnel on child sexual abuse; educational information to parents or guardians
13 provided in the school handbook on the warning signs of a child being abused,
14 along with any needed assistance, referral, or resource information; available
15 counseling and resources for students affected by sexual abuse; and emotional and
16 educational support for a child of abuse to continue to be successful in school.
17 Any policy adopted may address without limitation:

18 (1) Methods for increasing teacher, student, and parent awareness of
19 issues regarding sexual abuse of children, including knowledge of likely
20 warning signs indicating that a child may be a victim of sexual abuse;

21 (2) Actions that a child who is a victim of sexual abuse should take to
22 obtain assistance and intervention; and

23 (3) Available counseling options for students affected by sexual
24 abuse.

25 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Act shall be effective upon enactment into
26 law.