

I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2012 (SECOND) Regular Session

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Bill No. 537-31 (cor)

Introduced By:

T.R. MUÑA BARNES

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$60,000) FROM THE TOURIST ATTRACTION FUND TO THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM FOR THE OPERATIONS OF THE GUAMPEDIA FOUNDATION.

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

2 **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds
3 that since Guampedia went online and became its own non-profit
4 organization in 2008, it has significantly increased its content and audience,
5 specifically in the areas of Women in Guam History, Ancient Chamorros,
6 Guam's Governors, Guam's Heritage Sites and Guam Artists, and many
7 others, all to assist in preserving our island's unique history and heritage.
8 Guampedia had three hundred fifty (350) entries in 2008, and now has nine
9 hundred eighty (980).

10 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that Guampedia has also engaged
11 with many sectors of the community, partnering with both public and
12 private organizations to bring in-depth knowledge of our past and its
13 significance to our present day society. It is now the number one source for
14 accurate comprehensive information about Guam online with twenty
15 thousand (20,000) users each month.

1 Furthermore, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that, while the work to create
2 the initial content of Guampedia was done by three editors, a Managing
3 Director is now needed to guide Guampedia toward becoming self-
4 sustaining. There are many opportunities to monetize Guampedia which
5 can only be fulfilled with a focused effort to do so. The Managing
6 Director’s role at Guampedia will be to seek out these opportunities and
7 strive to bring them about with the intention of eventually making
8 Guampedia self-sustaining.

9 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that, exit visitor polls always say that
10 our visitors want to know more about our history and Chamorro culture.
11 Since Guampedia went on line, the Guam Visitors Bureau (GVB) and
12 others have what they need to give them that information about historic
13 sites, Chamorro culture, a sense of place and in-depth information about
14 Guam history.

15 **Section 2. Appropriation Authorized.** The sum of Sixty Thousand
16 Dollars (\$60,000) is hereby appropriated from the Tourist Attraction Fund (TAF)
17 to the University of Guam for the operations of the Guampedia Foundation. The
18 funding authorized herein shall be used specifically by Guampedia for the purposes
19 of maintaining the services of a Managing Director. Said funds *shall* not be
20 subject to the transfer authority of *I Maga’låhen Guåhan*.

21 **Section 3. Effective Date.** The provisions of this act shall take effect
22 immediately upon the enactment of this Act.