

**I MINATRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2014 (SECOND) Regular Session**

Bill No. 279-32(WS)

Introduced by:

T. R. Muña Barnes
Aline A. Yamashita, Ph.D.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR A GUAM ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY-CONDUCTED SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT STUDY AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A ONE-YEAR PILOT PROJECT DEMONSTRATING THE ABILITY OF GUAM TO DEVELOP A BENEFICIAL USE FOR DISCARDED GLASS BOTTLES THAT WOULD, AMONG OTHER THINGS, DIVERT GLASS FROM THE LAYON MUNICIPAL SANITARY LANDFILL, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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MRB

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

2 **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*
3 recognizes and acknowledges the clear connection between waste reduction,
4 recycling, resource recovery, and beneficial reuse issues and the need to change
5 unsustainable consumption and production patterns while protecting and managing
6 the natural resource base of economic and social development. *I Liheslaturan*
7 *Guåhan* finds that based on recent estimates, the expected life of the landfill will
8 be 35-40 years. The life span of the landfill can be extended only with effective
9 implementation of waste reduction, recycling, resource recovery and beneficial
10 reuse programs. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that Guam's limited and
11 valuable land resource and fragile environment must be preserved and protected.

12 The protection of the environment, both terrestrial and aquatic, stimulation of the
13 economy, and distribution of equity can be achieved by promoting waste reduction,
14 recycling, reuse, resource recovery, and beneficial use through Zero Waste
15 practices in the public and private sectors. I Liheslaturan Guåhan finds that it has
16 embraced as a public policy Zero Waste through the adoption of Legislative
17 Resolution No. 189-32 (COR).

18 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that the Guam Solid Management
19 Authority has successfully developed and implemented an island-wide system that
20 is engaged in capturing recyclable products that have been discarded to include
21 paper, cardboard, and aluminum cans. Despite the broad array of options involved
22 in the recycling of glass products, glass is not yet being recycled on Guam due to,
23 among other factors, the lack of economies of scale. It is estimated that Guam will
24 dispose of approximately One Hundred and Twenty Thousand pounds (120,000
25 lbs.) of glass bottles each year at the Layon Municipal Sanitary Landfill.
26 Therefore, an effort should be made to foster the recycling and beneficial reuse of
27 glass and a feasibility study and operationally based pilot project toward that end is
28 warranted and necessary.

29 **Section 2.** The Guam Environmental Protection Agency shall obtain
30 contractual professional services to develop and implement a one-year pilot project
31 that includes, at a minimum, a sustainable materials management study and the
32 implementation of an operational based pilot project that demonstrates the ability
33 of Guam to develop a beneficial use for discarded glass bottles and other glass
34 products.

35 **Section 3. Appropriation.** The sum of **Two Hundred Fifty Thousand**
36 **Dollars (\$250,000)** is hereby appropriated from the Recycling Revolving Fund to
37 fund the pilot project mandated under Section 2 of this Act. Any unexpended
38 funds remaining in the Guam Environmental Protection Agency's budget at the

39 conclusion of the sustainable materials management study and its attendant pilot
40 project shall be returned to the Recycling Revolving Fund. This appropriation will
41 continue to be available until expended and is not subject inter-fund borrowing or
42 the Governor's Transfer Authority.

43 **Section 4. Effective Date.** The provisions outlined in this Act shall
44 become effective immediately upon enactment into public law.