

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

CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO I MAGA'LAHEN GUÅHAN

This is to certify that Substitute Bill No. 196-30 (COR), "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §40115.A TO CHAPTER 40, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO RECOGNIZING VILLAGE MAYORS AS DIRECT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE, AND EMPOWERING THEM WITH AUTHORITY FOR VILLAGE EVENTS," was on the 13th day of November, 2009, duly and regularly passed.

Acting Speaker

Rory J. Respicio
Acting Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by I Maga'lahen Guâhan this _______ day of _______ 2009, at ________ Assistant Staff Officer

Maga'lahi's Office

APPROVED:

FELIX P. CAMACHO
I Maga'lahen Guâhan

Date: _______

Public Law No.

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

Bill No. 196-30 (COR)

As substituted by the Committee on Municipal Affairs, Aviation, Housing and Recreation and as amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

Telo Taitague
T. C. Ada
F. B. Aguon, Jr.
F. F. Blas, Jr.
E. J.B. Calvo
B. J.F. Cruz
J. V. Espaldon
Judith P. Guthertz, DPA
Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.
v. c. pangelinan
M. J. Rector

T. R. Muña Barnes

Ray Tenorio Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

R. J. Respicio

AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §40115.A TO CHAPTER 40, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO RECOGNIZING VILLAGE MAYORS AS DIRECT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE, AND EMPOWERING THEM WITH AUTHORITY FOR VILLAGE EVENTS.

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

- 2 Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. I Liheslaturan Guåhan finds
- 3 that the responsibilities and authorities of our Village Mayors have evolved over a
- 4 long period of time. Since the enactment of Public Law 14-27, it is common

knowledge that other elected leaders yield to Village Mayors to seek out what the people from their respective villages desire for the betterment of their community.

As the powers, responsibilities, and duties of Village Mayors continue to evolve, it is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to provide Mayors with greater authority and autonomy to ensure people's needs are taken care of at the community level. Mayors today are *not* just the custodians of their jurisdiction that maintain a clean and beautiful neighborhood. Our Mayors have been granted authority to act as Peace Officers and are obliged to assist in maintaining law and order. Mayors have also been given powers to issue citations for the violations of sanitary, health, and litter laws in their village.

It is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to recognize our Mayors as the direct administrative representatives of our people and to empower them with the authority to approve any lawful concessionary activities that are officially sponsored *or* organized by their office *or* the Mayors' Council of Guam.

Section 2. A new §40115.A is hereby *added* to Chapter 40, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, to read:

"§40115.A. Mayors Empowered with Approving Authority. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, individual Mayors are granted authority to sponsor and to approve concessions, festivals, fiestas, or other village events associated with the promotion of the *Chamorro* culture, tradition, heritage and tourism, and officially sponsored by their mayoral office, *or* by the Mayors' Council of Guam, to be held within village property under the jurisdiction and control of the Mayor or Municipal Planning Council of that village. The names of the events *shall* be at the discretion of the Mayor. The net proceeds of such concessionary activity *shall* be given to the Municipal Planning Council of the Village in which the activity is held.

The Village Mayor or Vice-Mayor will provide a report of the amount of the proceeds that is transmitted to the Municipal Planning Council not more than thirty (30) days from the last day of such event to the Department of Revenue and Taxation, I Maga'lahen Guåhan, the Speaker of I Liheslatura, and the Office of Public Accountability.

This special authority granted to Mayors *does not* negate any other governmental requirement from being met, including, but *not limited to*, health and sanitary permits *if* such concessionary activities involve the handling of consumables, *or* the approval and permitting for gambling and cockfighting activities, *or* other permit *or* licensing requirements. A Certificate of Approval affixed with the approving Mayor's signature *shall* constitute the official authorization for a concessionary activity *not to exceed* a period of thirty (30) days. Such document *shall* indicate the nature of the activity and the activity's duration, which *shall not exceed* sixty (60) days from issuance of approval. A copy of the certificate *shall* be transmitted to the Speaker of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*. The funds and activities generated in this Section *shall* be subject to annual audit by the Office of Public Accountability."