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# I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2010 (SECOND) Regular Session

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

This is to certify that Substitute Bill No. 332-30 (COR), "AN ACT TO AMEND §51118 OF CHAPTER 51, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REMOVING CERTAIN EXEMPTIONS TO GUAM'S SOLID WASTE TIPPING AND USER FEES," was on the 19th day of March, 2010, duly and regularly passed.

(The )

	Char	
	Judith T. Won Pat, Ed. D. Speaker	
Attebred:		
Tina Rose Muña Barnes Legislative Secretary		
This Act was received by <i>I Maga'lahen Gi</i> 2:15 o'clock P.M.	uåhan this 22nd day of March 2010, at	
APPROVED:	Assistant Staff Officer Maga'lahi's Office	
FELIX P. CAMACHO I Maga'lahen Guåhan		
Date:		

Public Law No.

### I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2010 (SECOND) Regular Session

### Bill No. 332-30 (COR)

As substituted by the Committee on Utilities, Transportation, Public Works, and Veterans Affairs, and amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

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B. J.F. Cruz
T. C. Ada
F. B. Aguon, Jr.
F. F. Blas, Jr.
E. J.B. Calvo
J. V. Espaldon
Judith P. Guthertz, DPA
T. R. Muña Barnes
Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.
v. c. pangelinan
R. J. Respicio
Telo Taitague
Ray Tenorio
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

AN ACT TO AMEND §51118 OF CHAPTER 51, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REMOVING CERTAIN EXEMPTIONS TO GUAM'S SOLID WASTE TIPPING AND USER FEES.

#### BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

- 2 Section 1. Legislative Intent. The government of Guam expects to
- 3 receive from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) an \$88.5 Million loan
- 4 and \$15 Million in grants for the construction of a new landfill. Certain provisions
- 5 of Guam law are in conflict with USDA lending requirements; specifically, that no
- 6 free service or use of the facility will be permitted.

The USDA loan, used in lieu of the Obligation (Section 30) Bonds, Series 2009A, provides an opportunity for the government of Guam to reprogram bond proceeds to such other important capital improvement projects as the construction of a new multi-purpose cultural, convention and performing arts center, a Guam museum facility, a new John F. Kennedy High School, the expansion of the Guam Memorial Hospital, and other much-needed facilities.

Since the USDA loan may be used *only* for solid waste management projects, GovGuam must ensure the sound financial standing of the Solid Waste Operations Fund, which is the depository of solid waste tipping and user fees administered by the Department of Public Works Solid Waste Division.

It is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to ensure that the terms and requirements of the USDA loan are met by eliminating certain solid waste tipping fee exemptions under §51118 of Chapter 51, Title 10 of the Guam Code Annotated.

**Section 2.** §51118 of Chapter 51, Title 10 of the Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read:

## "§51118. Tipping/User Fees and Solid Waste Operations Fund.

(a) Legislative Intent. Tipping and user fees shall provide a financing source for government of Guam costs and expenses directly related to the closure of the Ordot landfill, the development, design, construction, operation and final closure of a new sanitary landfill and the Ordot landfill, as well as other solid waste management facilities that are contracted or may be established by this Act and in accordance with the plan and annual fiscal year appropriation for the Division of Solid Waste Management of DPW.

(1) Tipping/user fees will vary depending on the nature of collection, privatized contract for residential dwellings or hired commercial collectors for other municipal solid waste outlets.

- (2) For residential or dwelling, the charge is a user fee which includes the collection fee with the disposal tipping fee.
- (3) For commercial, including multi-family dwellings and government agencies, the charge is a disposal tipping fee and does not include collection fees independently charged by commercial waste haulers.
- (b) Effective Date of Charging Tipping Fees. The commercial and residential tipping fees established in this § 51118 are charged beginning the first day of the month following the adoption of supporting rules and regulations by DPW under the Administrative Adjudication Law.
- (c) Business and Governmental Tipping Fees. A tipping fee of Four Dollars (\$4.00) per cubic yard, uncompacted, is hereby established for business and government generators. For compacted trash, a tipping fee of Four Dollars (\$4.00) per cubic yard multiplied by the compaction ratio of any vehicle or container with compaction equipment, is hereby established for business and government generators. Commercial and government collectors shall provide the Department of Public Works the compaction ratios of all equipment used to haul solid waste to the landfill to insure the accurate assessment of tipping fees for compacted trash. This fee does *not* include collection charges that are independently set by licensed commercial collectors.
- (d) Residential Tipping Fees. A residential tipping fee, which includes collection charges, is hereby established for residential generators in the amount of Eight Dollars (\$8.00) per dwelling per month.

PUC Rate-making. The Public Utilities Commission of Guam (e) ['PUC'] is hereby authorized to establish, amend and approve, in accordance with Chapter 12 of Title 12, Guam Code Annotated, all commercial, government and residential tipping and user fees [including without limitation a self-drop fee, a variable residential tipping fee and a targeted lifeline rate for residential tipping fee, collectively referred to as 'tipping fees ], which when established shall replace those previously created by law or by the Department of Public Works ['DPW']. Tipping fees established by PUC shall be based on volume and on an actuarial analysis of costs of service. Rate-making authority, which was previously given to the DPW under this Section, is hereby revoked; provided, however, that DPW may propose or recommend rates and charges to be approved by the PUC. PUC is empowered to undertake a focused management audit of the existing operations of the DPW Division of Solid Waste Management. In performing its duties under this Section, PUC shall have the full authority and powers conferred upon it by its enabling legislation, 12 GCA 12000 et. sec., including the audit power conferred upon it by Public Laws 25-05:12 and 26-78:2.

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(f) Solid Waste Operations Fund. All tipping, user and other fees authorized under this Section and collected based on duly established rules and regulations or on a PUC rate order shall be deposited in a special fund designated and hereby established as the Solid Waste Operations Fund. All tipping/user fees in the Fund shall be used *solely* for solid waste management practices and, pursuant to PUC order, for the payment of regulatory costs and expenses as may be incurred by PUC in performing its regulatory duties under Subsection (e).

(g) Notification to Department of Interior. Within thirty (30) days of the enactment of this Act, the Governor shall notify the Department of Interior of the establishment of tipping fees, for the purpose of releasing Federal funds available to resolve environmental issues relative to the Ordot Landfill. Unless otherwise restricted by any conditions, Federal funding will be allocated between the Ordot Landfill compliance mitigation work and closure.

- (h) DPW to Develop Variable Residential Tipping Fees. In recognition of the fact that the initial residential tipping fee established by Public Law Number 24-272 is a flat fee, which discourages trash reduction, penalizes smaller families and subsidizes large residential generators of waste, the Department of Public Works shall develop a plan to institute a sliding scale of residential tipping fees. The sliding scale shall, at a minimum, charge residential generators based on the amount of waste produced and picked up by the department. The plan shall also address the methodology for billing individual residential customers based on the revised variable tipping fee. The plan shall be submitted to *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* within four (4) months of enactment of this Act.
- (h) (1) Lifeline Rates for Tipping Fees. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Department of Public Works shall, through the development of rules and regulations pursuant to the Administrative Adjudication Law, establish and modify from time to time, Targeted Lifeline Rates for Residential Tipping Fees covering pick-up and delivery of residential trash *only* that are consistent with and meeting the low income eligibility criteria, requirement, policies or procedures established by the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority ('GHURA') applicable to their Low Income Public Housing Program.

(i) Self-Drop Fee Established. Any person or entity that is *not* a business or government generator shall be billed Two Dollars (\$2.00) per vehicle load of solid waste delivered to a landfill operated by the Department or its contractor; provided, that the vehicle load capacity is one (1) ton or less. Vehicles in excess of said load capacity shall be billed a rate that is based on an established formula developed by the Department."

- Section 3. Effective Date. This Act shall be effective upon final approval by the United States Department of Agriculture of the loan and grant described in Section 1 of this Act.
- **Section 4. Severability.** *If* any provision of this Act, or its application to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the invalidity shall *not* affect other provisions or applications of this Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are severable.