



COMMITTEE ON RULES

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2011 AUG -3 PM 12:29

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Christopher M. Duenas

August 2, 2011

MEMORANDUM

To: Patricia C. Santos
Clerk of the Legislature

From: Rory J. Respicio

Subject: Supplement to Committee Report - Bill No. 234

Hafa Adai!

Transmitted herewith is a memo from Senator Thomas C. Ada, Chairperson, Committee on Utilities, Transportation, Public Works and Veterans Affairs, forwarding additional testimony on Bill No. 234.

Please include this memo and the attachment as a "Supplement" to the Committee Report on Bill No. 234-31 (COR).

Please make the appropriate indication in your records; and forward to MIS for posting on our website.

Si Yu'os ma'åse'!

cc: Senator Thomas C. Ada



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Supplement to the Committee Report On Substitute Bill No. 234-31 (COR)

**"AN ACT AMENDING TITLE 21 GUAM
CODE ANNOTATED, CHAPTER 26,
§66202.1 ITEM "A," RELATIVE TO
INCLUDING THE GUAM
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AS
PART THE AGENCIES REQUIRED FOR
THE "CLEARING AND GRADING"
PERMIT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS."**

*NOTE: The original Committee Report on
Substitute Bill No. 26-31 (COR)
was filed on July 18, 2011.



BUREAU OF STATISTICS AND PLANS

Sagan Plãnu Siha Yan Emfotmasion

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Thomas A. Morrison
Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES, PUBLIC WORKS AND VETERAN AFFAIRS BY THE BUREAU OF STATISTICS AND PLANS

Guam Legislature Public Hearing Room

July 1, 2011

Honorable Chairman and Committee Members:

This testimony is provided on behalf of the Bureau of Statistics and Plans in regards to the Bill No. 234-31(COR). We have reviewed the said bill and offer the following comments and concerns:

The Bureau believes that our natural resources should be protected and preserved before they reach an irreversible point of no return. With all the development Guam is experiencing, the Bureau strongly agrees that we must diligently protect and preserve what remains of our natural and native habitat.

We fully support the inclusion of the Department of Agriculture as a signatory on permits for clearing, grading and construction. This will complement the Guam Environmental Protection Agency's and the Department of Parks and Recreation's involvement in the permitting process. The Department of Agriculture's presence will undoubtedly ensure that Guam's native forest and terrestrial resources and habitat will be considered prior to permitting clearing and grading. It is our view that if all the entities listed were to thoroughly review the clearing and grading applications, our mandated concerns are covered.

The Bureau anticipates however that this proposal may have some drawbacks. The Bureau has observed that the Department of Agriculture is experiencing a lack of manpower that prevents them from being represented in various committee meetings. This additional responsibility will add additional stress to an already strained department. Therefore, we recommend that you consider the additional strain this bill may place on the department.

The Bureau recommends that the reference to the Guam Telephone Authority be deleted from the bill as it no longer exists.

We hope that our recommendation will assist you in the formulation of Bill No. 234-31(COR).

AT 7/25/11 T.A.M.
THOMAS A. MORRISON
DIRECTOR

Thomas A. Morrison
THOMAS A. MORRISON