

Senator

FRANK B. AGUON, JR. Chairman

Senator

Thomas C. Ada

Vice Chairman

COMMITTEE ON

Guam U.S Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary

I MINA' TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 33<sup>rd</sup> GUAM LEGISLATURE

## JUL 1 3 2015

The Honorable Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Speaker *I Mina Trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guahan* 155 Hesler Place Hagatna, Guam 96910

Vice-Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz Member

Senator Rory J. Respicio Member

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Member

Senator Dr. Nerissa B. Underwood, Ph.D. Member

> Senator V. Anthony Ada Member

Senator Frank F. Blas Jr. Member

Senator James V. Espaldon Member

Senator Brant T. McCreadie Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio VIA: The Honorable Rory J. Respicio Chairperson, Committee on Rules

RE: Committee Report on Bill No. 119-33 (COR)

Dear Speaker Won Pat:

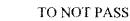
Transmitted herewith is the Committee Report on Bill No. 119-33 (COR)- An act to amend §§ 3207(h) and (i) of Chapter 3, Article 2, Title 10 Guam Code Annotated, §3102, §3105, §3108, §3109, §3202(a)(7), §3204, and §3206 of Chapter 3, Title 19 Guam Code Annotated, relative to providing equal protection for all families in Guam by creating equality in civil marriage.

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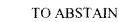
Committee votes are as follows:



TO DO PASS



TO REPORT OUT ONLY



TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE

SENALT DR FRANK B. AGUON, JR. Conductee Chairman on Guardo.S. Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary 1 Mina Tentai Tres Nethneslaturan Guåhan | 33<sup>rd</sup> Guam Legislature

> SUITE 503, DNA BLDG. 238 ARCHBISHOP FLORES STREET HAGATNA, GUAM 96910 PHONE: (671) 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) | FAX: (671) 475-GUM3 (4863) | EMAIL: AGUON4GUAM@GMAIL.COM

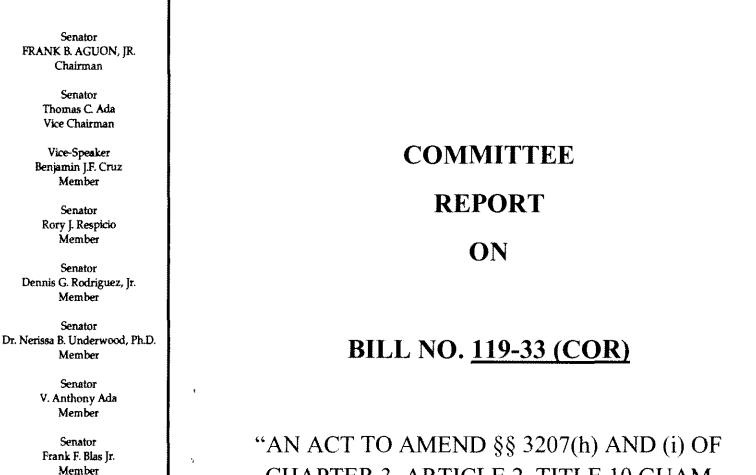
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Guam U.S Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary

I MINA' TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 33RD GUAM LEGISLATURE



Senator James V. Espaldon Member

Senator Brant T. McCreadie Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 3207(h) AND (f) OF CHAPTER 3, ARTICLE 2, TITLE 10 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, §3102, §3105, §3108, §3109, §3202(a)(7), §3204, AND §3206 OF CHAPTER 3, TITLE 19, GUAM CODE
ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING
EQUAL PROTECTION FOR ALL FAMILIES IN GUAM BY CREATING EQUALITY IN CIVIL MARRIAGE."

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Guam U.S Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary

I MINA' TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 33RD GUAM LEGISLATURE



## **JUL** 1 3 2015

**MEMORANDUM** 

## To: AI

ALL MEMBERS

Committee on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Public Safety, and Judiciary

## From: Senator Frank B. Aguon, Committee Chairperson

Subject: Committee Report on Bill No. <u>119-33</u> (COR)

Transmitted herewith for your consideration is the Committee Report on Bill No. <u>119-33</u> (COR) – <u>An act to amend §§ 3207(h) and (i) of Chapter 3, Article 2, Title 10 Guam Code</u> <u>Annotated, §3102, §3105, §3108, §3109, §3202(a)(7), §3204, and §3206 of Chapter 3, Title</u> <u>19 Guam Code Annotated, relative to providing equal protection for all families in Guam by</u> <u>creating equality in civil marriage.</u>

This report includes the following:

- Committee Vote Sheet
- Committee Report Digest
- Copy of Bill No. <u>119-33</u> (COR)
- Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet
- Copies of Submitted Testimony & Supporting Documents
- Referral of the Bill No. <u>119-33</u> (COR)
- Notices of Public Hearing
- Copy of Public Hearing Agenda
- Related News Report

Please take the appropriate action on the attached vote sheet. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse'!

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Senator FRANK B. AGUON, JR. Chairman

> Senator Thomas C. Ada Vice Chairman

Vice-Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz Member

Senator Rory J. Respicio Member

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Member

Senator Dr. Nerissa B. Underwood, Ph.D. Member

> Senator V. Anthony Ada Member

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Senator James V. Espaldon Member

Senator Brant T. McCreadie Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio



COMMITTEE ON

Guam U.S Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary



I MINA' TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 33\*D GUAM LEGISLATURE

## **COMMITTEE VOTING SHEET**

Senator FRANK B. AGUON, JR. Chairman

> Senator Thomas C. Ada Vice Chairman

Vice-Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz Member

Senator Rory J. Respicio Member

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Member

Senator Dr. Nerissa B. Underwood, Ph.D. Member

> Senator V. Anthony Ada Member

Senator Frank F. Blas Jr. Member

Senator James V. Espakdon Member

Senator Brant T. McCreadie Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio Bill No. 119-33 (COR) – "An act to amend §§ 3207(h) and (i) of Chapter 3, Article 2, Title 10 Guam Code Annotated, §3102, §3105, §3108, §3109, §3202(a)(7), §3204, and §3206 of Chapter 3, Title 19 Guam Code Annotated, relative to providing equal protection for all families in Guam by creating equality in civil marriage." sponsored by SENATOR NERISSA B. UNDERWOOD, Ph.D.

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS	SIGNATURE	TO DO PASS	TO NOT PASS	TO REPORT OUT ONLY	TO ABSTAIN	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE
AGUON, FRANK B., JR Committee Chairperson	3-9					
ADA, THOMAS C. Committee Vice Chairperson	n	$\checkmark$				
VICE-SPEAKER CRUZ, BENJAMIN J. F. Committee Member	3fz	K				
RESPICIO, RORY J. Committee Member	(myllespus	p. 13-15		,		
RODRIGUEZ, DENNIS G. JR. Committee Member			~			
UNDERWOOD, NERISSA B. Ph.D. Committee Member	When	1-130 Mh	65			
ADA, V. ANTHONY Committee Member	Q			7/13		
BLAS, FRANK F., JR. Committee Member	tb			7/0/10		
ESPALDON, JAMES V. Committee Member	Far-			7/13/15		
MCCREADIE, BRANT T. Committee Member						
SPEAKER WON PAT, JUDITH T. Ed. D. Committee Member						

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#### COMMITTEE ON

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Senator FRANK B. AGUON, JR. Chairman

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Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio

#### COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

#### OVERVIEW

1.

Bill No. <u>119-33</u> (COR) was introduced on June 5, 2015, by Senator Nerissa B. Underwood, Ph.D., and was subsequently referred by the Committee on Rules to the Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Public Safety and Judiciary on June 5, 2015.

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Public Safety and Judiciary convened a public hearing on Bill No. <u>119-33</u> (COR) on Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 4:00PM in I *Liheslatura's* Public Hearing Room.

#### **Public Notice Requirements**

Public Hearing notices were disseminated via e-mail to all senators and all main media broadcasting outlets on Wednesday, June 17, 2015 (5-Day Notice), and again on Monday, June 22, 2015 (48-Hour Notice). Notices were also published in the Marianas Variety Newspaper on Wedsesday, June 17, 2015 and Monday, June 22, 2015.

#### Senators Present

Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr., Chairperson Vice-Speaker Benjamin J. Cruz, Committee Member Senator Nerissa B. Underwood, Ph.D. Committee Member and Sponsor Senator V. Anthony Ada, Committee Member

The public hearing was Called-to-Order at 4:02 PM.

#### II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY & DISCUSSION

#### Senator Aguon:

Good morning ladies and gentlemen, this public hearing on The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Public Safety and Judiciary is hereby convened at Four P.M. (4PM). I would first of all like to thank my good colleagues, Vice Speaker B.J Cruz to my immediate right for joining us this morning; to my immediate right is Senator Nerissa Underwood, and to her right is Senator V. Anthony Ada. Thank you Senators for joining us this afternoon. On the agenda today, we do have the one legislative measure, Bill number one nineteen (Bill No.119), which is relative to providing equal protection for all families in Guam by creating equality in civil marriage. So we will proceed with the bill, Bill number one nineteen dash thirtythree (Bill No.119-33), and if I can invite the following individuals, Mr. William Pesch and Deacon Larry Claros. If you will be providing testimony, please if I can invite you up to the front and present your comments and your testimonies. While we are waiting for you to join us, I would like to ask the sponsor of the legislation Senator Nerissa Underwood to provide some opening comments. Senator Underwood.

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#### Senator Underwood:

Okay well thank you and good afternoon Mr. Chairman for the opportunity to provide some opening remarks for this public hearing and Bill 119-33 (COR). Before I proceed, I just want to thank Mr. Vice Speaker and also Senator Ada for joining us here this afternoon. Bill 119-33(COR) is an act to amend subsection 3207 (h) and (i) of Chapter 3, Article 2, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated; Subsection 3102, 3105, 3108, 3109, 3202(a)(7), 3204, and 3206 of Chapter 3, Title 19, Guam Code Annotated; Relative to providing equal protection for all families in Guam by creating equality in civil marriage. Bill 119-33 was introduced 20 days ago on June 5, just several hours after District Court of Guam issued a ruling on the unconstitutionality of existing marriage laws on Guam. The intent of Bill 119-33 is to comply with the District Court of Guam judgment and to amend local statute to allow for same sex marriage in Guam. I'd like to acknowledge the history of this effort to equalize civil rights on Guam. In 2009, Vice Speaker Cruz introduced a bill, which was bill 138-30, in support of the legalization of civil unions within Guam. Well, at that time, the bill did not garner the support needed for passage. It's introduction did provide the opportunity for people to organize around and to articulate the need for a shift in how we view equal rights and whose lives matter. Even six years later, those efforts hold strong, and we see that today with the matter before the US Supreme Court and the recent ruling made by our own District Court of Guam. Today, Guam is able to align with the civil rights movement that is global, and we made the conscious effort to lead in this regard. Since the bill was introduced, I continued to receive comments from various stakeholders and have also received feedback from legislative counsel. I intend to incorporate those amendments and minor additions to further strengthen the bill. Furthermore, I believe it is important to recognize and uphold the democratic process that grants people the opportunity to choose and to express their livelihood with dignity. I expressed my sincere thank you to those who have come forward today, and in the past, publicly and anonymously, to speak in this very important matter. Your courage holds a place in Guam's history and in the larger struggle to ensure that all members of the community have true access to equal treatment under the law. For those who are not able to attend this afternoon's hearing, I encourage you to send testimony as soon as possible so that we can be sure to have it included in the committee report for bill 119-33. Lastly, thank you to the good Chairman and this committee for holding this public hearing in good faith and as early as possible so that we can ensure that Guam is in compliance with the District Court of Guam ruling. Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

#### **Chairman Aguon:**

Thank you very much Senator Underwood and I apologize and thank you for recognizing our colleagues who are here. To my immediate right is Senator and Vice Speaker BJ Cruz, thank you mr. Vice Speaker for joining us this afternoon, and yourself Senator Underwood, the sponsor of the legislation, and Senator Ada.

#### Vice-Speaker Cruz:

Thank you Mr. Chair.

#### **Chairman Aguon:**

We do have, before I entertain the following individuals: Mr. William Pesch and Deacon Larry Claros, if you would like to join us up front. I would like to just for the record share that the committee has shared written testimony from Mr. and Mrs. Patrick and Judy Mason, in addition to that, a young lady named Sophia Underwood, also, from Reverend James Moore, and also Mr. Derick Baza Hills. So to date, those are the written testimonies that the committee has received, and the committee will keep the receipt of written testimony open for subsequent 10 days from today's hearing to allow our people to be able submit written testimony should they desire to do so. I'd like to go ahead. Mr. Pesch, please if you can turn on the mic, recognize yourself, or identify yourself, I'm sorry, and then proceed with your testimony.

#### Mr. William D. Pesch:

My name is Bill Pesch. I am a local attorney on the island, and I thank all you senators for the opportunity to speak today. I prepared written testimony that I submitted, and I'll read from that if I may.

[Written Testimony Attached]

Thank you very much.

#### **Chairman Aguon:**

Thank you very much Attorney Pesch. If you could please remain there for questions, if by any chance there are any questions by the senators. Thank you.

Senator Aguon: Please Proceed.

**Deacon Claros:** 

[Written Testimony Attached]

Thank you.

#### **Chairman Aguon:**

Thank you very much Deacon Claros. Any questions or comments senators?

#### Vice Speaker Cruz:

I wasn't going to, but I will. I must compliment you on a very well researched piece that you put together. Have you or anybody in the archdiocese done any research as to the effect on society and the effect to all those of us throughout the country who were subjected to pedophilia by priests and the impact that has had on the moral fiber of society?

#### **Deacon Claros:**

One has been done for the nation and probably for some countries in the world, but not exactly here on Guam, but I will say this senator that we are all human, and whether priest, bishop, whether senators, whether mothers or fathers, we all make mistakes in our decisions in life. The thing is now we're all in a situation to go ahead and make decisions for the future, and some times, sometimes in our, if you'll forgive me for this word, selfishness, that we try to put our own agenda forward not thinking of others, then I think we destroy society little by little, and we have since history started. Since man started on this earth, we have, but we have also done many good. Many good. I remember my life here on Guam and living off island for a few years and coming home and just looking at our society evolving, changing for the good, for the bad, but somehow we all survive, but there is one thing we need to understand that in the mistakes we make, there also must be forgiveness so we can move forward. This is something the human person sometimes fails to put into their hearts.

#### Vice Speaker Cruz:

Can I just ask what that study is? I'd like to read that study because you quoted at least two dozen treatises in this.

#### **Deacon Ciaros:**

Yes, and from that document...

#### Vice Speaker Cruz:

So I'm just wondering whether or not you've done a similar study on the impact. Because you cited Massachusetts continuously...

#### **Deacon Claros:**

Of course. Of course.

#### Vice Speaker Cruz:

And Cardinal Law had to resign because of the huge number of pedophile cases that were throughout the archdiocese of Boston, and I'm just wondering, have you guys done any studies to determine, or have you read any studies about the impact and effect that is had on society, and if you could share that with me, I would love to...

#### **Deacon Claros:**

No, not for our local archdiocese, but we relied really on the United States and of course that's a bigger body, so therefore, our small community on Guam, if we can just merge that into its part.

#### Vice Speaker Cruz:

I understand, but you didn't cite anything on your four pages about Guam. You cited all the studies that were done in the states. So I'm asking if you could provide me with similar citations to studies that you looked at to determine the impact of the Church has had by allowing and its pedophilia within the Church.

#### **Deacon Ciaros:**

As of this time senator, no I don't have those studies.

#### Chairman Aguon:

Thank you very much Vice Speaker. Senator Underwood?

#### Senator Underwood:

Thank you Deacon Claros. I just have a question. You had noted that there was a study that compared the parenthood of parents of same sex marriage and the effects on children. You know that the children from households of same sex marriage and then the children from heterosexual marriage, and that the children from same sex marriage were somehow different. So, can you elaborate how different were they. Were they... What did the study say?

#### **Deacon Claros:**

They're more, according to the... I didn't print out the graph. I should have, but what it states is that children raised, not all now there's a certain percentage, but there's children that are raised in these households with their fathers or mothers, and they grew up to having probably the same type of relationships their parents had, their mothers or their fathers. These high statistics, these studies that this family research council did, I think it's accurate. Yes.

#### Senator Underwood:

So that was what you had noted, but you didn't have the statistics about what percentage of these children actually ended up...

#### **Deacon Claros:**

It did. I did put the percentages. It says here that daughters of lesbian mothers have the highest rates anywhere from 33 to 57 percent, and that for children itself, with the 262 children that was brought into this study, it quoted here anywhere from 16 percent of those children to as high as 57 percent.

#### Senator Underwood:

That's a wide range. I'm just curious. You know let's just bring this situation right here in Guam. We're a small community, and we're a community where we have friends. We have relatives who are homosexuals, who are gay, lesbian, transgender, bisexual, and so we are an accepting, very accepting, community. So, I'm just you know. I'm really puzzled because I was raised a Christian, and fundamental to Christianity as I was raised even in Catholic is God's unconditional love for all of us, and that's, and the reason why Christ really went on the cross is because we are all subject to sin no matter what that sin is, but all of us, as you have noted, so how can we then treat our brothers and sisters who choose a different lifestyle differently, and treat them as if they are lepers.

#### Attorney Pesch:

No offense to interrupt, but I didn't choose this. My path...

#### Senator Underwood:

Yes, okay. Or with the lifestyle that they have right now that's different from the heterosexual family. How can we as Christians continue to profess that we are Christians and treat them differently and treat them as if they are lepers, that they are not to be given the same rights as everybody else? To be treated equally? How can we do that as Christians knowing that fundamentally Christ had died for all of us because we can't do it on our own?

#### **Deacon Claros:**

Thank you for your question Senator. The Church stance with regards to if we can go to that word homosexual is sometimes could be misunderstood. Christ says to love God and love your neighbor. So therefore, the Church loves everyone. We should, the Church promotes that we should love everyone, most especially our brothers who are probably have chosen a life for themselves whatever it may be whether we disagree with it or not. The Church has always said to go and to love your neighbor as God told us to do, and we have. Some don't probably understand that. That's why we have many situations in the world. I will say this though is that the person choosing, wanting to choose all these things their rights and so forth, everyone is free to do whatever they want. Everyone is free. We all were given that freedom of choice. The thing is that some of us, okay, probably have made right choices and terrible choices. To judge, is only to be given by this God when he comes. He'll set everything straight honestly, and maybe all of us that are confused of what's right and not right, then and only then will know the truth. I pray though that what the Church teaches truly in the context of loving God and loving her neighbor is to truly live it in this life. My brothers, I have many relatives Senators. I have many relatives that I love who are in a same sex attraction relationship. Does that not make me love them? I love them truly because they're my family. They're my friends, but for them to choose that is their choice. I will not interfere. They know, if they're Christians, they know the teachings of the Church with regards to this, and then they make their decision. I will respect that, and we will respect that always. We've always promoted that, but many people have said otherwise because all they hear is that we condemn people. I am a Christian in the Catholic Church, the universal Church, and therefore as a Christian, I try to live it as much as possible. So no, I don't want to judge anyone. You know what I'm trying to do here is I'm asking all of you to don't touch marriage in its redefinition. If our brothers who have a different lifestyle wants these certain rights, then pass laws or have bills to these certain laws, but do not touch marriage. It is from the very beginning about this union of man and woman. Everyone can have what they want based on how we go ahead and make these laws. Equality was given under the Bill of Rights of the United States. We have these basic rights, but here goes now is up to us. If we were to look at changing marriage, then I have something against that. I am a married person myself okay, and I want my children to understand what marriage is, and it will remain, I pray, you will make it and have it remain between a man and a woman.

#### Vice Speaker Cruz:

Just going back to the data that you have that gay marriages or as you put it having lesbian parents results in anywhere from 17 to 57 percent. When do you acknowledge was the first gay marriage?

#### Deacon Claros:

When do I first acknowledge?

#### Vice Speaker Cruz:

When was the first one? Because I'm trying to figure out if... Mr. Pesch and I came from heterosexual couples.

#### **Deacon Claros:**

You did. Otherwise if it was same sex it ....

#### Vice Speaker Cruz:

Yeah, and I'm trying to figure out how did that happen then. You know it wasn't that my father was gay or my mother was gay. It just, that's why I was just..., I really have some concerns about you using that statistic because I know that there's a lot of people that are raising children, and they don't come out the same way. I mean, and to use that as the basis for which to oppose this... Because all the rest of us, otherwise it would be... except for the ones in the marriages that occurred since four years ago. Those children are just four years old, but we've had generations and generations and generations for thousands of years who were gay, and they didn't come from gay marriages. So, the number of gay people out there has nothing to do with what their parents were. So, I'm just a little concerned about citing that statistic as being a reason for being against it. If anything, what we should be standing for is to try to have people understand their responsibilities as a married couple. There should be more of that than anything else because people don't understand their responsibilities.

#### **Deacon Claros:**

Well, there's something that is very different between a male and a female in all their mechanics. We think differently. Our bodies are different. We look at things differently. And a father and a mother will have all these different gifts to give their children, and here goes now is that when the statistics says this, I trust what I hear, what I see is correct because they've gone through this for the past 12 years, and they're seeing this affecting their society in the state of Massachusetts and probably anywhere on the United States that have legalized this. What I fear is, is that if this is legalized on Guam, then just many people will fall into the same area and not to say that anyone else's children will be gay or what. That's gonna be their decision Senator. Everyone has this freedom of choice. So...

#### Vice Speaker Cruz:

Unless of course you're going to say that you're gay cousins or your relatives that you've acknowledged that you have came from gay parents, and I don't think that you're ready to do that are you. So I'm just saying that, where they come from, they came from good, God fearing, heterosexual couples, and to then blame that there's going to be some increase or decrease in the number of homosexuals or lesbians as a result of gay marriage, I really don't think follows. I'm just a little concerned about you using those statistics and saying "the range from 17 percent to 57 percent". I mean that's a huge range.

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#### **Deacon Claros:**

I'm gonna use this example Senator that the person always is a product of his or her environment. If one comes from a family that is, there is domestic abuse and the children see this, it's already noted in studies that usually the children will follow suit. So in anything, in anything, we become products of our environment. I choose my wife, and I choose to show our children we love them by loving each other, as a man and as a woman, as a husband and as a wife, and this is the example my children see, and I hope that they will follow. If they choose a gay lifestyle and as adults, you know that's their choosing, and I dare not interfere. I may not approve, but that doesn't mean I'm not going to love this person, my child. He understands, also in that. So here goes now everything depends truly on the environment of where these children grow up. I'm not saying they're going to be gay or not. That's going to be their own choosing. We all have this choice. I'm saying that leave this bill, the definition of marriage, to be of the opposite sex, and then again if the people that are in relationships, same sex marriages and so forth, and they want a certain benefit that heterosexual couples have, heterosexual marriages have, then if you deem it necessary give it to them. They want it? Fine. I have no problem with that. What I have a problem is that when it comes to the faith side, when God created man and woman. I want marriage to stay in its original definition, and we as policy makers we also need to understand that I think we can accomplish satisfying everyone, but marriage belongs to a man and a woman. Maybe call the others that want to have a union a union. Fine. If you want them to have retirement and insurance and whatever benefits, fine. Pass those bills. They'll get it, but marriage belongs to a man and a woman. That's what I'm asking. I'm asking you to please keep that, something that has been in place for thousands of years, and we today in this society having its selfish way of trying to change something that's been there for the longest time. I totally disagree with that, but I also respect the decisions of others and how they want to live their lives.

#### **Chairman Aguon:**

Thank you very much Deacon Claros. We have another individual who would like to provide testimony. Loretta, please identify yourself for the record and proceed.

#### Loretta Pangelinan:

My name is Loretta Pangelinan. Thank you for making me speak. I just want to comment on some stuff that you have read. I actually just recently got married to the same sex, and we have the total of four foster kids. I have raised over 19 foster kids, and I actually have a license for it, and my kids, I raise them as my parents raised me. It's their decision. Yes, I understand that. I don't raise my kids to like the same sex whatsoever, and I come from a good family. My parents are all in the Church, and they are deceased now. They're really old fashioned parents, and at first they didn't agree with it. Because they loved me so much, they agreed with it and accepted me and my other half, and the thing is marriage changes a lot of things, but because we have kids and we, in the future, want to adopt. We want to be one as a family, and I give every day. I go to church. I pray, and I don't wish or pray the worst for people. I was very troubled when I was growing up. I used to be a foster child, and I am giving back. I have changed a lot of my ways. Honestly, it hits home for me just hearing all that, but my kids, they're treated and raised the right way, not to go the other way. Thank you.

#### **Chairman Aguon:**

Thank you very much Ms. Pangelinan for your testimony. Any other questions or comments senators?



COMMITTEE ON

Guam U.S Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary

I MINA' TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN / 33<sup>rd</sup> GUAM LEGISLATURE



#### **Chairman Aguon:**

That concludes our discussion on that measure. I would also like to recognize that there are written testimonies received by the committee. So the committee will proceed as stated by receiving written testimony by any chance the public would like to provide written testimony. If any of these, I just received a new list of individuals who have signed in. Thank you very much folks for your attendance this afternoon and for your oral or expressive testimony in terms of bill number one nineteen dash three three (Bill No. 119-33.) That's concludes our public hearing on that particular measure.

The Public Hearing was adjourned at: 4:50 PM.

#### III. WRITTEN TESTIMONY

The following individuals submitted written testimonies to the Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Public Safety and Judiciary before or after the schedule public hearing on Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 4:00PM in *I Liheslatura's* Public Hearing Room.

- 1. Attorney William (Bill) D. Pesch, Guam Family Law Office
- 2. Deacon Larry Claros, Director of Family Ministry, Archdiocese of Agana
- 3. Mr. and Mrs. Patrick and Judy Mason, private citizen of Ipan, Talofofo
- 4. Mrs. Sophia Underwood, private citizen
- 5. Reverend James Moore, Deacon, Epsicopal Church of St. John the Divine
- 6. Mr. Derick Baza Hills, private citizen
- 7. Taitano Family
- 8. Mr. Don (Did not want to provide a last name), private citizen

#### IV. FINDINGS & RECCOMMENDATIONS

The Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Public Safety and Judiciary hereby reports out Bill No. <u>119-33</u> (COR) with the recommendation:

SUITE 503, DNA BLDG. 238 ARCHBISHOP FLORES STREET HAGATNA, GUAM 96910 PHONE: (671) 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) | FAX: (671) 475-GUM3 (4863) | EMAIL: AGUON4GUAM@GMAIL.COM

WWW.FRANKAGUONJR.COM

Senator FRANK B. AGUON, JR. Chairman

> Senator Thomas C. Ada Vice Chairman

Vice-Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz Member

Senator Rory J. Respicio Member

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Member

Senator Dr. Nerissa B. Underwood, Ph.D. Member

> Senator V. Anthony Ada Member

Senator Frank F. Blas Jr. Member

Senator James V. Espaldon Member

Senator Brant T. McCreadie Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio

### I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2015 (FIRST) REGULAR SESSION

Bill No. 119-33 (COR)

#### Introduced by:

N.B. Underwood, Ph.D.

AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 3207(b) AND (i) OF CHAPTER 3, ARTICLE 2, TITLE 10 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, § 3102, § 3105, § 3108, § 3109, § 3202(a)(7), § 3204, AND § 3206 OF CHAPTER 3, TITLE 19 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING EQUAL PROTECTION FOR ALL FAMILIES IN GUAM BY CREATING EQUALITY IN CIVIL MARRIAGE.

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

Section 1. Title. This Act may be known and referred to as the "Guam
Marriage Equality Act of 2015."

4 Section 2. Legislative Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* recognizes that on June 5 5, 2015 the District Court of Guam ruled that existing marriage laws in Guam are 6 unconstitutional. Pursuant to this ruling, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* intends to comply 7 with the District Court of Guam judgement and amends local statute to allow for 8 same-sex marriage in Guam.

A

9 Section 3. Subsections 3207(h) and (i) of Chapter 3, Article 2 of 10 Guam

#### 10 Code Annotated are hereby *amended* to read as follows:

11 § 3207. Definitions.

(h) Marriage means the legal union of between two persons without
 regard to gender. of opposite sex. The legality of the union may be
 established by civil or religious regulations, as recognized by the laws of

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<del>Guam.</del>

(i) Divorce or annulment means the final legal dissolution of a marriage,
void or otherwise, that is, the separation of husband and wife spouses by
a judicial decree which confers on the parties the right to remarriage,
according to the laws of Guam.

## 6 Section 4. Section 3102 of Chapter 3, Title 19 Guam Code Annotated is 7 hereby *amended* to read as follows:

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§ 3102. Minors.

9 (a) Any unmarried person of the age of eighteen (18) years or upwards, and not otherwise disqualified, is capable of consenting to and consummating 10marriage. Provided, that any person under the age of eighteen (18) years and 11 over the age of sixteen (16) years, with the consent in writing of their parents of 12 the person under age, or one of such parents, or of his or her guardian, where 13 such written consent is filed with the Director of Administration, as provided in 14 15 § 3202 of this Title, is capable of consenting to and consummating marriage. Provided, further that any female under the age of sixteen (16) years and over 16 the age of fourteen (14) years, with the consent in writing of her parents or one 17 of her parents or one of her parents, or of her guardian, where such written 18 consent is filed with the clerk issuing the marriage license, as provided in § 19 3202 of this Title and where, after such showing as the Superior Court may 20require, an order of said Superior Court is entered in the minutes of the clerk of 21 said Court, granting permission to said female to marry, is capable of 2223 consenting to and consummating marriage.

## 24 Section 5. Section 3105 of Chapter 3, Title 19 Guam Code Annotated is 25 hereby *amended* to read as follows:

26 § 3105. Illegal and Void Marriages.

- A subsequent marriage contracted by any person during the life of a former husband or wife spouse of such person, with any person other than such former husband or wife spouse is illegal and void from the beginning, unless:
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4 (a) The former marriage has been annulled or dissolved. In no case 5 can a marriage of either of the parties during the life of the other, be valid 6 in Guam, if contracted within one (1) year after the entry of an 7 interlocutory decree in a proceeding for divorce.

8 (b) Unless such former husband or wife spouse is absent and not 9 known to such person to be living for the space of five (5) successive 10 years immediately preceding such subsequent marriage, or is generally 11 reputed or believed by such person to be dead at the time such 12 subsequent marriage was contracted. In either of which cases, the 13 subsequent marriage is valid until its nullity is adjudged by a competent 14 tribunal.

# 15 Section 6. Section 3108 of Chapter 3, Title 19 Guam Code Annotated is 16 hereby *amended* to read as follows:

17 "Upon entering into a contract of marriage a woman spouse may elect to retain 18 his or her maiden name as her surname before marriage as his or her surname upon 19 marriage. Upon entering into a contract of marriage, either spouse may elect to 20 hyphenate his or her surname with the surname of the other spouse. Intention of the 21 exercise of said election shall be indicated upon the marriage license application as 22 provided for by § 3202 of this Title."

# Section 7. Section 3109 ("Same: Exclusive Election") of Chapter 3, Title 19 Guam Code Annotated is *repealed*.

25 Section 8. Section 3202(a)(7) of Chapter 3, Title 19 Guam Code Annotated 26 is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

1	"(7) Whether the female a spouse elects to retain her maiden name as her
2	surname upon marriage his or her surname before marriage as his or her surname upon
3	marriage as provided for by § 3108."
4	Section 9. Section 3204 of Chapter 3, Title 19 Guam Code Annotated is
5	hereby amended to read as follows:
6	§ 3204 Who May Solemnize.
7	(a) Marriage may be solemnized by:
8	(1) The Governor of Guam or his substitute;
9	(2) The judges of the District Court, and Superior Court;
10	(3) All ordained clergymen and priests of whatsoever religious faith who
11	are recognized as such by the religious body whose faith they represent;
12	(4) The Director of Revenue and Taxation or the Director of
13	Administration;
14	(5) The Speaker of the Guam Legislature, or his/her designee;
15	(6) All village mayors and vice mayors.
16	(b) No regularly licensed or ordained minister or any priest, or similar official
17	of any religious organization is required to perform the solemnization of any marriage.
18	Section 10. Section 3206 of Chapter 3, Title 19 Guam Code Annotated is
19	hereby <i>amended</i> to read as follows:
20	"§ 3206. Particular Form Not Necessary.
21	No particular form for the ceremony of marriage is required, but the parties
22	must declare in the presence of the person solemnizing the marriage that they take
23	each other as husband and wife, or as spouses."
24	Section 11. When necessary to implement the rights, benefits, protections, and
25	responsibilities of spouses under the laws of Guam, all gender-specific terminology,
26	such as "husband", "wife", "widow", "widower", or similar terms, shall be construed

in a gender-neutral manner. This interpretation shall apply to all sources of law,
including statutes, administrative rules, court decisions, common law, or any other
source of law.

Section 12. Effective Date. The effective date of implementation of this Act is
 immediate upon enactment.

6 Section 13. Severability. If any provision of this Act or its application to any 7 person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity *shall not* affect other provisions 8 or applications of this Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or 9 application and to this end the provisions of this Act are severable.

## COMMITTEE ON GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION, PUBLIC SAFETY & JUDICIARY



I Mina' Trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guahan | 33rd Guam Legislature

## SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR. CHAIRMAN



<u>Bill No. 119-33 (COR):</u> - An act to amend §§ 3207(h) and (i) of Chapter 3, Article 2, Title 10 Guam Code Annotated, §3102, §3105, §3108, §3109, §3202(a)(7), §3204, and §3206 of Chapter 3, Title 19 Guam Code Annotated, relative to providing equal protection for all families in Guam by creating equality in civil marriage. Sponsored by: Senator Nerissa B. Underwood, Ph.D.

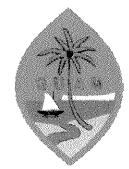
Name (Please Print)	Agency/Organization	Contact Number	Oral Testimony	Written Testimony	In favor	Not In Favor
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## COMMITTEE ON GUAM U.S. MILITARY RELOCATION, PUBLIC SAFETY & JUDICIARY



I Mina' Trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guahan | 33rd Guam Legislature

## SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR. CHAIRMAN



<u>Bill No. 119-33 (COR):</u> - An act to amend §§ 3207(h) and (i) of Chapter 3, Article 2, Title 10 Guam Code Annotated, §3102, §3105, §3108, §3109, §3202(a)(7), §3204, and §3206 of Chapter 3, Title 19 Guam Code Annotated, relative to providing equal protection for all families in Guam by creating equality in civil marriage. Sponsored by: Senator Nerissa B. Underwood, Ph.D.

Name (Please Print)	Agency/Organization	Contact Number	Oral Testimony	Written Testimony	In favor	Not In Favor
JASMINE STOLE	*MARIANAS VARIETY	188-4030				
LETTA PADAGELINAN						
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Page 2 of 2

#### William D. Pesch

173 Aspinall Ave., Suite 203 Hagatna, Guam 96910 Phone: 472-8472; Fax: 477-5873 Email: guamfamilylawoffice@gmail.com

June 25, 2015

Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr. Committee on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Public Safety & Judiciary 33rd Guam Legislature 155 Hesler Place Hagatna, GU 96910

Re: Bill No. 119-33, Guam Employment Nondiscrimination Act (GENDA) of 2015

Dear Senator Aguon:

15

Thank you for the opportunity to present input on Bill No. 119-33, an act to amend certain sections of Title 10 and Title 19, Relative to Providing Equal Protection for All Families in Guam by Creating Equality in Civil Marriage.

As I noted in my earlier testimony on Bill 102-33, these are exciting times for the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, and Transgender (LGBT) community, both here on Guam and throughout the United States. Both public opinion and official response to our aspirations to be treated as equals to our heterosexual counterparts are finally turning in our favor. Today, thirty-seven states, the District of Columbia, and Guam authorize same-sex marriages. Some of these states willingly extended these rights to same-sex couples while others were forced to do so through court involvement. Unfortunately, Guam falls into this latter category.

As we all know, the U.S. Supreme Court will soon determine whether all states and territories must allow same-sex marriages. A decision is due within a week in the *Obergefell v. Hodges* case. Two issues are presented by the Obergefell case. First, whether all states must permit same-sex marriages or second, whether states that don't permit same-sex marriages must recognize such marriages that were conducted in states that do permit them.

I am hopeful that regardless of what the Supreme Court decides, the Guam Legislature will extend same-sex marriage rights to our territory through the passage of Bill 119-33. Of course, if the Supreme Court holds that all states and territories must allow same-sex marriages, Guam will have no choice in the matter. The island will have to continue allowing these marriages.

However, under such circumstances, states and territories could still keep their old prejudicial laws on the books as a show of defiance. For instance, despite the fact that the U.S. Supreme Court held in 1967 that states and territories had to allow interracial marriages, it wasn't until thirty-three years later that all states amended their laws and constitutions to fully comply with the Court's ruling. Alabama was the last holdout. Not until 2000, did Alabamans finally vote through a referendum to strike a clause in the state's constitution that had provided: "The legislature shall never pass any law to authorize or legalise any marriage between any white person and a Negro or descendant of a Negro."

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Although this clause was unenforceable against the Supreme Court's ruling, it remained on the books as an ugly reminder of the deep-seated prejudice lingering in the state. Even in 2000, 41% of those who participated in the referendum voted against striking the offensive constitutional clause. I sincerely hope that the Guam Legislature will not follow Alabama down a similar pathway of ignorance and prejudice. Please amend the law now rather than later.

Even if the Supreme Court holds that each state and territory has the right to determine whether or not to permit same-sex marriages, I am hopeful that the Guam Legislature will pass Bill 119-33. The LGBT community has been forced to live as second-class citizens far too long. I am well aware that many Guamanians cite Bible verses to support their opposition to same-sex marriages, just as many people similarly cited Bible verses to defend their stance against interracial marriages, and indeed continue to do so to this present day.

However, as senators, you took an oath to protect the civil rights of all individuals. For a good reason, the U.S. Constitution clearly separates church and state. The LGBT community is not asking for special treatment. We ask only to be treated as civil equals to our heterosexual counterparts. Please send a clear message of equality. Vote for Bill 119-33.

Cordially yours, MILLIAM D. PESCH

June 25, 2015 - The Problem of Same-Sex Marriage

Senators of the 32 Guam Legislature, I am Deacon Larry Claros, I am the Director of Family Ministry, in the Division of Pastoral Ministries of the Archdiocese of Agana. I am here to testify against Bill No. 119-33 (COR).

Most people think that SSM will not affect society ... A crew from the Family Research Council was sent to investigate and document SSM and how it currently effects our society. The following are my notes from this documentary as well as some of my thoughts.

In the state of Massachusetts, the first state in the nation to legalize SSM, the state of California followed and so as other states, and now in the US Territory of Guam, on June 05, 2015 ... a ruling by the District Court of Guam, ruled that existing marriage laws in Guam are unconstitutional.

Inscribed above the entrance to the US Supreme Court is "Equal Justice Under Law" ... But with the nine Justices, with its ruling of Roe versus Wade in 1973, justice for all Americans is now forever lost. Today, issues regarding this ruling still are being debated.

By the end of this month, the Justices of the US Supreme Court will rule on the issue regarding SSM. Is this bill in anticipation that the Supreme Court of the USA will rule in the same line?

Federal DOMA (Defense of Marriage Act) was signed into law by President Clinton on September 21, 1996. It defines marriage for all purposes defined under federal law as the union of one man and one woman. Now this is being challenged by advocates wanting SSM.

DOMA has had set-backs recent court cases, it also lost its primary defender, the US Department of Justice ... they wrote to congress that they no longer will defend the DOMA in court, based on their belief that it was unconstitutional. It's not up to the President of the US to determine if a law is constitutional or not, that is why we have the courts for. The President takes an oath of office to uphold the laws of the United States of America. The Obama administration's basis to attack this statute is its belief that there is some sort of quote in the constitution of a "right" to homosexual marriage.

In 2003 when the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts mandated SSM, there was no way to know the full impact, but that decision today, more than 12 years later, there is clear evidence showing problems associated with SSM. Kris Mineau, President, Massachusetts Family Institute, says that the first level of impact is in their schools, grades kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. These children are being indoctrinated on SSM and the rightness, correctness of homosexuality. Some instances:

- 1. A kindergarten, age 5, came home from school with a book entitled "Who's in a Family?" by Robert Skutch, introducing children to same-sex households.
- 2. A 7 year old, a second grader, came home telling his parents of a book his teacher read ... "it was about a prince marrying a prince, not a princess" ... a book entitled King & King. It tells a story of a man and a man having a romantic relationship and getting married.

It was clear to the parents of these children, after talking to the teachers and administrators that because of state law allowing SSM, they can indoctrinate, children without parental consent on issues of SSM and homosexuality. Concerned parents David & Tonia Parker filed suit against the school system and in the Massachusetts Federal Court, said they didn't think they [parents] have a parental right to be notified on issues of SSM and homosexuality. The federal judge, Mark Wolf, wrote in his judgment about a book, Changing Minds, by Howard Gardner, the art and science of changing our own and other people's minds. Judge Mark Wolf believes that it is the schools' job to change the minds of young children and that they are indeed young and impressionable so that it's translating directly into what the courts did (legalizing SSM in the state of Massachusetts) and then teaching the children it's okay and that in fact you could be gay. There are problems with SSM and how it becomes a legal platform for exposing our children to homosexual materials, and how SSM inevitably undermines parental rights.

Dr. Julie Hamilton, President of National Association for Research & Therapy of Homosexuality (NARTH) said "children and teenagers are at a time in life where they're still evolving and so when they begin to label themselves homosexual gay, lesbian, bisexual ... when they adopt those labels at a time in life, when they're still evolving, that can have the effect of closing out other options for themselves."

Brian Camenker, President, MassResistace.org, a pro-family group in Massachusetts, showed an example of a booklet, entitled Little Black Book, Queer in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century ... picked up at a local high school at a gathering of teachers and kids pushing the gay agenda at that school. The booklet is disgusting ... it tells kids how to safely perform a variety of homosexual sex acts, and it tells where you can meet other kids who are homosexual or homosexual men. It was published by the Boston Public Health Commission, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and other organizations receiving public money. The message is, SSM is legal, and therefore you can't stop us from talking about it. Imagine, if our very own Department of Public Health and Social Services were do the same all because SSM is legal.

Another problem on the incredible impact on at-risk children who are placed in same-sex households. According to Peter Sprigg, Senior Fellow for Policy Studies, at the Family Research Council ... it is argued that children raised by homosexual parents are no different from children raised by heterosexual parents. Unfortunately the evidence simply does not support that and that there was a study conducted recently, which looked at the family histories of 262 children raised by homosexual fathers or lesbian mothers. And it found that the percentages of children who have homosexual parents, who themselves became something other than heterosexual ... gay, lesbian, bisexual or unsure of their sexual orientation, ranged from 16 percent of those children, to as high as 57 percent of those children. Daughters of lesbian mothers had the highest rates anywhere from 33 - 57 percent; just to understand, the percentage of the total American population that identify themselves as either homosexual or bisexual was 3.5 percent according to a very recent study. If you want to talk about the ratio, its anywhere from 5 – 15 times as likely to be homosexual or bisexual as the general population. Children raised by homosexual parents turn out very differently from children raised by heterosexual parents.

Another problem with SSM is simply a question ... is it really, marriage? "Rev. Mario Bergner, an Anglican Priest & Author, says ... "In Christianity we could never say that there is such a thing as SSM,

because we only have one definition of marriage and that's between a man and a woman ... so SSM is a contradiction in terms, because marriage according to the Judeo-Christian understanding is two people who are other, coming together into union, and their very otherness causes a bond to happen."

John C. Rankin, President Theological Education Institute says ... Human sexuality is meant to be diversity, the service to unity, the two become one.

"Sex, according to God, is becoming one flesh, and if you become one flesh as God intends ,the sex organs of the same sex will not become one flesh ... there is no way." Joanne Highley, Former Homosexual, who struggled with lesbianism for 10 years, ages 13 to 23. She is now in her senior years and has counseled, one-to-one, approximately 1500 people struggling with same-sex-attraction, for the past 33 years. She goes on to say "I just rejoice in God, in his power to set people free from homosexuality ... so you know, they can say all they want to, about how no one can change but they can't fool me ... I see it and I work with it and it's real."

"The primary purpose of marriage, is still, no matter how many times they want to deny it, is still propagation, a procreation of the human race." (Retired) Justice Joseph R. Nolan, Massachusetts Supreme Court.

In Psalms 11:3, it states "If foundations are destroyed, what can the just one do?"

In the documentary, it showed the many problems with SSM, but an even bigger problem is the state of the institution of marriage in America today. The statistical evidence is clear, rampant divorce; fatherless homes are such serious problems that some may see the situation hopeless and say that we should simply accept these trends,

#### along with SSM.

"The destruction of marriage has not been coming in from homosexual people ... it's been coming from men and women who give themselves permission to commit adultery, to use pornography, to neglect each other sexually and emotionally, and to, in essence not take seriously the covenant they've entered into." Joe Dallas, Counselor & Author, One Who Struggled with Same Sex Attraction.

"Leave the whole gay couple issue aside, nationally we have a major crisis, of male and female having the capacity to stay together. 55 percent of American kids have experience occurrence of parents rejecting each other. American men and women began to become sexually dysfunctional back in the 50's and 60's. I think their parents started before that. A generation gave rise to kids of the sexual revolution. The revolution that already started in the beds of their married parents and the destruction of society at its basic and most fundamental level start." Pat Fagan, Director, Marriage & Religion Research Institute (MARRI), Family Research Council

God offers us a different path ... let's renew our personal commitment to our own marriage, making it everything God intended it to be ... letting your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works and glorify our Father who is in heaven. What to do with all of this? Well, we in Guam cannot, yet, vote for president. The people of the United States of America elect a President, who nominates justices to the Supreme Court, who are confirmed by the Senate of Congress, who are elected by the people. These justices serve for life ... we need to pray for these justices to have wisdom in interpreting marriage to be between a man and a woman. More, we need to be a people of wisdom under God to elect our policy makers and leaders who are responsible to society.

For you the Senators of Guam, elected every two years, I pray, as many of our people do pray for you, to make decisions that are good for our island community, for the dignity of the human person, to plan the future for our children, and as a Christian, as most of you are, for the greater glory of God!

The issue here is for equality for those concerned ... then draft bills pertaining to their precise need. But please, do not redefine the institution of marriage ... it must remain between a man and a woman!



Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr. <admin@frankaguonjr.com>

## Fwd: Same Sex Marriage

Frank Aguon, Jr. <aguon4guam@gmail.com> To: "Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr." <admin@frankaguonjr.com> Sat, Jun 6, 2015 at 11:23 AM

------ Forwarded message ------From: "John Mason" <patrick.mason26@outlook.com> Date: Jun 6, 2015 10:55 AM Subject: Same Sex Marriage To: "aguon4guam@gmail.com" <aguon4guam@gmail.com>

Dear Senator:

The U.S. District Court of Guam's recent decision on same sex marriage affects so many of Guam's residents who merely want the same treatment as different sex couples. This decision means so much to gay and lesbian couples and has no real impact on others. I hope Guam will follow the forward looking 37 states and the District of Columbia which passed laws that allow same sex marriage.

In the light of the District Court's decision, I hope you will support Bill 119-33. And I hope the Legislature will act quickly to pass the Bill.

Patrick and Judy Mason

Ipan Talofofo, Guam

Sent from Windows Mail

Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr. Mail

Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr. <admin@frankaguonjr.com>

### **Testimony for Bill 119**

Lisa Dames <cipo@guamlegislature.org> To: "Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr." <admin@frankaguonjr.com> Wed, Jun 24, 2015 at 4:05 PM

Please see attached testimony for Bill 119.

Thank you.

Lisa Dames I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN Senator Nerissa B. Underwood, PhD Committee on Early Learning, Juvenile Justice, Public Education, and First Generation Initiatives Phone: 969-0973/74 Fax: 969-09745 email: cipo@guamlegislature.org

Testimony\_Sophia Underwood.docx
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My name is Sophia Underwood, I have been a resident of Guam since I was four years old. Forty two years later I still make my home on Guam. I am proud to be from Guam- it's where I was educated for all my years of schooling, it's where I have worked as a teacher all my life, it's where I fell in love with a woman who is also from Guam. I have seen many ups and downs in my life on Guam. Living here for so long I have been a witness to many cultural and social changes. Recently Guam was in the spotlight for an issue that is near and dear to my heart not just as a person who lives here but as a human being. The issue I am speaking of is marriage equality. I was filled with pride when two young ladies took on the challenge of making officials react to their simple request to marry each other.

Growing up here I can honestly say I had a fantastic childhood. Like many of my contemporaries I played outside, swam in the ocean, rode in the back of pickup trucks and explored the jungle. I was quite the tomboy but looking back I don't think I knew that. My parents had a very big impact on my outlook in life. They knew gay people, they had gay friends. Without knowing it they taught me that gay people should be respected. That they were humorous, intelligent and caring. Hence, I never thought they were dangerous or bad people. Then when I was in high school I met my own gay friends and had great comradery with them, but certainly did not think I was one of them. I did realize that I struggled with the ability to emotionally connect with boys unless they were gay. I never talked about my personal likes/dislikes with anyone. I just basically had fun with people.

After graduating from high school I started to worry about my inability or unwillingness to be in a relationship or to even try. Because in high school I could always tell myself I was too young to be in love. But what do I say now? I realized that I had stronger emotional connections with girls but I didn't think of them as romantic relationships. The first person I ever told that I might be a lesbian was my good friend Joey. He was gay, he was safe and he was like I already knew that. We laughed a lot about it because he always said there's not much out there for me. He warned me that if I was too passive I would never get anywhere. Then by chance I met Christine. Joey assured me that Christine was my type and I naturally believed him.

At the age of nineteen I asked Christine to be my girlfriend and to my surprise she said yes. For the first time in my life I felt like I had someone that I could cherish. We were kind of an odd couple. She was way more serious than me and more of a homebody. I was talkative, she was quiet. I was rebellious, she was a good girl. At any rate, we hit it off and I was the happiest I had been in my life and I believe she was too. So of course I wanted to share this development with my parents. Although I didn't think it would be easy, I believed that they would accept it and be happy for me. Wrong! I told my mom first and she was very upset. She told me that I would get hurt and that I was probably just confused. My father did not react any better, he simply tried his best not to deal with it. I was disappointed to say the least, but not deterred.

I had three young brothers at this time ages 10, 7 and 3. They loved Christine because all they knew is that she was nice. Children don't have all the preconceived notions that lead to prejudice. After a year of being together Christine and I moved in to an apartment. Meanwhile my parents made very little progress- they were simply tolerating what I wanted to do because they loved me. Then something wonderful happened, slowly but surely my parents started to love Christine too. Not because she did anything special for them or because she did things for them. She was just being herself. But what I believe really clinched it was that they saw the love and happiness we shared. They could no longer deny us. Tolerance turned to acceptance.

For myself and many other members of the LGBT community we have the same desires as other human beings. We want to succeed, we want to thrive, we want to love and we want to be loved. We want to make ourselves proud and moreover we want to make our parents proud. We seek their approval and acceptance. It is devastating when we don't have that and fortunately for me I have never really experienced that. The way families deal with their LGBT family members has such a profound effect on that person's outlook in life. In retrospect I have come to realize that had I not been able to remain close to my family it would have been crushing. I have had relatively positive experiences with the most important people in my life, my family. Two years ago I had the opportunity to go to the San Diego pride festival with my mother, my aunt and my grandmother. A few weeks ago when the announcement that marriage licenses would be issued to same-sex partners, the first person to send me a text to let me know was my father. He said "I am so happy". These experiences for me, go beyond acceptance.

Aside from an individual's family, society plays an important role in the lives of LGBT members. For many years I felt the people in our society on Guam have been tolerant of the LGBT community. I have sometimes thought of the attitude as a sort of "don't ask, don't tell" policy. However, Guam now has a chance to get past the tolerance stage and into the acceptance stage. It all started with the necessary jolt provided by the two young ladies I mentioned earlier. I cannot even tell you how moved I was when I saw these two women willing to put their names and faces on the line for all of us. The government has the greatest role in society to bring equality to those who have quietly suffered injustice. Once the government takes action to repair the inequality society will change. It must.

Year after year in my classroom I talk about the plight of Native Americans, colonists, African slaves and women. I tell my students that no changes for these people could have ever transpired without the struggle being undertaken by those who suffered and those who were willing to help them. That is why I decided to submit this testimony. We live in a small but very diverse community- there are many things we may not agree on and differences that separate us. The one sure thing that we have in common is that we are all human. I strongly believe that passing this legislation will be an important step toward making Guam a progressive society that accepts and respects all members of its community. Please be guided by your sense of justice, fairness and most especially your sense of humanity and vote for marriage equality.



Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr. <admin@frankaguonjr.com>

## Fwd: Testimony for bill 119-33

Lisa Dames <cipo@guamlegislature.org> To: "Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr." <admin@frankaguonjr.com> Thu, Jun 25, 2015 at 1:26 PM

Please add to other testimonies.

Thank you.

------ Forwarded message ------From: <jamesm@guam.net> Date: Thu, Jun 25, 2015 at 12:41 PM Subject: Testimony for bill 119-33 To: Lisa Dames <cipo@guamlegislature.org>

As I wrote a short while ago, I will not be able to attend the hearing for Senator Underwood's hearing this afternoon. I have written a short testimony to be considered. Thank you.

I am the Rev. James Moore, deacon at the Episcopal Church of St. John the Divine and retired chaplain from St. John's School.

I would like to provide testimony in support of bill 119-33 as submitted by Senator Nerissa B. Underwood.

As the entire community knows, marriage equality has come to Guam. Because same sex couples are now able to enter into legal marriages, it behooves us to change the wording of marriage laws of our island.

I find that the change in wording is entirely appropriate. I also realize that, even though I fully support same sex marriage, there are some religious organizations that do not agree with the right to marriage equality, and this bill also gives them protection from being required to perform such marriages.

I do have one question about the wording of the bill. Are elected and appointed officials of the Government of Guam REQUIRED to wed same sex couples? I only ask this, because I am not sure what the current laws require about presiders of marriages.

Thank you.

James Moore <jamesm@guam.net> -

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From: Lisa Dames Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2015 11:15 AM To: james

#### Hafa Adai Mr. Moore,

Senator Underwood would like to invite you to a public hearing for a bill she introduced - Bill 119. I have attached it for your review. It falls in line with the District Court ruling with regard to same sex marriage.

Thank you and we hope to see you there. You do not have to submit any testimony, but if you would like to you are more than welcome.

The public hearing is Thursday, June 25 beginning at 4:00pm at the Guam Legislature Public Hearing Room

Lisa Dames I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN Senator Nerissa B. Underwood, PhD Committee on Early Learning, Juvenile Justice, Public Education, and First Generation Initiatives Phone: 969-0973/74 Fax: 969-09745 email: cipo@guamlegislature.org

Lisa Dames I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN Senator Nerissa B. Underwood, PhD Committee on Early Learning, Juvenile Justice, Public Education, and First Generation Initiatives Phone: 969-0973/74 Fax: 969-09745 email: cipo@guamlegislature.org



Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr. <admin@frankaguonjr.com>

## Fwd: Testimony Bill 119-33

Lisa Dames <cipo@guamlegislature.org> To: "Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr." <admin@frankaguonjr.com> Thu, Jun 25, 2015 at 1:17 PM

Please include with other testimonies.

Thank you.

------ Forwarded message -------From: Nerissa Bretania Underwood <senatorunderwood@guamlegislature.org> Date: Thu, Jun 25, 2015 at 11:26 AM Subject: Fwd: Testimony Bill 119-33 To: Lisa Dames <cipo@guamlegislature.org>, Nicole Santos <nicsantos46@gmail.com>

Best wishes, Nerissa Bretania Underwood Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: derick hills <derickhills@live.com> Date: June 25, 2015 at 11:17:18 AM GMT+10 To: "senatorunderwood@guamlegislature.org" <senatorunderwood@guamlegislature.org> Subject: Testimony Bill 119-33

For the record my name is Derick Baza Hills. I am staunch supporter of equal protection and equal rights. Since 2009, as speaker of the Guam Youth Congress I along with many have been advocating for the legalization of Same Sex Civil Unions. Over the years we have made progress so that every couple is entitled to equal protection and treated fairly under the law. Today we have another opportunity to make a positive difference in the lives of our people.

I begin by a quote. "Gay Rights are Human Rights and Human Rights are Gay Rights." - Hillary Clinton

Every loving couple & family deserves to be recognized & treated equally under the law across our nation. Here on Guam we have a responsibility to protect every individual from discrimination. Recent events in Charleston, South Carolina could not depict more clear the need to make living and progressing in life as safe as possible.

Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr. Mail - Fwd: Testimony Bill 119-33

I support Bill 119-33 by the honorable Senator, Dr. Nerissa Underwood. The Government of Guam now must adhere to the call that every family whether united by church or government is protected equally and without prejudice. By amending the language of present law to justly make providing various government services, or the legal process to those of the same gender will right the wrong. Guam is leading the way for prosperity. Bill 119-33 provides a strong start for individuals to flourish. And when an individual flourishes a family flourishes and when a family flourishes and when a city flourishes our nation will flourish.

I call on the body to support Bill 119-33 (COR). It is the just and absolute right thing to do. It is over due. Thank you.

## Respectfully Yours, Derick Baza Hills

Lisa Dames I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN Senator Nerissa B. Underwood, PhD Committee on Early Learning, Juvenile Justice, Public Education, and First Generation Initiatives Phone: 969-0973/74 Fax: 969-09745 email: cipo@guamlegislature.org



#### Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr. Mail - Testimony - Bill 119

Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr. <admin@frankaguonjr.com>

## **Testimony - Bill 119**

#### Lisa Dames <cipo@guamlegislature.org>

To: "Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr." <admin@frankaguonjr.com> Cc: Nerissa Underwood <senatorunderwood@guamlegislature.org> Sun, Jun 28, 2015 at 10:03 PM

Please see attached testimony for Bill 119. Please include in the committee report.

Thank you.

Lisa Dames I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN Senator Nerissa B. Underwood, PhD Committee on Early Learning, Juvenile Justice, Public Education, and First Generation Initiatives Phone: 969-0973/74 Fax: 969-09745 email: cipo@guamlegislature.org

Testimony\_Taitano Family-B119 .pdf 203K

June 27, 2015

Honorable Nerissa Bretania Underwood, Ph.D. Senator and Chair, Committee on Early Learning, Juvenile Justice, Public Education and First Generation Initiatives 33<sup>rd</sup> Guam Legislature 155 Hesler Place Hagatna, Guam 96910

Subject: Testimony in Support of Bill 119-33, The Guam Marriage Equality Act of 2015

Hafa Adail This testimony is in support of Bill 119-33, The Guam Marriage Equality Act of 2015. The Supreme Court just ruled that marriage equality is the law of the land. Love just wonl in a historic ruling in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, the Supreme Court of the United States ruled that bans on marriage equality are unconstitutional. Marriage equality is the law of the land and the Supreme Court's ruling makes it perfectly clear that there is no legal or moral justification for continuing to stand in the path of marriage equality.

This Supreme Court ruling does not mandate what religious groups must do. It mandates what government must do. That is to respect the rights of every single American. That government does not have the authority to discriminate against anyone who wishes to marry.

Marriage is about promises and commitments made legal and binding under the law, and those laws must apply equally to each and every American. The Supreme Court ruling is a milestone for same sex couples and we celebrate with them.

But it is also crucial to recognize that the job is not finished. We ask that the Guam Legislature act swiftly to ensure that every obstacle to obtaining a marriage license is removed as quickly as possible. Individual liberty is a core value of the United States and its Territories. We urge you to pass this bill so that Guam laws conform to the Supreme Court ruling and live up to the words on the Supreme Court courthouse, Equal Justice Under Law.

Senseramente,

7/18/2015 The Bill 119-33 should be put to an initiative or referendum Island-n Note with any known extension to the " in the multic Government of Guiam reported to the public in an expense study; there by informing the public of issues unclear to public understanding, in relation to Bill 119-33. Examples 1) Projected Future Government wide office budget expenses required increases, 2) Court Costs to Government of Gupm.

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PEGE 9/2/2015D)

E. NAZADETA OVIVEZZONDEN



# COMMITTEE ON RULES

Mina'trentai Tres na Liheslaturan Guåhan • The 33rd Guam Legislature 155 Hesler Place, Hagåtňa, Guam 96910 • www.guamlegislature.com E-mail: roryforguam@gmail.com • Tel: (671)472-7679 • Fax: (671)472-3547

**Rennae** Meno

Senator Rory J. Respicio CHAIRPERSON MAJORITY LEADER

Senator Thomas C. Ada VICE CHAIRPERSON ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

Speaker Judith T.P. Won Pat, Ed.D. Member

> Vice-Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz Member

Legislative Secretary Tina Rose Muna Barnes Member

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Member

> Senator Frank Blas Aguon, Jr. Member

Senator Michael F.Q. San Nicolas Member

Senator Nerissa Bretania Underwood Member

> V. Anthony Ada MINORITY LEADER

Mary C. Torres MINORITY MEMBER

June 1	8, 2015
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### Memorandum

To:

From:

C MUS JUN 10 *Clerk of the Legislature* Senator Thomas C. Ada 🔗 Acting Chairperson of the Committee on Rules

**Fiscal Notes and Fiscal Note Waivers** 

No. No.

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Subject:

### Hafa Adai!

Attached please find the fiscal notes and fiscal note waivers for the bill numbers listed below. Please note that the fiscal notes and fiscal note waiver are issued on the bills as introduced.

### **FISCAL NOTES:**

Bill No. 8-33(COR) Bill No. 67-33(COR) Revised Bill No. 75-33(COR) Bill No. 78-33(COR) Bill No. 87-33(LS) Bill No. 88-33(LS) Bill No.93-33(LS)

### FISCAL NOTE WAIVERS:

Bill No. 72-33(COR) Bill No. 102-33(COR) Bill No. 119-33(COR) Bill No. 123-33(COR)

Please forward the same to MIS for posting on our website. Please contact our office should you have any questions regarding this matter.



### BUREAU OF BUDGET & MANAGEMENT RESEARCH

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR Post Office Box 2950, Hagåtña Guam 96932

**EDDIE BAZA CALVO** GOVERNOR

**RAY S. TENORIO** LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR JOSE S. CALVO DIRECTOR

LESTER L. CARLSON, JR. DEPUTY DIRECTOR

# JUN 1 82 15

The Bureau requests that Bill No(s). 119-33 (COR) be granted a waiver pursuant to Public Law 12-229 as amended for the following reason(s):

The proposed measure seeks to amend §§3207(h) and (i) of Chapter 3, Article 2, Title 10 Guam Code Annotated, §3102, §3105, §3108, §3109, §3202(a)(7), §3204 and §3206 of Chapter 3, Title 19 Guam Code Annotated, relative to providing equal protection for all families in Guam by creating equality in civil marriage.

The intent of the proposed measure is administrative in nature and, as such, poses no fiscal impact to any funds of the government of Guam.

M.C.w ses.calvo



# **COMMITTEE ON RULES**

I Mina'Irenta'i Tres na Liheslaturan Guåhan • The 33rd Guam Legislature 155 Hesler Place, Hagàtha, Guam 96910 • uneu-guamlegislature.com E-mail: roryforguam@gmail.com • Tel: (671)472-7679 • Fax: (671)472-3547

Senator Rory J. Respicio CHAIRPERSON MAJORITY LEADER

June 8, 2015

Senator Thomas C. Ada Vice Chairperson Assistant Majority Leader

Speaker Judith T.P. Won Pat, Ed.D. Member

> Vice-Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz Member

Legislative Secretary Tina Rose Muna Barnes Member

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Member

> Senator Frank Blas Aguon, Jr. Member

Senator Michael F.Q. San Nicolas Member

Senator Nerissa Bretania Underwood Member

> V. Anthony Ada MINORITY LEADER

Mary C. Torres MINORITY MEMBER VIA E-MAIL joey.calvo@bbmr.guam.gov

Jose S. Calvo Director Bureau of Budget & Management Research P.O. Box 2950 Hagåtña, Guam 96910

#### RE: Request for Fiscal Notes - Bill Nos. 118-33(COR) through 122-33(COR)

Hafa Adai Mr. Calvo:

Transmitted herewith is a listing of *I Mina'trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan's* most recently introduced bills. Pursuant to 2 GCA §9103, I respectfully request the preparation of fiscal notes for the referenced bills.

Si Yu'os ma'åse' for your attention to this matter.

Very Truly Yours,

Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz Acting Chairperson of the Committee on Rules

Attachment (1)

Cc: Clerk of the Legislature

Bill Nos.	Sponsor	Title
118-33 (COR)	T. R. Muña Barnes	AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE SALE OF A BULL CART TRAIL IN BARRIGADA THAT RUNS THROUGH AND ENDS BETWEEN PROPERTIES ALL OWNED BY THE SAME OWNER
119-33 (COR)	N. B. Underwood, Ph.D.	AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 3207(h) AND (i) OF CHAPTER 3, ARTICLE 2, TITLE 10 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, § 3102, § 3105, § 3108, § 3109, § 3202(a)(7), § 3204, AND § 3206 OF CHAPTER 3, TITLE 19 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING EQUAL PROTECTION FOR ALL FAMILIES IN GUAM BY CREATING EQUALITY IN CIVIL MARRIAGE.
120-33 (COR)	Tommy Morrison	AN ACT TO AMEND § 77112 OF ARTICLE I, CHAPTER 77, DIVISION 2, TITLE 21, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO AUTHORIZED EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES AT PASEO STADIUM AND THE JOSE C. GUERRERO FIELD IN HAGÅTÑA GUAM.
121-33 (COR)	T. R. Muña Barnes	AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM THE FISCAL YEAR 2014 HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX (HOT) SURPLUS FUND TO THE GUAM MUSEUM FUND.
122-33 (COR)	T. R. Muña Barnes	AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM THE FISCAL YEAR 2014 HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX (HOT) SURPLUS FUND TO THE GUAM VISITOR'S BUREAU.



#### **COMMITTEE ON RULES** I Mina'trentai Tres na Liheslaturan Guåhan • The 33rd Guam Legislature 155 Hesler Place, Hagåtña, Guam 96910 • www.guamlegislature.com

Senator Rory J. Respicio **CHAIRPERSON** MAJORITY LEADER

June 5, 2015

Senator Thomas C. Ada VICE CHAIRPERSON ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

Speaker Judith T.P. Won Pat, Ed.D. Member

> Vice-Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz Member

Legislative Secretary Tina Rose Muna Barnes Member

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Member

> Senator Frank Blas Aguon, Jr. Member

Senator Michael F.Q. San Nicolas Member

Senator Nerissa Bretania Underwood Member

> V. Anthony Ada MINORITY LEADER

Mary C. Torres **MINORITY MEMBER** 

### **MEMORANDUM**

To: **Rennae Meno** Clerk of the Legislature

> Attorney Therese M. Terlaje Legislative Legal Counsel

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Ir. From: Acting Chairperson of the Committee on Rules

Subject: Referral of Bill No. 119-33(COR)

As the Acting Chairperson of the Committee on Rules, I am forwarding my referral of Bill No. 119-33(COR).

Please ensure that the subject bill is referred, in my name, to the respective committee, as shown on the attachment. I also request that the same be forwarded to all members of I Mina' trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office at 472-7679.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse!

Attachment

### I Mina'Trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Received

**Bill Log Sheet** 

BILL NO.	SPONSOR	TITLE	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	FISCAL NOTES
	N. B. Underwood, Ph.D.		06/05/15	06/05/15	Committee on the Guam			
		AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 3207(h) AND (i) OF	2:36 p.m.		U.S. Military Relocation,			
		CHAPTER 3, ARTICLE 2, TITLE 10 GUAM CODE			Public Safety and Judiciary			
		ANNOTATED, § 3102, § 3105, § 3108, § 3109, §						
119-33		3202(a)(7), § 3204, AND § 3206 OF CHAPTER 3,						
(COR)		TITLE 19 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE						
		TO PROVIDING EQUAL PROTECTION FOR ALL						
		FAMILIES IN GUAM BY CREATING EQUALITY IN						
		CIVIL MARRIAGE.						



I MINA' TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUÂHAN | 33<sup>rd</sup> GUAM LEGISLATURE



Senator FRANK B. AGUON, JR. Chairman

> Senator Thomas C. Ada Vice Chairman

Vice-Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz Member

Senator Roy J. Respicio Member

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Member

Senator Dr. Nerissa B. Underwood, Ph.D. Member

> Senator V. Anthony Ada Member

Senator Frank F. Blas Jr. Member

Senator James V. Espaldon Member

Senator Brant T. McCreadle Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio

### Notified Stakeholders

- All Senators / Stakeholders / Media
- Governor Eddie B. Calvo
- Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo
- Chief Justice Robert J. Torres
  - Joshua Tenorio, Administrator of the Courts
- Special Assistant to the Governor on Military Buildup & Infrastructure
  - Mark Calvo
- Guam Customs & Quarantine Agency
  - Pedro Leon Guerrero, Director
  - Rafalle J. M. Sgambellure, Chief
  - Philip Taijeron, Assistant Chief
- Guam Police Department
  - Joseph I. Cruz, Acting Chief
  - Colonel Maurice Sayama, Police Commander
- Antonio Won Pat International Airport
  - Charles Ada, General Manager
  - Edward Untalan, Chairman of the Board
- Guam Airport Police
  - Bob Camacho, Chief
- Guam Port Authority Police
  - Doris Aguero, Chief
- Guam Fire Department
  - Joey San Nicolas, Chief

#### Department of Corrections

- Jose A. San Agustin, Director
- Carla Borja, Deputy Director
- Guam Department of Parks and Recreation
  - Raymond Blas, Director
  - Mike Cura, Parks Administrator
- Office of the Attorney General
  - Attorney Elizabeth Barrett-Anderson
- Public Defender Service Corporation
  - Eric D. Miller

SUITE 503, DNA BLDG. 238 ARCHBISHOP FLORES STREET HAGATNA, GUAM 96910 PHONE: (671) 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) | FAX: (671) 475-GUM3 (4863) | EMAIL: AGUON4GUAM@GMAIL.COM



# 1ST NOTICE: Public Hearing on Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 4:00 P.M.

Office of Sen. Frank B. Aguon, Jr. <committee@frankaguonjr.com> Wed, Jun 17, 2015 at 5:40 PM To: Committee Director <committee@frankaguonjr.com>

Cc: "Frank Blas Aguon Jr." <aguon4guam@gmail.com>, Senator Aguon Media <media@frankaguonjr.com>, Lou Eclavea <staff@frankaguonjr.com>, "Office of Senator Frank Aguon, Jr. Admin" <admin@frankaguonjr.com>, Senator Aguon Legislative Policy <communications@frankaguonjr.com>, Senator Aguon's Assistant <officeassistant@frankaguonjr.com>

Bcc: antoniot@guamairport.net, arthur.paulino@gpd.guam.gov, bobcamacho@guamairport.net, cbudasi@guamcourts.org, chuck.ada@guamairport.net, cimiculka@guam.gannett.com, cme.guam@gmail.com, communications@guam.gov, dcaguero@portguam.com, ebanderson@guamag.org, elaine.gogue@guam.gov, emiller@guampdsc.net, euntalan@fnb.com, faguon@portguam.com, fred.bordallo@gpd.guam.gov, governor@guam.gov, guamwardeny2k@yahoo.com, janela@spbguam.com, joey.sannicolas@gfd.guam.gov, Joseph Duenas <joseph.duenas@guam.gov>, Joseph Cruz <joseph.i.cruz66@gmail.com>, joseph.i.cruz@gpd.guam.gov, kim.santos@gpd.guam.gov, madeleine.bordallo@mail.house.gov, manuel.babauta@gpd.guam.gov, matt.sablan12@yahoo.com, maurice.sayama@gpd.guam.gov, michael.cura@dpr.guam.gov. michael.uncangco@gfd.guam.gov, mis@guamlegislature.org, monica.salas@gpd.guam.gov, paul.sayama@gpd.guam.gov, philip.taijeron@cqa.guam.gov, phnotice@guamlegislature.org, raymond.blas@dpr.guam.gov, robert@mvguam.com, ronald.taitano@gpd.guam.gov, sgtarms@guamlegislature.org, sraymundo@guam.gannet.com, Sraymundo@guampdn.com, Carla Borja <carla.borja@doc.guam.gov>, Clynt Ridgell <clynt@spbguam.com>, Cynthia lge <cynthia.ige@gpd.guam.gov>, Gaynor Dumat-ol Daleno <gdumatol@guampdn.com>, "Honorable Robert J. Torres" <guamjustice@hotmail.com>, "hottips@kuam.com" <hottips@kuam.com>, Jon Calvo <jon.calvo@mail.house.gov>, "jose.sanagustin" <jose.sanagustin@doc.guam.gov>, Joshua Tenorio <jtenorio@guamcourts.org>, Joy Unpingco <joy.unpingco@quam.gov>, Ken Quintanilla <keng@kuam.com>, Mark Calvo <mark.calvo@quam.gov>, "mvariety@pticom.com" <mvariety@pticom.com>, "news@guampdn.com" <news@guampdn.com>, "Pedro A. Leon Guerrero, Jr." pedro.leonguerrero@cqa.guam.gov>, "Raffaele.sgambelluri@cqa.guam.gov" <raffaele.sgambelluri@cqa.guam.gov>, Ray Tenorio <ray.tenorio@guam.gov>, Rose Ramsey <rose.ramsey@guam.gov>, "susan. reyes" <susan.reyes@gpd.guam.gov>, Valerie Cruz <vcruz@guamcourts.org>, archbishop@archagana.org, AG Law <law@guamag.org>, ritorres@guamsupremecourt.com, Tim de La Cruz <timotik@gmail.com>, Tim Rohr <timrohr.guam@gmail.com>, Concerned Catholics <concernedcatholicsofguam@gmail.com>, james.gillan@dphss.guam.gov, William Pesch <guamfamilylawoffice@gmail.com>, tthompson@tgalaw.net, davidmcruziii@gmail.com, james.servino@hrc.org, mthompson@tgalaw.net

June 18, 2015

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Media, and Stakeholders

Fr: SENATOR FRANK B, AGUON, JR.

#### Subject: <u>1<sup>st</sup> Notice</u> – Public Hearing on Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 4:00 P.M.

In accordance with the *Open Government Law of Guam*, relative to notice for public meetings, please be advised that the *Committee on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Public Safety & Judiciary,* will convene a **Public Hearing on Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 4:00 P.M.** Included on the agenda are the following bill(s):

• <u>Bill No. 119-33 (COR)</u> - An act to amend §§ 3207(h) and (i) of Chapter 3, Article 2, Title 10 Guam Code Annotated, §3102, §3105, §3108, §3109, §3202(a)(7), §3204, and §3206 of Chapter 3, Title 19 Guam Code Annotated, relative to providing equal protection for all families in Guam by creating equality in civil marriage.

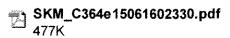
The Hearing will broadcast on local television, GTA Channel 21 and Docomo Channel 117 or streamed online at: www.guamlegislature.com.

The Committee requests that, if written testimonies are to be presented at the Public Hearing, copies be submitted one day prior to the public hearing date, to the Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr. at Suite 503 DNA Bldg. 238 Archbishop Flores St. Hagatña, Guam, via fax to 475-GUM3(4863), or via email to:aguon4guam@gmail.com. Copies of the aforementioned Bill(s) may be obtained at *1 Liheslaturan Guahån* 's website at: www.guamlegislature.com. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special accommodations, auxiliary aids, or services should contact Kevin Perez at 475-4861/2 or email at committee@frankaguonjr.com. Please feel free to contact my office should you have any additional questions or concerns.

### Respectfully, Lawrence Jay Alcairo

Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr. Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Public Safety, and Judiciary Ste. 503 DNA Bldg, 238 Archbishop Flores St. Hagatna, Guam 96910 Tel: (671) 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) Fax: (671) 475-GUM3 (4863) aguon4guam@gmail.com [ www.frankaguonjr.com

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# 1ST NOTICE: Public Hearing on Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 4:00 P.M.

**Office of Sen. Frank B. Aguon, Jr.** <committee@frankaguonjr.com> To: Committee Director <committee@frankaguonjr.com> Tue, Jun 16, 2015 at 3:43 PM

Cc: "Frank Blas Aguon Jr." <aguon4guam@gmail.com>, Senator Aguon Media <media@frankaguonjr.com>, Lou Eclavea <staff@frankaguonjr.com>, "Office of Senator Frank Aguon, Jr. Admin" <admin@frankaguonjr.com>, Senator Aguon Legislative Policy <communications@frankaguonjr.com>, Senator Aguon's Assistant <officeassistant@frankaguonjr.com>

Bcc: antoniot@guamairport.net, arthur.paulino@gpd.guam.gov, bobcamacho@guamairport.net, cbudasi@quamcourts.org, chuck.ada@quamairport.net, cimiculka@quam.gannett.com, cme.quam@gmail.com. communications@guam.gov, dcaguero@portguam.com, ebanderson@guamag.org, elaine.gogue@guam.gov, emiller@guampdsc.net, euntalan@fhb.com, faguon@portguam.com, fred.bordallo@gpd.guam.gov, governor@guam.gov, guamwardeny2k@yahoo.com, janela@spbguam.com, joey.sannicolas@gfd.guam.gov, Joseph Duenas <joseph.duenas@guam.gov>, Joseph Cruz <joseph.i.cruz66@gmail.com>, joseph.i.cruz@gpd.guam.gov, kim.santos@gpd.guam.gov, madeleine.bordallo@mail.house.gov, manuel.babauta@gpd.guam.gov, matt.sablan12@yahoo.com, maurice.sayama@gpd.guam.gov, michael.cura@dpr.guam.gov, michael.uncangco@gfd.guam.gov, mis@guamlegislature.org, monica.salas@gpd.guam.gov, paul.sayama@gpd.guam.gov, philip.taijeron@cqa.guam.gov, phnotice@guamlegislature.org, raymond.blas@dpr.guam.gov, robert@mvguam.com, ronald.taitano@gpd.guam.gov, sgtarms@guamlegislature.org, sraymundo@guam.gannet.com, Sraymundo@guampdn.com, Carla Borja <carla.borja@doc.guam.gov>, Clynt Ridgell <clynt@spbguam.com>, Cynthia lge <cynthia.ige@gpd.guam.gov>, Gaynor Dumat-ol Daleno <gdumatol@guampdn.com>, "Honorable Robert J. Torres" <guamjustice@hotmail.com>, "hottips@kuam.com" <hottips@kuam.com>, Jon Calvo <jon.calvo@mail.house.gov>, "jose.sanagustin" <jose.sanagustin@doc.guam.gov>, Joshua Tenorio <itenorio@guamcourts.org>, Joy Unpingco <joy.unpingco@guam.gov>, Ken Quintanilla <keng@kuam.com>, Mark Calvo <mark.calvo@guam.gov>, "mvariety@pticom.com" <mvariety@pticom.com>, "news@guampdn.com" <news@guampdn.com>, "Pedro A. Leon Guerrero, Jr." pedro.leonguerrero@cqa.guam.gov>, "Raffaele.sgambelluri@cqa.guam.gov" <raffaele.sgambelluri@cqa.guam.gov>, Ray Tenorio <ray.tenorio@guam.gov>, Rose Ramsey <rose.ramsey@guam.gov>, "susan. reyes" <susan.reyes@gpd.guam.gov>, Valerie Cruz <vcruz@guamcourts.org>, archbishop@archagana.org, AG Law <law@guamag.org>, rjtorres@guamsupremecourt.com, timotik@gmail.com, timrohr.guam@gmail.com, concernedcatholicsofguam@gmail.com, james.gillan@dphss.guam.gov, guamfamilylawoffice@gmail.com. tthompson@tgalaw.net

June 17, 2015

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Media, and Stakeholders

Fr: SENATOR FRANK B, AGUON, JR.

Subject: <u>1<sup>st</sup> Notice</u> – Public Hearing on Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 4:00 P.M.

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• <u>Bill No. 119-33 (COR)</u> - An act to amend §§ 3207(h) and (i) of Chapter 3, Article 2, Title 10 Guam Code Annotated, §3102, §3105, §3108, §3109, §3202(a)(7), §3204, and §3206 of Chapter 3, Title 19 Guam Code Annotated, relative to providing equal protection for all families in Guam by creating equality in civil marriage.

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Respectfully, Lawrence Jay Alcairo Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr. Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Public Safety, and Judiciary Ste. 503 DNA 8ldg, 238 Archbishop Flores St. Hagatna, Guam 96910 Tel: (671) 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) Fax: (671) 475-GUM3 (4863) aguon4guam@gmail.com | www.frankaguonjr.com

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COMMITTEE ON

Guam U.S Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary

I MINA' TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 33<sup>rd</sup> GUAM LEGISLATURE



June 17, 2015

To:

MEMORANDUM

All Senators, Media, and Stakeholders

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Respectf GUON, JR.

Consmittee Chairman of Guam U.S. Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary I Mina Trentai Tres Ina Liheslaturan Guåhan | 33rd Guam Legislature

> SUITE 503, DNA BLDG. 238 ARCHBISHOP FLORES STREET HAGATNA, GUAM 96910 PHONE: (671) 475-GUMI/2 (4861/2) | FAX: (671) 475-GUM3 (4863) | EMAIL: AGUON4GUAM@GMAIL.COM

> > WWW.FRANKAGUONJR.COM

Senator FRANK B. AGUON, JR. Chairman

> Senator Thomas C. Ada Vice Chairman

Vice-Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz Member

Senator Rory J. Respicio Member

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Member

Senator Dr. Nerissa B. Underwood, Ph.D. Member

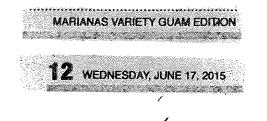
> Senator V. Anthony Ada Member

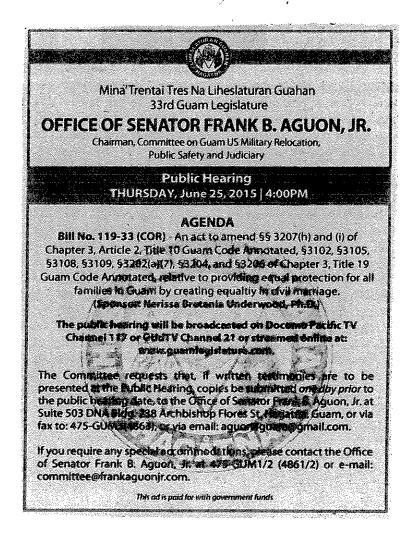
Senator Frank F. Blas Jr. Member

Senator James V. Espakion Member

Senator Brant T. McCreadie Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio







Mary Maravilla <marym@guamlegislature.org>

### 2ND NOTICE: Public Hearing on Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 4:00 P.M.

 Office of Sen. Frank B. Aguon, Jr. <committee@frankaguonjr.com>
 Mon, Jun 22, 2015 at 8:07 AM

 To: Committee Director <committee@frankaguonjr.com>
 Committee Director <committee@frankaguonjr.com>

 Cc: Senator Aguon Media <media@frankaguonjr.com>, "Frank Blas Aguon Jr." <aguon4guam@gmail.com>, Lou

 Eclavea <staff@frankaguonjr.com>, "Office of Senator Frank Aguon, Jr. Admin" <admin@frankaguonjr.com>, Senator Aguon Legislative Policy <communications@frankaguonjr.com>, Senator Aguon's Assistant

 <officeassistant@frankaguonjr.com>
 Bcc: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

June 22, 2015

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Media, and Stakeholders

Fr: SENATOR FRANK B, AGUON, JR.

Subject: 2nd Notice - Public Hearing on Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 4:00 P.M.

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Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr.

#### Committee on Guam US Military Relocation, Public Safety, and Judiciary

Ste. 503 DNA Bldg, 238 Archbishop Flores St. Hagatna, Guam 96910

Tel: (671) 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2)

Fax: (671) 475-GUM3 (4863)

aguon4guam@gmail.com | www.frankaguonjr.com

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2nd Notice - Public Notice Jun25.pdf



Senator

FRANK & AGUON, JR. Chairman

> Senator Thomas C. Ada

Vice Chairman

Vice-Speaker

Benjamin J.F. Cruz Member

Senator

Rory J. Respicio Member

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Member

Senator

Dr. Nerissa B. Underwood, Ph.D. Member

> Senator V. Anthony Ada Member

Senator Frank F. Blas Jr. Member

Senator James V. Espakion

Member

Senator Brant T. McCreadie

Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D

Ex-Officio

COMMITTEE ON

Guam U.S Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary

I MINA' TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 33ªD GUAM LEGISLATURE

June 22, 2015

To:

Fr:

MEMORANDUM

All Senators, Media, and Stakeholders

SENATOR FRANK B, AGUON, JR.

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Committee Chairman on Juam U.S. Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary I Mina Trentai Tres N. Liheslaturan Guåhan | 33rd Guam Legislature

> SUITE 503, DNA BLDG. 238 ARCHBISHOP FLORES STREET HAGATNA, GUAM 96910 PHONE: (671) 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) | FAX: (671) 475-GUM3 (4863) | EMAIL: AGUON4GUAM@GMAIL.COM

MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2015 - MARIANAS VARIETY GUAM EDITION



Mina'Trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guahan 33rd Guam Legislature

### OFFICE OF SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

Chairman, Committee on Guarn US Military Relocation, Public Safety and Judiciary

#### Public Hearing THURSDAY, June 25, 2015 | 4:00PM

#### AGENDA

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The public hearing will be broadcasted on Docomo Pacific TV Channel 117 or GUdTV Channel 21 or streamed online at: www.guamlegislature.com.

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If you require any special accommodations, please contact the Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr. at 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) or e-mail: committee@frankaguonjr.com.

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I MINA' TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN / 33<sup>rd</sup> GUAM LEGISLATURE

June 17, 2015

Senator FRANK B. AGUON, JR. Chairman

> Senator Thomas C. Ada Vice Chairman

Vice-Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz Member

Senator Rory J. Respicio Member

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Member

Senator Dr. Nerissa B. Underwood, Ph.D. Member

> Senator V. Anthony Ada Member

Senator Frank F. Blas Jr. Member

Senator James V. Espaldon Member

Senator Brant T. McCreadie Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio The Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo U.S. House of Representatives 120 Father Duenas Avenue, Suite 107 Hagatna, Guam 96910 Sent via email to: <u>madeleine bordallo@mail.house.gov</u>

RE: Public Hearing on Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 4:00 P.M.

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o Na Si Yu'os Ma'ase! GUON, JR.

Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary I Musa/Trentai Tres Ma Liheslaturan Guâhan | 33rd Guam Legislature

> SUITE 503, DNA BLDG. 238 ARCHBISHOP FLORES STREET HAGATNA, GUAM 96910 PHONE: (671) 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) | FAX: (671) 475-GUM3 (4863) | EMAIL: AGUON4GUAM@GMAIL.COM



#### COMMITTEE ON

Guam U.S Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary

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> Senator V. Anthony Ada Member

Senator Frank F. Blas Jr. Member

Senator James V. Espaldon Member

Senator Brant T. McCreadie Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio Most Rev. Anthony Sablan Apuron, OFM Cap., D.D. Archbishop of Agaña 196 Cuesta San Ramon Ste B, Hagåtña, GU 96910-433 Sent via email to: <u>archbishop@archagana.org</u>

RE: Public Hearing on Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 4:00 P.M.

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la Si Yu'os Ma'ase! Un D AGUON, JR.

Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary 1 Min / Tentai Tro Na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 33rd Guam Legislature

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> Senator V. Anthony Ada Member

Senator Frank F. Blas Jr. Member

Senator James V. Espaldon Member

Senator Brant T. McCreadie Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio The Honorable Elizabeth Barrett Anderson Attorney General of Guam Office of the Attorney General 590 S.Marine Corps Drive ITC Bldg., Suite 706 Tamuning, Guam 96913 Sent via email to: <u>ebanderson@guamag.org</u>

RE: Public Hearing on Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 4:00 P.M.

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Un Dangkone Na Si Yu'os Ma'ase!



Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary I Manuferentai Tees Na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 33rd Guam Legislature

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#### COMMITTEE ON

Guam U.S Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary

I MINA' TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN / 33<sup>kd</sup> GUAM LEGISLATURE

June 17, 2015

Senator FRANK B. AGUON, JR. Chairman

> Senator Thomas C. Ada Vice Chairman

Vice-Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz Member

Senator Rory J. Respicio Member

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Member

Senator Dr. Nerissa B. Underwood, Ph.D. Member

> Senator V. Anthony Ada Member

Senator Frank F. Blas Jr. Member

Senator James V. Espaldon Member

Senator Brant T. McCreadie Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio The Honorable Robert J. Torres, Jr. Chief Justice of Guam Suite 300, Guam Judicial Center 120 West O'Brien Drive Hagåtña, Guam 96910 Sent via email to: <u>ritorres@guamsupremecourt.com</u>

RE: Public Hearing on Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 4:00 P.M.

Buenas yan Hafa Adai! Please be advised that the *Committee on Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Public Safety & Judiciary,* will convene a **Public Hearing on Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 4:00 PM.** Included on the agenda are the following bill(s):

• <u>Bill No. 119-33 (COR)</u> - An act to amend §§ 3207(h) and (i) of Chapter 3, Article 2, Title 10 Guam Code Annotated, §3102, §3105, §3108, §3109, §3202(a)(7), §3204, and §3206 of Chapter 3, Title 19 Guam Code Annotated, relative to providing equal protection for all families in Guam by creating equality in civil marriage. *(Sponsor: Senator Nerissa B. Underwood, Ph.D.)* 

The Hearing will broadcast on local television, *GTA Channel 21 and Docomo Channel 117 or streamed* online at: <u>www.guamlegislature.com</u>.

The Committee requests that, if written testimonies are to be presented at the Public Hearing, copies be submitted one day prior to the public hearing date, to the Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr. at Suite 503 DNA Bldg. 238 Archbishop Flores St. Hagatña, Guam, via fax to 475-GUM3(4863), or via email to:<u>aguon4guam@gmail.com</u>. Copies of the aforementioned Bill(s) may be obtained at *I Liheslaturan Guahån 's* website at: <u>www.guamlegislature.com</u>. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special accommodations, auxiliary aids, or services should contact Kevin Perez at 475-4861/2 or email at <u>committee@frankaguonjr.com</u>. Please feel free to contact my office should you have any additional questions or concerns.

Yu'os Ma'ase! Un B. AGUON, JR.

Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary I Mina Trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 33rd Guam Legislature

> SUITE 503, DNA BLDG. 238 ARCHBISHOP FLORES STREET HAGATNA, GUAM 96910 PHONE: (671) 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) | FAX: (671) 475-GUM3 (4863) | EMAIL: AGUON4GUAM@GMAIL.COM



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Senator Frank F. Blas Jr. Member

Senator James V. Espaldon Member

Senator Brant T. McCreadie Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio Mr. Joshua Tenorio Administrator of Courts Judiciary of Guam Suite 300, Guam Judicial Center 120 West O'Brien Drive Hagåtña, Guam 96910 Sent via email to: <u>itenorio@guamcourts.org</u>

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Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio P.O. Box 9001 Agat, GU 96928 Sent via email to: <u>timrohr.guam@gmail.com</u>

June 17, 2015

Mr. Tim Rohr

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Senator Frank F. Blas Jr. Member

Senator James V. Espaldon Member

Senator Brant T. McCreadie Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio Mr. Tim de La Cruz Executive Director Guam Alternative Lifestyle Association (GALA) Suite #307A RK Plaza Tamuning, Guam Sent via email to: <u>timotik@gmail.com</u>

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Committee Chairman of Guam U.S. Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary | Mina Tentai Tres ya Liheslaturan Guåhan | 33rd Guam Legislature

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Senator James V. Espakion Member

Senator Brant T. McCreadie Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio Mr. Gregory D. Perez President Concerned Catholics of Guam, Inc. Sent via email to: concernedcatholicsofguam@gmail.com

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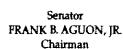
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Senator Brant T. McCreadie Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio Mr. James Gillan Director Department of Public Health and Social Services 123 Chalan Kareta Mangilao, Guam 96913 Sent via email to: james.gillan@dphss.guam.gov

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Committee Chairman (p. Guam U.S. Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary 1 Mina Trentai Tres No Liheslaturan Guåhan | 33rd Guam Legislature

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Senator Brant T. McCreadie Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio Attorney William (Bill) Pesch 173 Aspinall Avenue, Ada Plaza Building, Suite 203, Hagatna, GU 96910 Sent via email to: guamfamilylawoffice@gmail.com

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Senator Brant T. McCreadie Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio Attorney Thompson, R. Todd Thompson, Gutierrez & Alcantara, LLC DNA Bldg., Suite 801 238 Archbishop Flores Street Hagatna, Guam 96910 Sent via email to: tthompson@tgalaw.net

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Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio The Honorable Edward J. Calvo Governor of Guam 513 West Marine Corps Drive Ricardo J. Bordallo Complex Hagåtña, Guam 96910 Sent via email to: <u>governor@guam.gov</u>

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Senator Brant T. McCreadie Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio The Honorable Ray Tenorio Lieutenant Governor of Guam 513 West Marine Corps Drive Ricardo J. Bordallo Complex Hagåtña, Guam 96910 Sent via email to: ray.tenorio@guam.goy

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The Hearing will broadcast on local television, *GTA Channel 21 and Docomo Channel 117 or streamed* online at: <u>www.guamlegislature.com</u>.

The Committee requests that, if written testimonies are to be presented at the Public Hearing, copies be submitted one day prior to the public hearing date, to the Office of Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr. at Suite 503 DNA Bldg. 238 Archbishop Flores St. Hagatña, Guam, via fax to 475-GUM3(4863), or via email to:aguon4guam@gmail.com. Copies of the aforementioned Bill(s) may be obtained at *l Liheslaturan Guahån 's* website at: www.guamlegislature.com. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special accommodations, auxiliary aids, or services should contact Kevin Perez at 475-4861/2 or email at committee@frankaguonjr.com. Please feel free to contact my office should you have any additional questions or concerns.

Na Si Yu'os Ma'ase! . AGUON, JR.

Committee Chairman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary I Mina Trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 33rd Guam Legislature

> SUITE 503, DNA BLDG. 238 ARCHBISHOP FLORES STREET HAGATNA, GUAM 96910 PHONE: (671) 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) | FAX: (671) 475-GUM3 (4863) | EMAIL: AGUON4GUAM@GMAIL.COM



I MINA' TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN / 33RD GUAM LEGISLATURE

Senator FRANK B. AGUON, JR. Chairman

> Senator Thomas C. Ada Vice Chairman

Vice-Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz Member

Senator Rory J. Respicio Member

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Member

Senator Dr. Nerissa B. Underwood, Ph.D. Member

> Senator V. Anthony Ada Member

Senator Frank F. Blas Jr. Member

Senator James V. Espaldon Member

Senator Brant T. McCreadie Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio James Servino Associate Director Online Mobilization & Social Media Humans Rights Campaign 1640 Rhode Island Ave. N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036-3278 Sent via email to: james.servino@hrc.org

June 18, 2015

RE: Public Hearing on Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 4:00 P.M.

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Un Dungkolo No Si Yu'os Ma'ase!



Committee Ordinman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary 1 Mina Trevial Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 33rd Guam Legislature SUITE 503, DNA BLDG. 238 ARCHBISHOP FLORES STREET HAGATNA, GUAM 96910

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I MINA' TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN / 33<sup>rd</sup> GUAM LEGISLATURE

June 18, 2015

**Attorney Mitchell Thompson** 

Sent via email to: mthompson@tgalaw.net

Senator FRANK B. AGUON, JR. Chairman

> Senator Thomas C. Ada Vice Chairman

Vice-Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz Member

Senator Rory J. Respicio Member

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Member

Senator Dr. Nerissa B. Underwood, Ph.D. Member

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Yu'os Ma'ase! AGUON, JR. K B. Guam U.S. Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary a Liheslaturan Guåhan | 33rd Guam Legislature

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COMMITTEE ON

Guam U.S Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary

I MINA' TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 33<sup>80</sup> GUAM LEGISLATURE

June 18, 2015

Mr. David Cruz III Sent via email to: <u>davidmcruziii@gmail.com</u>

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AATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

Sominittee Churman on Guam U.S. Military Relocation 1 Public Safety 1 Judiciary 1 Mina Trenta, Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan 1 33rd Guam Legislature

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> > WWW.FRANKAGUONJR.COM

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Senator Brant T. McCreadie Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio

# Listserv: <u>phnotice@guamlegislature.org</u> Updated as of June 1, 2015

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I MINA' TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN I 33\*\*\* GUAM LEGISLATURE

Guam U.S Military Relocation | Public Safety | Judiciary

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Senator Brant T. McCreadie Member

Speaker Dr. Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D Ex-Officio

# **PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA** Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 4:00 PM

I Liheslaturan Guåhan's Public Hearing Room, Hagåtña

### <u>AGENDA</u>

I. Call to Order at 4:00 PM

### II. Opening Remarks/Announcements

- III. <u>Bill No. 119-33 (COR)</u> An act to amend §§ 3207(h) and (i) of Chapter 3, Article 2, Title 10 Guam Code Annotated, §3102, §3105, §3108, §3109, §3202(a)(7), §3204, and §3206 of Chapter 3, Title 19 Guam Code Annotated, relative to providing equal protection for all families in Guam by creating equality in civil marriage. (Sponsor: Senator Nerissa B. Underwood, Ph.D.)
   IV. Closing Remarks
- V. Adjournment

SUITE 503, DNA BLDG. 238 ARCHBISHOP FLORES STREET HAGATNA, GUAM 96910 PHONE: (671) 475-GUM1/2 (4861/2) 1 FAX: (671) 475-GUM3 (4863) 1 EMAIL: AGUON4GUAM@GMAIL.COM

#### Local

# Legislation to match same-sex court ruling up for discussion

# Bill also hikes legal age to wed

By Robert Q. Tupaz tobert@mvguam.com Variety News Staff

LAWMAKERS will hold a public hearing Thursday on a measure that attempts to synchronize local law with the federal court ruling that now allows same-sex marriages on Guam As well, the legislation increases the age of consent for marriage.

The measure introduced as Bill 119, the Guam Marriage Equality Act of 2015, adopts Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood's June 5 ruling which opened the door for same-sex marriage on Guam.

Currently, Guant's marriage law defines marriage as that of a union between a man and a woman. Tydingco-Gatewood's historic ruling prohibits the government from enforcing that definition of marriage.

Bill 119, introduced by Sen. Nerissa Underwood, if passed will redefine marriage as "the legal union between two persons without regard to gender."

Underwood, upon introduction of the measure on the afternoon of the issuance of the court ruling stated, "I am proud to see Guam, as a U.S. jurisdiction, exercise its unique ability to decide and take action on this very important legal issueon equal treatment."

The legislation strikes out language "of opposite sex" and dismisses references to civil or religious regulations contained



Sen. Nertssa Underwood introduced Bill 119, which if passed, will redefine marriage as "the legal union between two persons without ragard to gender." verey the press.

in the current provision of law relative to marriage in Guam. As well, a proposed amendment, changes the language identified as "husband and wife" to "spouses" to address possible divorces between same-sex couples who wed Update

The bill would also update the age of marriage in Guam. Now, with consent from the parents and when recorded in a court of law, females as young as 15 years old may wed. The bill allows another year for either gender to contemplate the commitment.

The bill proposes that "persons" (homosexual or

heterosexual) will be able to marry once they reach 16 years of age but will need parental consent to do so until the day before they turn 18, it also strikes out the need for a court acknowledgement for persons under 18 years and over 16 who want to marry.

Another proposed amendment in the legislation makes it clear that marriage in Guam shall not be interpreted to restrict the union to originate from a faith-based belief. The language states: "No regularly licensed of ordained minister or any priest, or similar official of any religious organization is required to perform the solem-

nization of any marriage."

Finally, the measure enacts a global amendment to local statutes when necessary to implement the rights, benefits, protections and responsibilities of spouses, by directing that all gender-specific terminology shall be construed in a gender-neutral manner in law, including statutes, administrative rules, court decisions, common law, or any other source of law.

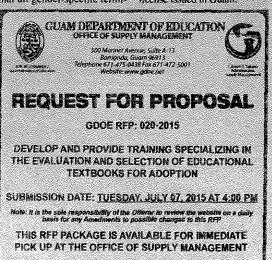
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The Committee on the Guam U.S. Military Relocation, Public Safety and Judiciary scheduled the hearing on the bill to begin at 4 p.m. on Thursday, June 25 at the public hearing room of the Guam Legislature in Hagatha.

Kathleen Agnero and Loretta Pangelinan, were the same-sex couple who sued for the right to marry in Guam and prevailed in the historic ruling. They married on June 13.

Aguero and Pangelinan were the first couple to apply for and receive their marriage license when the federal court's ruling took effect, almost two months to the day after they were first denied their application on April 8. The denial by the Office of Vital Statistics Registrar at the Department of Public Health and Social Services spawned the Aguero/Pangelinan lawsuit

On the same day, the island recorded its first same-sex marriage when Deasia Johnson and Nikki Dismuke-Johnson were married immediately after receiving the second marriage license issued in Guam.



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