Chairman

Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure, Lands, Border Protection, Veterans' Affairs and Procurement I Mina Trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 33rd Guam Legislature

June 15, 2016

The	Honora	hle	Judith	T.	Won	Pat.	Ed.D.

Speaker

I Mina' Trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

155 Hesler Place

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

RMM J. Plespicio VIA: The Honorable Rory J. Respicio

Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Committee Report on Bill No. 321-33 (COR) As Amended

Dear Speaker Won Pat:

Transmitted herewith is the Committee Report on Bill No. 321-33 (COR) As Amended, "AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 2 OF PUBLIC LAW 33-104, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE PAYMENT PERIOD FOR THE EXPIRED LAND FOR THE LANDLESS CONTRACTS: TO WAIVE THE TEN YEAR WAIT PERIOD PRIOR TO THE TRANSFER OF PROPERTY FOR EXCEPTIONAL CASES; TO PROVIDE A WAIVER FOR EXISTING RESIDENTS OF AFFECTED LOTS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR A JOURNAL VOUCHER TRANSFER OF FUNDS."

Com	nittee	votes	are as	fol	lows:
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3	TO DO PASS
	TO NOT PASS
3	TO REPORT OUT ONLY
	TO ABSTAIN
	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE

Si Yu'os ma'åse'.

Γhomas C. Ada



Sen. Thomas Ada Chairman

Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure, Lands, Border Protection, Veterans' Affairs and Procurement I Mina Trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 33rd Guam Legislature

COMMITTEE REPORT ON

Bill No. 321-33 (COR) As Amended

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 2 OF PUBLIC LAW 33-104, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE PAYMENT PERIOD FOR THE EXPIRED LAND FOR THE LANDLESS CONTRACTS; TO WAIVE THE TEN YEAR WAIT PERIOD PRIOR TO THE TRANSFER OF PROPERTY FOR EXCEPTIONAL CASES; TO PROVIDE A WAIVER FOR EXISTING RESIDENTS OF AFFECTED LOTS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR A JOURNAL VOUCHER TRANSFER OF FUNDS.

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Sen. Thomas Ada

Chairman

Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure, Lands, Border Protection, Veterans' Affairs and Procurement I Mina Trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 33rd Guam Legislature

June 15, 2016

MEMORANDUM

To: All Members

Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure, Lands, Border Protection, Veterans'

Affairs and Procurement

From: Senator Thomas C. Ada, Committee Chairperson

Subject: Committee Report on Bill No. 321-33 (COR)

Transmitted herewith for your consideration is the Committee Report on Bill No. 321-33 (COR) As Amended, "AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 2 OF PUBLIC LAW 33-104, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE PAYMENT PERIOD FOR THE EXPIRED LAND FOR THE LANDLESS CONTRACTS; TO WAIVE THE TEN YEAR WAIT PERIOD PRIOR TO THE TRANSFER OF PROPERTY FOR EXCEPTIONAL CASES; TO PROVIDE A WAIVER FOR EXISTING RESIDENTS OF AFFECTED LOTS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR A JOURNAL VOUCHER TRANSFER OF FUNDS."

This report includes the following:

- Committee Vote Sheet
- Committee Report Digest
- Copy of Bill No. 321-33 (COR), As Introduced
- Copy of Bill No. 321-33 (COR), As Amended
- Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet
- Written testimonies from: Michael J.B. Borja (Department of Land Management)
- Copy of Fiscal Note Request
- Copy of Fiscal Note
- COR Referral of Bill No. 321-33 (COR)
- Notices of Public Hearing
- Public Hearing Agenda

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.



Chairman

Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure, Lands, Border Protection, Veterans' Affairs and Procurement I Mina Trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 33rd Guam Legislature

COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

Bill No. 321-33 (COR) As Amended, "AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 2 OF PUBLIC LAW 33-104, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE PAYMENT PERIOD FOR THE EXPIRED LAND FOR THE LANDLESS CONTRACTS; TO WAIVE THE TEN YEAR WAIT PERIOD PRIOR TO THE TRANSFER OF PROPERTY FOR EXCEPTIONAL CASES; TO PROVIDE A WAIVER FOR EXISTING RESIDENTS OF AFFECTED LOTS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR A JOURNAL VOUCHER TRANSFER OF FUNDS."

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	SIGNATURE AND DATE	TO DO PASS	TO NOT PASS	TO REPORT OUT ONLY	TO ABSTAIN	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE
SENATOR THOMAS C. ADA Chairperson	2	L				
SENATOR RORY J. RESPICIO Vice Chairperson	Complessia	(15°4				
VICE SPEAKER BENJAMIN J.F. CRUZ Member	A2					
SENATOR FRANK B. AGUON, JR. Member						
SENATOR DENNIS RODRIGUEZ, JR. Member	a	VIK				
SENATOR NERISSA UNDERWOOD Member	R					
SENATOR FRANK BLAS, JR. Member	* * *					
SENATOR MARY TORRES Member						
SENATOR JAMES V. ESPALDON Member	Kepar			/		
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Chairman

Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure, Lands, Border Protection, Veterans' Affairs and Procurement I Mina Trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 33rd Guam Legislature

COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

I. OVERVIEW

Bill No. 321-33 (COR) was introduced on May 18, 2016 by Senator Thomas C. Ada and was subsequently referred on May 18, 2016 by the Committee on Rules to the Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure, Lands, Border Protection, Veterans' Affairs and Procurement.

The Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure, Lands, Border Protection, Veterans' Affairs and Procurement convened a public hearing on June 8, 2016 at 9:00 am in *I Liheslaturan's* Public Hearing Room to receive public testimony on Bill No. 321-33 (COR).

Public Notice Requirements

Public Hearing notices were disseminated via email to all senators and all main media broadcasting outlets on May 31, 2016 (5-Day Notice) and again on June 6, 2016 (48-Hour Notice). Publication was conducted in the May 31, 2016 issue and June 6, 2016 issue of the **Guam Daily Post**, a newspaper of general circulation, fulfilling the 5-Day Notice and 48-Hour Notice of the Open Government Law requirement.

Senators Present

Senator Thomas C. Ada Senator V. Anthony Ada

Committee Chairperson Legislative Member

The public hearing was Called-to-Order at 9:00am.

II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY AND DISCUSSION

Chairperson Ada calls the Public Hearing to order and as sponsor, introduces Bill No. 321-33. He then calls those who have signed up to provide testimony.

Juan Finona (oral testimony): Good morning Senators, I am a voting resident of Merizo. In 1992, they held a lottery with veterans' preference for the Pigua subdivision Land for the Landless. I was awarded a property 30 feet below the level of the road. That's the start of my property and ending at 70 feet deep. I requested to be relocated to where I can build something and it took until 2012 to transfer me. For the bill, I believe I paid for that property and I don't have to wait 10 years. It's wrong because I am a resident of Guam, disabled, and a senior citizen. They told me that I need a building permit to get water, but I want it for my plants. So I have to haul water from Nimitz Hill to Merizo. Then they told me I have to get a licensed contractor to put in 30 feet of line and charging me \$2,500. Mr. Senator, I used to lay water lines for GWA customers without cost to the government or the contractor that I worked for. I did 4,000 2-inch water lines with me and my family to service 10 families in

Yigo without a penny out of their pockets and now they're going to charge me \$2,500 for 30 feet 2-inch water line and I have to get a contractor to do that. I'm a disabled veteran and a past engineer so why can't I do my own water line. In turn, I have to pay \$500 for the water meter so give me the parts and I can do it myself; why do I have to pay that much?

I'm in favor of this bill and it's about time someone stepped up and waived that 10-year because I believe I paid for that property. I'm going to be paying the tax for that land so I should be the one to say when and how I'm going to do my property. I asked Director Borja to stay and hear my testimony because I think it's wrong for me to wait another 10 years because I've waited 20 years already to get transferred to a suitable place. Also, people are using the property to go back into their property so I found the easement to where the right of way is at and I opened it myself without charging the people. I've never had people pay anything that I provide to their property; I took it from the contractor's interest to share the cost. I feel that I deserve more than what they're telling me from the government.

Chairperson Ada: My staff will be calling you to follow-up on this matter of requiring you to use a certified plumber to have to lay that line on your private property. We'll get that resolved, but the bill would address the issue that you're talking about and Director Borja can add to the discussion.

Michael Borja, *Director*, Department of Land Management (written testimony): I believe that if you've already paid your Land for the Landless, your ten years began after your final payment. If it's beyond ten years, then the land is fully yours for however you want it now; you can sell it if you want now.

Mr. Finona: Because of the transfer to a suitable property happened in 2012 and I paid in installments until 2014; they told me, until 2014 to 2024, is when I can call it mine.

Director Borja: I gave you my business card and you're more than welcome to give me a call. We can work on the details of this issue.

Chairperson Ada: In the bill, it identified three categories of Land for the Landless applicants and I think we've have covered all of them. If your situation creates a fourth category, then we'll also look at that before we report the bill out.

Director Borja: He reads his testimony in verbatim (see attached testimony). He supports Bill 321-33 because it provides additional payment time for those Land for the Landless who responded to the notices and reimburses the Department for the administration of Public Law 33-104. The Department also made correction to the dollar amount reimbursement of postage and publication expenses for the administration of Public Law 33-104.

Ted Nelson: He speaks in Chamorro throughout his testimony. It was a miracle with the help of my colleagues and three Governors to establish the Land for the Landless program and all those subdivisions. The Umatac subdivision, Mr. Chairman, we identify the owners and the lot numbers through legislation so none of those people can be eliminated. There will never be a Land for the Landless again for \$2,500. Mr. Chairman, have Director Borja work with

the mayors and locate all these 41 owners. I went to Chamorro Land Trust Commission and complained that nobody should be denied.

Director Borja: Mr. Chairman, since Public Law 33-104 was enacted, we made notification to all 391 default accounts, we provided the publication notice to all the mayors and the municipalities and now we're in the process of visiting each and every site to determine whether or not anybody is residing on the land and to date, we've found none. But the bill does provide adequate language to engage with them in a different basis so we can work with them as well if we do find people that are authorized to be on the land but they have not paid for their account. So we're looking at every one of these before we make the transfer over to the Chamorro Land Trust Commission.

Chairperson Ada: Thank you and I appreciate the due diligence that you're providing.

Chairperson Ada adjourns the Public Hearing for Bill No. 321-33 (COR).

Written Testimony Received:

1. Michael J.B. Borja, *Director*, Department of Land Management

III. Findings and Recommendation

The Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure, Lands, Border Protection, Veterans' Affairs and Procurement recommends that Committee staff work with the Guam Waterworks Authority in regards to Mr. Juan Finona's situation and will follow-up with him to see if there is any resolution to his issue.

The Committee finds that since the enactment of Public Law 33-104, the Department of Land Management has sent notices to all three hundred and ninety-one (391) default accounts and is now in the process of visiting every Land for the Landless site and determining if there are people residing on the properties but have not paid their accounts in full. As of May 9, 2016, thirty-nine (39) Land for the Landless accounts have been paid in full while forty-one (41) people responded to the notices requesting for additional time to pay their accounts.

The Committee made changes to the bill to reflect the dollar amount corrected by the Department of Land Management testimony in regards to postage and publication expenses for the administration of Public Law 33-104.

The Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure, Lands, Border Protection, Veterans' Affairs and Procurement, hereby reports out **Bill 321-33 (COR) as amended,** with the recommendation to report out.

I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2016 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 321 33 (core)

Introduced by:

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T.C. Ada

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 2 OF PUBLIC LAW 33-104, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE PAYMENT PERIOD FOR THE EXPIRED LAND FOR THE LANDLESS CONTRACTS; TO WAIVE THE 10 YEAR WAIT PERIOD PRIOR TO THE TRANSFER OF PROPERTY FOR EXCEPTIONAL CASES; TO PROVIDE A WAIVER FOR EXISTING RESIDENTS OF AFFECTED LOTS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR A JOURNAL VOUCHER TRANSFER OF FUNDS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that
Public Law 33-104 extended the time period to cure and remedy defaulted 10-year
contracts in the various Land for the Landless Programs and also authorized the
transfer of unpaid *Land for the Landless* subdivisions into the Chamorro Land Trust
Commission land inventory. According to data provided by the Department of Land
Management (DLM), out of the three hundred ninety-one (391) defaulted accounts in
the Land for the Landless Program, thirty-nine (39) accounts were paid in full while
forty-one (41) respondents requested for an appeal to the default notice letters.

I Liheslaturan Guåhan further finds that many of the respondents appealed to the default notice letters due to personal hardship, medical situations and in some cases the original applicant-assignee of the subject lot of the defaulted contract currently resides on the affected property.

It is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to extend the payment period of those who have responded to the notices and allow them sufficient time to pay their balance on the *Land for the Landless* default account.

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Contract.

Section 2. Section 2 of P.L. 33-104 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Notification of Purchasers Under the Land for the Landless Who Had Defaulted and Remedy.

- (a) The Director of the Department of Land Management (Department) *shall* exercise his best efforts to notify purchasers who had defaulted on contracts under the *Land for the Landless* program to submit, at the purchaser's option, an appeal to rescind the default. The appeal must provide justification on why the default should be rescinded. Said notifications from the Department of Land Management *shall* be sent via certified mail, and accomplished within forty-five (45) days of enactment of this Act.
- (b) Purchasers, or their legal beneficiaries, *shall* be given thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the notice to submit their appeal and justification to the Department. The Department *shall* have forty-five (45) days to review the appeals and to make a determination. Appeals that *do not* receive a determination within the forty-five (45) days *shall* be deemed approved.
- (c) If the Department finds the justification to be reasonable or pursuant to (b) above, and Purchaser, or his/her legal beneficiaries, is still eligible under the program's guidelines, the Department shall give Purchaser the opportunity to rectify the default within sixty (60) three hundred sixty-five (365) days from the date of notice that the default has been rescinded the enactment of this Act. However the

Purchaser, or his/her legal beneficiaries shall be required to place a minimum deposit of 10% of the balance due.

- (d) The remedy available to the purchaser, or his/her legal beneficiary, *shall* be to pay the full amount of the balance due on the initial Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) purchase price.
- (e) An interest penalty *shall* be assessed on the unpaid balance at an annual percentage rate (APR) of four and one half percent (4.5%) from the date that last payment was made or should have been made.
- (f) Funds received *shall* be deposited into the *Chamorro* Land Trust Survey and Infrastructure Fund.
- (g) Re-entry. Every deed of conveyance of a lot under this Act *shall* contain a right of re-entry by the government if the grantee sells or leases any of the conveyed property within ten (10) years after the date of execution of the deed by *I Maga'låhi* (the Governor).
- (h) Limitations in Deed. Each deed conveying a lot pursuant to this Act *shall* contain a right of reverter to the government if the grantee sells or leases any of the conveyed property within ten (10) years after the date of execution of the deed, or if the grantee inherits or otherwise acquires other land in Guam, in addition to the conveyed lot, and at the time of such subsequent acquisition of land the grantee has not constructed any structure on the conveyed lot.
- (i) If complete payment of the account was made 10 years or more ago but through some administrative error or some other reason a deed of conveyance failed to be signed; the 10-year waiting period before any subsequent transfer can be made is hereby waived and the

deed of conveyance shall be issued immediately without any reference to the waiting period.

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- (j) If upon a field inspection of the subject lot of the expired contract the Department finds that the original assignee-applicant for that lot is found to be currently residing on the lot then the payment extension period is Three Hundred and Sixty Five (365) days. Interest shall continue to accrue in the payment extension period and the Provisions in Section 2c of Public Law 33-104 shall apply.
- (k) Notwithstanding any law, provision, rule, or regulation, the Department of Land Management is hereby authorized to transfer, by journal voucher, *Two Thousand Dollars* (\$2,000.00) to reimburse the Department for postal and publication expenses related to the administration of Public Law 33-104. The transfer shall come from the *Chamorro Land Trust Survey and Infrastructure Fund* identified as Department of Administration Revenue Account Number 3669-57001, CLT-Sale of Government Land."

Section 6. Severability. If any provision of this law or its application to any person or circumstance is found to be invalid or contrary to law, such invalidity *shall not* affect other provisions or applications of this law that can be given effect without the invalid provisions or applications and to this end the provisions of this Act are severable.

I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2016 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 321-33 (COR)

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As Amended by the Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure, Lands, Border Protection, Veterans' Affairs and Procurement

Intuo	duand by		
muro	duced by:		

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 2 OF PUBLIC LAW
33-104, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE PAYMENT
PERIOD FOR THE EXPIRED LAND FOR THE
LANDLESS CONTRACTS; TO WAIVE THE TEN
VEAR WAIT PERIOD PRIOR TO THE TRANSFER

T.C. Ada

LANDLESS CONTRACTS; TO WAIVE THE TEN YEAR WAIT PERIOD PRIOR TO THE TRANSFER OF PROPERTY FOR EXCEPTIONAL CASES; TO PROVIDE A WAIVER FOR EXISTING RESIDENTS OF AFFECTED LOTS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR A

JOURNAL VOUCHER TRANSFER OF FUNDS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. I Liheslaturan Guåhan finds that 2 Public Law 33-104 extended the time period to cure and remedy defaulted ten (10) 3 year contracts in the various Land for the Landless Programs and also authorized the 4 transfer of unpaid Land for the Landless subdivisions into the Chamorro Land Trust 5 Commission inventory. According to data provided by the Department of Land 6 Management (DLM), out of the three hundred ninety-one (391) defaulted accounts in 7 8 the Land for the Landless Program, thirty-nine (39) accounts were paid in full while forty-one (41) respondents requested for an appeal to the default notice letters. 9

I Liheslaturan Guåhan further finds that many of the respondents appealed to the default notice letters due to personal hardship and medical situations, and in some cases, the original applicant-assignee of the subject lot of the defaulted contract currently resides on the affected property.

It is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to extend the payment period for those who have responded to the notices and allow them sufficient time to pay their balance on the Land for the Landless default account.

Section 2. Section 2 of P.L. 33-104 is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

"Notification of Purchasers Under the Land for the Landless Who Had Defaulted and Remedy.

- (a) The Director of the Department of Land Management (Department) *shall* exercise his best efforts to notify purchasers who had defaulted on contracts under the *Land for the Landless* program to submit, at the purchaser's option, an appeal to rescind the default. The appeal must provide justification on why the default should be rescinded. Said notifications from the Department of Land Management *shall* be sent via certified mail, and accomplished within forty-five (45) days of enactment of this Act.
- (b) Purchasers, or their legal beneficiaries, *shall* be given thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the notice to submit their appeal and justification to the Department. The Department *shall* have forty-five (45) days to review the appeals and to make a determination. Appeals that *do not* receive a determination within the forty-five (45) days *shall* be deemed approved.
- (c) If the Department finds the justification to be reasonable or pursuant to Subsection (b) above, and the purchaser, or his/her legal beneficiary, is still eligible under the program's guidelines, the Department *shall* give Purchaser the opportunity to rectify the default within sixty (60) one hundred and eighty (180) days from the date of notice that the default has been rescinded. However, the purchaser, or

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his/her legal beneficiary *shall* be required to place, within 30 days of receipt of notice that the default has been rescinded, a minimum deposit of 10% of the balance due.

- (d) The remedy available to the purchaser, or his/her legal beneficiary, *shall* be to pay the full amount of the balance due on the initial Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) purchase price and any interest penalty, as described in (e) below.
- (e) An interest penalty *shall* be assessed on the unpaid balance at an annual percentage rate (APR) of four and one half percent (4.5%) from the date that last payment was made or should have been made.
- (f) Funds received *shall* be deposited into the *Chamorro* Land Trust Survey and Infrastructure Fund.
- (g) Re-entry. Every deed of conveyance of a lot under this Act *shall* contain a right of re-entry by the government if the grantee sells or leases any of the conveyed property within ten (10) years after the date of execution of the deed by *I Maga'låhi* (the Governor).
- (h) Limitations in Deed. Each deed conveying a lot pursuant to this Act *shall* contain a right of reverter reversionary clause to the government if the grantee sells or leases any of the conveyed property within ten (10) years after the date of execution of the deed, or if the grantee inherits or otherwise acquires other land in Guam, in addition to the conveyed lot, and at the time of such subsequent acquisition of land the grantee has not constructed any structure on the conveyed lot.
- (i) If complete payment of the account was made ten (10) years or more ago but through some administrative error or some other reason a deed of conveyance failed to be signed, the ten (10)

year waiting period before any subsequent transfer can be made is hereby waived and the deed of conveyance *shall* be issued immediately without any reference to the waiting period. The furnishing of proof, which may include canceled checks, receipts, or account ledger, shall be the responsibility of the applicant.

- (j) If upon a field inspection of the subject lot of the expired contract the Department finds that the original assignee-applicant for that lot is found to be currently residing on the lot then the Department *shall* give purchaser the opportunity to rectify the default by December 31, 2016. Interest *shall* continue to accrue in the payment extension period and the provisions in Section 2(c) of this Act *shall* apply.
- (k) Notwithstanding Section 5 of Public Law 33-95, the Department of Land Management is hereby authorized to transfer, by journal voucher, Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to reimburse the Department for postal and publication expenses related to the administration of Public Law 33-104. The transfer *shall* come from the *Chamorro Land Trust Survey and Infrastructure Fund* identified as Department of Administration Revenue Account Number 3669-57001, CLT-Sale of Government Land."

Section 6. Severability. If any provision of this law or its application to any person or circumstance is found to be invalid or contrary to law, such invalidity *shall not* affect other provisions or applications of this law that can be given effect without the invalid provisions or applications and to this end the provisions of this Act are severable.

Page of

Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure, Lands, Border Protection, Veterans' Affairs and Procurement Public Hearing June 08, 2016

June 08, 2016 9:00am

I Liheslaturan Guåhan, Hagåtña

Bill No. 321-33 (COR) – T.C. Ada

waive the 10 year wait period prior to the transfer of property for exceptional cases; to provide a waiver for existing residents of affected lots; An act to amend Section 2 of Public Law 33-104, relative to extending the payment period for the expired Land for the Landless contracts; to and to provide for a journal voucher transfer of funds.

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NAME (please print)	- LUAN S. FINDNA	To Soll	MICHEL BORTA									

Street Address: 590 S. Marine Corps Drive Suite 733 ITC Building Tamuning, GU 96913

> Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2950 Hagátña, GU 96932

Website: http://land.guam.gov

E-mail Address: dlmdir@land.guam.gov

Telephone: 671-649-LAND (5263)

> Facsimile: 671-649-5383





DIPÅTTAMENTON MINANEHAN TÅNO' (Department of Land Management) GUBETNAMENTON GUÄHAN

(Government of Guahan)



DAVID V. CAMACHO Deputy Director

June 6, 2016

RAY TENORIO

Lieutenant Governor of Guahan

Senator Thomas C. Ada 33rd Guam Legislature Chairman, Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure, Lands, Border Protection, Veteran's Affairs and Procurement 173 Aspinall Ave, Ste 207 Hagatna, Guam 96910

SUBJECT:

Bill No. 321-33 - AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 2 OF PUBLIC LAW 33-104, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE PAYMENT PERIOD FOR THE EXPIRED LAND FOR THE LANDLESS CONTRACTS; TO WAIVE THE 10 YEAR WAIT PERIOD PRIOR TO THE TRANSFER OF PROPERTY FOR EXCEPTIONAL CASES; TO PROVIDE A WAIVER FOR EXISTING RESIDENTS OF AFFECTED LOTS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR A JOURNAL VOUCHER TRANSFER OF FUNDS.

Buenas Yan Hafa Adai!

The Department of Land Management, in its execution of Public Law 33-104, found fortyone Land for the Landless clients responding to our default notification with an appeal request for additional time to pay their account. Because the public law provided no discretionary authority to the director of the Department of Land Management, a waiver on the time period for payment could not be offered.

Bill No. 321-33 provides the ability to extend the time period to those Land for the Landless clients who responded to the letters sent to them or the publication notice and sought an appeal and for more time to pay their accounts in full.

Additionally, this bill also permits the transfer of funds to offset the unbudgeted costs the Department of Land Management incurred in the notification of Land for the Landless default accounts. The true amount of the expense is \$4,944.00 (postage: \$2,359.00; publication notice: \$2,585) and we request the bill be modified to authorize this amount. Because Bill No. 321-33 provides additional payment time for those Land for the Landless clients who responded to our notices and requested additional time to pay their account and because it the bill provides for the department's incurred costs to be recovered, the Department of Land Management supports Bill No. 321-33.

Senseramente,

MICHAEL J.B. BORJA

Director

COMMITTEE ON RULES

I Mina trenta i Tres na Liheslaturan Guahan • The 33rd Guam Legislature 155 Hesler Place, Hagatña, Guam 96910 • www.guamlegislature.com E-mail: roryforguam@gmail.com • Tel: (671)472-7679 • Fax: (671)472-3547

Senator Rory J. Respicio CHAIRPERSON MAJORITY LEADER

June 3, 2016

Senator
Thomas C. Ada
VICE CHAIRPERSON
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

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

<u>Memorandum</u>

To:

Speaker

Member

Rennae Meno

Clerk of the Legislature

From:

Senator Rory J. Respicio

Chairperson of the Committee on Rules

Subject:

Fiscal Notes and Fiscal Note Waiver

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

MINORITY LEADER

V. Anthony Ada

Mary C. Torres
MINORITY MEMBER

Hafa Adai!

Attached please find the fiscal notes and fiscal note waiver 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. 320-33(COR) Bill No. 321-33(COR)

FISCAL NOTE WAIVER:

Bill No. 328-33(COR)

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

Si Yu'os ma'åse'!

Bureau of Budget & Management Research Fiscal Note of Bill No. 321-33 (COR)

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 2 OF PUBLIC LAW 33-104, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE PAYMENT PERIOD FOR THE EXPIRED LAND FOR THE LANDLESS CONTRACTS; TO WAIVE THE 10 YEAR WAIT PERIOD PRIOR TO THE TRANSFER OF PROPERTY FOR EXCEPTIONAL CASES; TO PROVIDE A WAIVER FOR EXISTING RESIDENTS OF AFFECTED LOTS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR A JOURNAL VOUCHER TRANSFER OF FUNDS.

		Department/Ag	gancy Appropriation	a information		
Dept/Agency Affect	ted: Chamorro Land	d Trust Commission		Dept/Agency Head:	Michael J. B. Borja,	Director
Department's Gener	ral Fund (GF) approj	priation(s) to date:				
Department's Other	Fund (Specify) appr	ropriation(s) to date: (Chamorro Land Tr	rust Operating Fund		1,424.3
Total Department/A	gency Appropriation	n(s) to date:				\$1,424,3
		Fund Source Info	rmation of Propose	d Appropriation		
Marie Marie de la company	Meladididika ang mana	MARINELES CONTROLOGO	SPECIAL PROPERTY OF THE ACTION	General Fund:	(Specify Special Fund):	Total:
FY 2015 Unreserved	Fund Balance				\$0	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
FY 2016 Adopted Re	evenues			50	\$0	
FY 2016 Appro. (P.L	33-66 thru)			so	\$0	
Sub-total:				\$0	so	
Less appropriation i	n Bill			\$0	\$0	
Total:				So	So	<u> </u>
		iseri iskalisa APIBBB Ciseese	ited Fiscal Impact o	f Bai		
	One Full Fiscal Year	For Remainder of FY 2016 (if applicable)	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
General Fund	\$0	S0	\$0	\$0	SO SO	
Chamorro Land Trust Survey and Infrastructure Fund	\$2,000	\$0	so	so	\$0	
Total	\$2,000		so so	so	\$0	
1. Does the bill conta	-	ting" provisions?			/ / Yes	/ X / No
		und the intent of the apequired? S	ppropriation?	/ X / N/A / X / N/A	/ / Yes	/ / No
3. Does the Bill estab	blish a new program/	/agency?	•		/ / Yes	/ X / No
· ·	-	ting programs/agencie	/ X / N/A	/ / Yes	/ / No	
		the program/agency? new physical facilities		/ / Yes / / Yes	/ X / No / X / No	
		affected dept/agency?		#On*	//Yes	/ X / No
		received by due date		Other:	(A) IN	F F 194
		Date: 5/27//6	Director:	10.010	Date: JUN O	1 2016

BUREAU OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT RESEARCH COMMENTS ON BILL NO. 321-33 (COR)

The proposed legislation intends to extend the payment period established in P.L. 33-104 for purchasers of the *Land for the Landless* program's contracts wishing to rectify their default payments. Also stipulated in the proposed legislation is the authorization to transfer by journal voucher in the amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) from the Chamorro Land Trust Survey and Infrastructure Fund (CLTSIF) to reimburse the Department of Land Management (DLM) for postal and publication expenses related to the administration of Public Law 33-104.

P.L. 33-104 enabled purchasers who had defaulted on their contracts under the Land for the Landless program to file an appeal to rescind the default. If the appeal was approved, the purchaser had sixty (60) days from the notice that the default was rescinded to pay the full amount of the balance due on the initial two thousand five hundred dollar (\$2,500) purchase price. The proposed legislation will extend the payment period to three hundred sixty-five (365) days from enactment of the legislation. However, the purchaser will now be required to place a minimum deposit of 10% of the balance due on the initial \$2,500 purchase price. The Bureau is unable to determine the approximate dollar value of implementing the 10% minimum deposit due to lack of information from DLM pertaining to the balance on each of the forty-one (41) appealed default notice letters.

Payments received from the administration of P.L. 33-104 are deposited into the CLTSIF. Per the Department of Land Management (DLM) revenue report as of April 2016, the CLTSIF has an aggregate balance of \$117,059.51. Per the AS400 financial system, the CLTSIF has an aggregate balance of \$137,627.40 as of May 25, 2016.

Based on the foregoing, funding is available to authorize the \$2,000 transfer by journal voucher to reimburse the DLM's administration of P.L. 33-104.

I Mina'trentai Tres na Liheslaturan Guåhan • The 33rd Guam Legislature
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E-mail: roryforguam@gmail.com • Tel: (671)472-7679 • Fax: (671)472-3547

Senator

Senator Rory J. Respicio CHAIRPERSON MAJORITY LEADER

May 18, 2016

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. 319-33(COR) through 321-33(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,

Senator Rory J. Respicio

1 Cory J. Respicis

Chairperson of the Committee on Rules

Attachment (1)

Cc: Clerk of the Legislature

Bill Nos.	Sponsor	Title
319-33 (COR)	Tommy Morrison	AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 2(e)(11) OF CHAPTER V, PUBLIC LAW 30-196, RELATIVE TO REQUIRING PAYMENT OPTIONS WHICH PROMOTE TAXPAYER CONVENIENCE AND EFFICIENT CASH MANAGEMENT WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM.
320-33 (COR)	T. C. Ada	AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF UP TO THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$30,000) FROM THE CHAMORRO LAND TRUST SURVEY AND INFRASTRUCTURE FUND FOR THE DESIGN AND INSTALLATION OF POWER INFRASTRUCTURE IN BASIC LOT 480, SANTA ANA, MUNICIPALITY OF AGAT.
321-33 (COR)	T. C. Ada	AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 2 OF PUBLIC LAW 33-104, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE PAYMENT PERIOD FOR THE EXPIRED LAND FOR THE LANDLESS CONTRACTS; TO WAIVE THE 10 YEAR WAIT PERIOD PRIOR TO THE TRANSFER OF PROPERTY FOR EXCEPTIONAL CASES; TO PROVIDE A WAIVER FOR EXISTING RESIDENTS OF AFFECTED LOTS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR A JOURNAL VOUCHER TRANSFER OF FUNDS.

COMMITTEE ON RULES



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

E-mail: roryforguam@gmail.com • Tel: (671)472-7679 • Fax: (671)472-3547

Senator Rory J. Respicio CHAIRPERSON MAJORITY LEADER

May 18, 2016

To:

Senator
Thomas C. Ada
VICE CHAIRPERSON
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

MEMORANDUM

Speaker Judith T.P. Won Pat, Ed.D. Member Clerk of the Legislature

Rennae Meno

Vice-Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz Attorney Therese M. Terlaje Legislative Legal Counsel

njamin J.F. Cruz Member From: Senator Rory J. Respicio

Legislative Secretary Tina Rose Muna Barnes Chairperson of the Committee on Rules

Member

Subject: Referral of Bill No. 321-33(COR)

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Member As the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules, I am forwarding my referral of Bill No. 321-33(COR).

Senator Frank Blas Aguon, Jr. Member 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*.

Senator Michael F.Q. San Nicolas Member Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office at 472-7679.

Senator Nerissa Bretania Underwood Member

Si Yu'os Ma'åse!

V. Anthony Ada MINORITY LEADER Attachment

Mary C. Torres MINORITY MEMBER

1 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
321-33 (COR)		AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 2 OF PUBLIC LAW 33 104, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE PAYMENT PERIOD FOR THE EXPIRED LAND FOR THE LANDLESS CONTRACTS; TO WAIVE THE 10 YEAR WAIT PERIOD PRIOR TO THE TRANSFER OF PROPERTY FOR EXCEPTIONAL CASES; TO PROVIDE A WAIVER FOR EXISTING RESIDENTS OF AFFECTED LOTS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR A JOURNAL VOUCHER TRANSFER OF FUNDS.	8:32 a.m.	05/18/16	Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure, Lands, Border Protection, Veterans' Affairs and Procurement			



Peter Tran <peter@senatorada.org>

1st Notice of Confirmation / Public Hearing: Wednesday, June 08, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

1 message

Charlene Flores <flores@senatorada.org>

Tue, May 31, 2016 at 8:19 AM

To: Media <media@senatorada.org>, Melanie Mendiola <melmendiola@gmail.com>, Hardy Tan Vy <hardytan@gmail.com>, Michael Borja <michael.borja@land.guam.gov>, DLMDIR <dlmdir@land.guam.gov>, teresa.topasna@land.guam.gov, Cristina Gutierrez <Cristina.Gutierrez@land.guam.gov>, jbrown@portguam.com, mduenas@portguam.com, franksantos1914@hotmail.com, jarroyo@tgguam.net, angelatenorio.indalecio@outlook.com, jbenavente@gpagwa.com, agumataotao@gpagwa.com, Marilyn Manibusan <info.gacsbot@gmail.com>, legalcounsel.gacsbot@gmail.com, wbsmflor@wbflores.com, phnotice@guamlegislature.org

May 31, 2016

MEMORANDUM

To:

All Senators, Media, and Stakeholders

Fr:

Senator Thomas C. Ada, Chairperson

Subject: 1st Notice of Confirmation / Public Hearing: Wednesday, June 08, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

Please be advised that the Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure, Lands, Border Protection, Veterans' Affair, and Procurement will be conducting a confirmation/public hearing on **Wednesday**, **June 08**, **2016 at 9:00 a.m.** This meeting will take place in the public hearing room of *I Liheslaturan Guahan*. The agenda is as follows:

9:00 AM

Executive Appointment of Ms. Melanie R. Mendiola to serve as a member of the Guam Port Authority Board of Directors.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Hardy Tan I. Vy to serve as a member of the Guam Land Use Commission.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Pascual V.A. Sablan to serve as a member of the Chamorro Land Trust Commission.

Bill No. 320-33 (COR) - T.C. Ada

An act to authorize the expenditure of up to thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) from the *Chamorro Land Trust Survey and Infrastructure Fund* for the installation of power infrastructure in basic Lot 480, *Santa Ana*, Municipality of *Agat*.

Bill No. 321-33(COR) -T.C. Ada

An act to amend Section 2 of Public Law 33-104, relative to extending the payment period for the expired Land for the Landless contracts; to waive the 10 year wait period prior to the transfer of property for exceptional cases; to provide a waiver for existing residents of affected lots; and to provide for a journal voucher transfer of funds.

Bill No. 322-33 (COR) - T.C. Ada

An act to rezone Lots 2260 and 2261, Municipality of *Barrigada* from Agricultural "A" Zone to School "S-1" Zone, for Guahan Academy Charter School.

Testimony on the Executive Appointment of Ms. Melaine Mendiola, Executive Appointment of Mr. Hardy Tan Vy, Executive Appointment of Mr. Pascual Sablan, Bill No. 320-33 (COR), Bill No. 321-33 (COR), and Bill No. 322-33 (COR) should be addressed to Senator Thomas C. Ada, Chairperson, and will be accepted via hand delivery to our office, our mailbox at the Main Legislature Building at 155 Hesler Place, Hagåtña, Guam 96932, via email to office@senatorada.org, or via facsimile to (671) 473-3303 until 4:00pm Wednesday, June 08, 2016. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities

2 of 3 6/13/16, 1:37 PM

Act, individuals requiring special accommodations or services should contact the Office of Senator Tom Ada at 473-3301.

Charlene Flores
Policy Analyst
Office of Senator Thomas C. Ada *I Mina'trentai Tres na Liheslaturan Guåhan* - 33rd Guam Legislature
671-473-3301

1st Notice.pdf 531K



Peter Tran <peter@senatorada.org>

2nd Notice of Confirmation / Public Hearing: Wednesday, June 08, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

1 message

Charlene Flores <flores@senatorada.org>

Mon, Jun 6, 2016 at 8:22 AM

To: Media <media@senatorada.org>, Melanie Mendiola <melmendiola@gmail.com>, Hardy Tan Vy <hardytan@gmail.com>, Michael Borja <michael.borja@land.guam.gov>, DLMDIR <dlmdir@land.guam.gov>, teresa.topasna@land.guam.gov, Cristina Gutierrez <Cristina.Gutierrez@land.guam.gov>, jbrown@portguam.com, mduenas@portguam.com, franksantos1914@hotmail.com, John Arroyo <jarroyo@tgguam.net>, angelatenorio.indalecio@outlook.com, jbenavente@gpagwa.com, agumataotao@gpagwa.com, sblas@gpagwa.com, mcamacho@gpagwa.com, Marilyn Manibusan <info.gacsbot@gmail.com>, legalcounsel.gacsbot@gmail.com, wbsmflor@wbflores.com, bmomayor@gmail.com, Jessie Bautista <jessie.bautista007@gmail.com>, agatmayorsoffice@hotmail.com, ksusuico@yahoo.com

June 6, 2016

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Media, and Stakeholders

Fr: Senator Thomas C. Ada, Chairperson

Subject: 2nd Notice of Confirmation / Public Hearing: Wednesday, June 08, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

Please be advised that the Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure, Lands, Border Protection, Veterans' Affair, and Procurement will be conducting a confirmation/public hearing on **Wednesday**, **June 08**, **2016 at 9:00 a.m.** This meeting will take place in the public hearing room of *I Liheslaturan Guahan*. The agenda is as follows:

9:00 AM

Executive Appointment of **Ms. Melanie R. Mendiola** to serve as a **member** of the **Guam Port Authority Board of Directors**.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Hardy Tan I. Vy to serve as a member of the Guam Land Use Commission.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Pascual V.A. Sablan to serve as a member of the Chamorro Land Trust Commission.

Bill No. 320-33 (COR) - T.C. Ada

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An act to amend Section 2 of Public Law 33-104, relative to extending the payment period for the expired Land for the Landless contracts; to waive the 10 year wait period prior to the transfer of property for exceptional cases; to provide a waiver for existing residents of affected lots; and to provide for a journal voucher transfer of funds.

Bill No. 322-33 (COR) - T.C. Ada

An act to rezone Lots 2260 and 2261, Municipality of *Barrigada* from Agricultural "A" Zone to School "S-1" Zone, for Guahan Academy Charter School

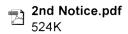
Testimony on the Executive Appointment of Ms. Melaine Mendiola, Executive Appointment of Mr. Hardy Tan Vy, Executive Appointment of Mr. Pascual Sablan, Bill No. 320-33 (COR), Bill No. 321-33 (COR), and Bill No. 322-33 (COR) should be addressed to Senator Thomas C. Ada, Chairperson, and will be accepted via hand delivery to our office, our mailbox at the Main Legislature Building at 155 Hesler Place, Hagåtña,

2 of 3 6/13/16, 1:37 PM

Guam 96932, via email to office@senatorada.org, or via facsimile to (671) 473-3303 until **4:00pm Wednesday, June 08, 2016**. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special accommodations or services should contact the Office of Senator Tom Ada at 473-3301.

--

Charlene Flores
Policy Analyst
Office of Senator Thomas C. Ada *I Mina'trentai Tres na Liheslaturan Guåhan - 33*rd Guam Legislature
671-473-3301



3 of 3

Public Hearing Notice Listserv phnotice@guamlegislature.org (Media, All Senators, and Staff)

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rowena@senatormorrison.com	
sabrina@kuam.com	



Chairman

Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure, Lands, Border Protection, Veterans' Affairs and Procurement I Mina Trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 33rd Guam Legislature

AGENDA

CONFIRMATION / PUBLIC HEARING Wednesday, June 08, 2016

Public Hearing Room, I Liheslaturan Guåhan

The agenda is as follows:

9:00am

Executive Appointment of Ms. Melanie R. Mendiola to serve as a member of the Guam Port Authority Board of Directors.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Hardy Tan I. Vy to serve as a member of the Guam Land Use Commission.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Pascual V.A. Sablan to serve as a member of the Chamorro Land Trust Commission.

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Committee on Lands and Transportation Confirmation / Public Hearing Notice

Wednesday, June 08, 2016, 9AM I Liheslaturan Guahan, Public Hearing Room

AGENDA

At 9:00 AM:

Executive Appointment of Ms. Melanie R. Mendiola to serve as a member of the Guam Port Authority Board of Directors.

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Executive Appointment of Mr. Pascual V.A. Sablan to serve as a member of the Chamorro Land Trust Commission.

Bill No. 320-33 (COR) - T.C. Ada

An act to authorize the expenditure of up to thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) from the *Chamorro Land Trust Survey and Infrastructure Fund* for the design and installation of power infrastructure in basic Lot 480, *Santa Ana*, Municipality of *Agat*.

Bill No. 321-33(COR) -T.C. Ada

An act to amend Section 2 of Public Law 33-104, relative to extending the payment period for the expired Land for the Landless contracts; to waive the 10 year wait period prior to the transfer of property for exceptional cases; to provide a waiver for existing residents of affected lots; and to provide for a journal voucher transfer of funds.

Bill No. 322-33 (COR) - T.C. Ada

An act to rezone Lots 2260 and 2261, Municipality of *Barrigada* from Agricultural "A" Zone to School "S-1" Zone.

Individuals requiring special accommodations should submit request to Blaine Dydasco at 473-3301.

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Committee on Lands and Transportation Confirmation / Public Hearing Notice

Wednesday, June 08, 2016, 9AM

I Liheslaturan Guahan, Public Hearing Room

AGENDA

At 9:00 AM:

Executive Appointment of Ms. Melanie R. Mendiola to serve as a member of the Guam Port Authority Board of Directors.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Hardy Tan I. Vy to serve as a member of the Guam Land Use Commission.

Executive Appointment of Mr. Pascual V.A. Sablan to serve as a member of the Chamorro Land Trust Commission.

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Guam Daily Post - 06 June 2016

http://www.postguam.com/news/local/amnesty-proposed-for-land-for-landless-holders/article_13bbf56a-2708-11e6-b6aa-fb5e0cc969b3.html

Amnesty proposed for Land for Landless holders

Robert Q. Tupaz | Post News Staff 7 hrs ago



Sen. Tom Ada says Public Law 33-104, enacted in December 2015, addressed some 443 Land for the Landless accounts that remain unpaid from an original inventory of 1,650 available lots in the program. Post file photo

A law enacted late last year extended the time and provided notice to participants in default on payments in the Land for the Landless program previously to come clean and clear their debt or lose their land.

According to Sen. Tom Ada, Public Law 33-104 enacted in December 2015 addressed some 443 Land for the Landless accounts that remain unpaid from an original inventory of 1,650 available lots in the program. The residential lots were sold for \$2,500 to 1,036 families beginning in 1978. The

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notes were based on a 10-year term.

Upon enactment of P.L. 33-104, introduced as Bill 196-33 by Ada, 39 persons cleared their balance from a final list of 391 lots. And 41 respondents requested an appeal of the default.

"The law provided them a notice and a window, 45 days, to let (the Department of) Land Management know that they wanted to keep their land. Then, the process would be reopened if they had a valid reason and still wanted the property. They could then satisfy their debt," Ada said. "Basically, they had a second bite at the apple, of course with interest."

Ada said that an additional bill, which he introduced as Bill 321-33 was necessitated because at least 41 respondents needed more time to clear their outstanding balance.

In addition, there were a few instances where the recipient had receipts but for one reason or another, the Department of Land Management lacked records.

Extend

"As a result of Bill 196, Land Management came back and said the people needed just a little bit more time to get the money together to close the transaction," Ada said. "At the request of Land Management, we basically want to extend the time for at least the 41 families, up to one year from enactment to satisfy their obligation. A second group that could benefit would be families who have built on the properties, but for whatever reason did not get the notices, or meet their obligation, who knows."

He added, "And finally, with the 10-year rule, we had some people that said they paid their due, they have their receipt and should be free and clear because "I paid this thing over 10-years ago."

Ada said the bill provides that after one year, Land Management will foreclose on all properties not cleared through the law, and that all properties will be conveyed to the Chamorro Land Trust Commission inventory for lease to qualified applicants. "It's a neat deal because these properties already have the infrastructure laid out," Ada said.

The Land for the Landless program was enacted in 1978 with subsequent laws providing 1,650 residential lots islandwide in various places including As-Tumbo, Dededo; Agafa Gumas, Yigo; As-Lucas, Talofofo; Machanag/As-Pailo, Umatac; Ija Subdivision in Inarajan; Malojloj, Inarajan; Umang, Agat; Pagachao, Agat; Kaiser, Piti; and Pigua, Merizo.

Ada is the chairman of the legislative committee with oversight of public lands. A public hearing on

Bill 321-33 is scheduled for June 9.

Robert Tupaz

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