



Office of the Governor of Guam

P.O. Box 2950 Hagåtña, Guam 96932

TEL: (671) 472-8931 • FAX: (671) 477-4826 • EMAIL: governor@mail.gov.gu

30-09-1393

NOV 25 2009
11/25/09
4:30 PM

Felix P. Camacho
Governor

Michael W. Cruz, M.D.
Lieutenant Governor

Honorable Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D
Speaker
I Mina' Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
155 Hessler Street
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Dear Speaker Won Pat:

Submitted herewith is Bill No. 200-30 (COR), "AN ACT TO ADJUST THE COMPENSATION OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF GUAM TO BE COMPARABLE AND EQUITABLE WITH OTHER LEGAL OFFICER POSITIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM, BY AMENDING §30116(a), CHAPTER 30, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND REPEALING §30116(b), CHAPTER 30, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED," which I have vetoed.

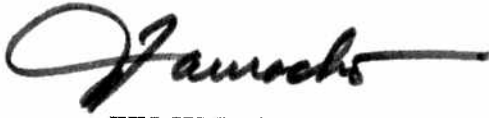
The government of Guam is currently undertaking a Government-Wide Position Classification, Compensation and Benefits Study. The purpose for the study of all government positions and pay policies is to develop a plan with recommendations to bring the Unified Pay Schedule in line with the U.S. National Average levels as compared to the appropriate labor markets and taking into account relevant economic factors. As previously stated, the study extends to judicial, appointed and elected positions including the attorney general position. This study is expected to be completed by the end of the calendar year.

As of October 1, 2009, the Attorney General's salary is \$101,237.40. The legislative findings list compensation levels of other legal officer positions within the government. For example, Civil Service Commission legal counsel salary is listed at \$121,762.00. However, this salary level is based on years of public service as a government attorney. The salary for the position of CSC legal counsel is significantly less than \$121,762.00.

Rather than adjusting the Attorney General's compensation level based on salaries of attorneys that have served as government lawyers for many years or invoices from firms retained by different autonomous agencies with varying mandates, we should allow the government to complete the classification and compensation study and review the recommended salary schedule to determine the appropriate salary level to adopt. I appreciate the responsibilities and demands of the position of the attorney general and recognize that a salary adjustment may be warranted. However, as this legislation will not be effective until 2011, I simply ask that we wait

for the outcome of the study to recommend a salary level commensurate with the role of the Attorney General of Guam.

Sinseru yan Magâhet,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. Camacho', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

FELIX P. CAMACHO
I Maga' Lâhen Guahan
Governor of Guam

Attachment

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

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

This is to certify that Bill No. 200-30 (COR) "AN ACT TO ADJUST THE COMPENSATION OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF GUAM TO BE COMPARABLE AND EQUITABLE WITH OTHER LEGAL OFFICER POSITIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM, BY AMENDING §30116(a), CHAPTER 30, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND REPEALING §30116(b), CHAPTER 30, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED," was on the 10th day of November, 2009, duly and regularly passed.



Judith T. Won Pat, Ed. D.
Speaker

Attested


Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan* this 12 day of Nov, 2009, at 1:30 o'clock P.M.


Assistant Staff Officer
Maga'lahi's Office

APPROVED:


FELIX P. CAMACHO
I Maga'lahaen Guåhan

Date: _____

Public Law No. _____

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

Bill No. 200-30 (COR)

As amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.

T. C. Ada

F. B. Aguon, Jr.

F. F. Blas, Jr.

E. J.B. Calvo

B. J.F. Cruz

J. V. Espaldon

Judith P. Guthertz, DPA

T. R. Muña Barnes

v. c. pangelinan

M. J. Rector

R. J. Respicio

Ray Tenorio

Telo Taitague

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

AN ACT TO ADJUST THE COMPENSATION OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF GUAM TO BE COMPARABLE AND EQUITABLE WITH OTHER LEGAL OFFICER POSITIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM, BY *AMENDING* §30116(a), CHAPTER 30, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND *REPEALING* §30116(b), CHAPTER 30, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.

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

2 **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** Public Law 25-44, enacted
3 on June 9, 1999, established the compensation for Guam's elected Attorney
4 General (AG). The annual compensation for the elected office was fixed at ninety

1 percent (90%) of the annual compensation of a judge of the Superior Court of
 2 Guam, which translates currently to Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000) per
 3 annum. Since the enactment of Public Law 25-44 ten (10) years ago, other legal
 4 officer positions were established, each with a compensation prevailing at the time
 5 for the position.

6 Since 1999, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that the compensation level of
 7 other legal officer positions within the government of Guam service, which
 8 compare in function and responsibility to that of the Attorney General of Guam,
 9 has risen significantly. For example, currently the annual compensation of the
 10 following legal officer positions that compare to the elected Attorney General in
 11 function and responsibility are as follows:

TITLE	SALARY	BENEFITS	TOTAL
Public Defender Services Corp			
Director (Chief Attorney) (MN)	\$120,000.00	\$35,061.00	\$155,061.00
Civil Service Commission Legal			
Counsel (RK)	\$121,762.00	\$34,413.00	\$156,175.00
Port Authority of Guam Legal Counsel			
(FY 08 Legal Services Contract			
Expenditure) (LAP&As.)	\$577,939.00		\$577,939.00
Guam Airport Authority Legal			
Counsel (FY08 Legal Services			
Contract Expenditure)(MMS&T)	\$800,000.00		\$800,000.00
University of Guam Legal Counsel			
(VR)	\$111,667.00	\$31,897.00	\$143,564.00
Guam Public School System Legal	\$102,520.00	\$27,496.00	\$130,016.00

Counsel (FN)

Attorney General of Guam (AL)	\$90,000.00	\$27,873.00	\$117,873.00
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* Denotes Full Benefits Including Leave, Medical and Dental

1 It is, therefore, the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to adjust the
2 compensation of the Attorney General of Guam to be comparable and equitable
3 with other legal officer positions of the government of Guam by amending
4 §30116(a), Chapter 30, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, and to repeal §30116(b),
5 Chapter 30, Title 5 Guam Code Annotated.

6 **Section 2.** §30116(a), Chapter 30, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, is
7 hereby *amended* to read:

8 “(a) The Attorney General *shall* be compensated in twenty-six (26)
9 equal installments for an annual salary of One Hundred Twenty Thousand
10 Dollars (\$120,000).”

11 **Section 3.** §30116(b), Chapter 30, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, is
12 hereby *repealed* in its entirety.

13 **Section 4. Effective Date.** This Act *shall* become effective on the 1st day
14 of January, 2011.