EDDIE BAZA CALVO Governor



Office of the Governor of Guam

**RAY TENORIO** Lieutenant Governor

Won Pat, Ed. D.

DEC 1 6 2013

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

Dear Madame Speaker:

Attached is Bill No. 134-32 (COR), entitled, "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 67110 TO CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO RECOGNIZING THE OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AS THE OFFICIAL LOCAL AGENCY FOR ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING THE "GUAM VETERANS REGISTRY," WHICH SHALL BE UTILIZED FOR ENUMERATING THE POPULATION OF VETERANS ON GUAM. AND FOR THE USE OF SUCH INFORMATION FOR INCREASING OR ACQUIRING NECESSARY HEALTH CARE AND OTHER RELEVANT SERVICES TO BENEFIT VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES," which lapsed into law as Public Law 32-101.

The passage of new Public Law 32-101 re-affirms the commitment of I Liheslatura and my Administration to supporting our Guam veterans. As drafted, however, Public Law 32-101 represents an unfunded mandate, and compliance with the requirements for establishing and maintaining a Guam Veterans Registry on a semiannual basis will be difficult without a sufficient appropriation from I Liheslatura. I urge I Liheslatura to follow-up by providing the Office of Veterans Affairs with the means necessary to carry out the obligations imposed upon it by this new law.

Senseramente,

EDDIE BAZA CALVO Governor of Guam

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## I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2013 (FIRST) Regular Session

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

This is to certify that Bill No. 134-32 (COR), "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 67110 TO CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO RECOGNIZING THE OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AS THE OFFICIAL LOCAL AGENCY FOR ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING THE "GUAM VETERANS REGISTRY," WHICH SHALL BE UTILIZED FOR ENUMERATING THE POPULATION OF VETERANS ON GUAM, AND FOR THE USE OF SUCH INFORMATION FOR INCREASING OR ACQUIRING NECESSARY HEALTH CARE AND OTHER RELEVANT SERVICES TO BENEFIT VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES", was on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of November 2013, duly and regularly passed.

Attested:  Tina Rose Muña Barnes Legislative Secretary	Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D. Speaker
This Act was received by <i>I Maga'laher</i> 2013, at \\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	
APPROVED:	Assistant Staff Officer  Maga'lahi's Office
EDWARD J.B. CALVO	
I Maga'lahen Guåhan	

### I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2013 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 134-32 (COR)

As amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

T. C. Ada

V. Anthony Ada

B. J.F. Cruz

Chris M. Dueñas

Michael T. Limtiaco

Brant T. McCreadie

**Tommy Morrison** 

T. R. Muña Barnes

Vicente (ben) C. Pangelinan

R. J. Respicio

Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.

Michael F. Q. San Nicolas

Aline A. Yamashita, Ph.D.

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 67110 TO CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO RECOGNIZING THE OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS **OFFICIAL** THE LOCAL **AGENCY** ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING THE "GUAM VETERANS REGISTRY," WHICH SHALL BE UTILIZED FOR **ENUMERATING** THE **POPULATION** VETERANS ON GUAM, AND FOR THE USE OF SUCH INFORMATION FOR INCREASING OR ACQUIRING NECESSARY HEALTH CARE AND OTHER RELEVANT SERVICES TO BENEFIT VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

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

- 2 Section 1. Establishment of a Guam Veterans Registry. A new §67110
- 3 of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, relative to the Office of Veterans
- 4 Affairs, is hereby added to read as follows:

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#### "§ 67110. Guam Veterans Registry.

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The Office of Veterans Affairs shall be responsible for the establishment and maintenance of a Guam Veterans Registry (Registry), which shall be updated no less than semiannually. The update of the Registry shall entail the addition of newly registered veterans residing on Guam, and the scrubbing of the list to ensure that the names of veterans who no longer reside on the island or who have passed away are deleted from the Registry. The Registry shall be utilized by the Office for the purposes of providing Guam veterans and their families with current information on veterans' benefits and activities, through the use of its webpage or other means deemed necessary that would ensure the maximum dissemination of veteran-related information; and for the validation of Guam's veteran population to further strengthen the Office's ability to pursue financial resources and support in the provision of services or programs for the benefit of Guam's veterans and their families. The Office may use data collected at other government agencies which may be collecting the required data, in whole or in part. Nothing herein shall relieve the duty of any other entity to collect veterans' data for the benefit of veterans on Guam.

All government of Guam entities, whenever applicable, *shall* render assistance to the Office of Veterans Affairs in carrying out the provisions contained herein."

**Section 2. Effective Date.** The provisions contained herein *shall* be effective upon enactment of this Act.