EDDIE BAZA CALVOGovernor



RAY TENORIO
Lieutenant Governor

32-13-562

Office of the Speaker

Received by

Office of the Governor of Guam

July 8, 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. 89-32 (COR), entitled, "An Act to add a new Article 17 to Chapter 22, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, relative to creating the Responsible Receivables Fund," which I have vetoed.

Bill 89-32 is well intentioned in that it seeks to identify additional revenue sources for the Government of Guam. However, the mechanism it creates for doing so is technically problematic and unfeasible.

First, interest and penalties from collections are not "unallocated cash resources," despite being identified as such by Bill 89-32. Rather, these revenues are already identified and allocated in the Interest & Penalties section of the Department of Administration's *Monthly Revenue Report* to *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* as "Income Taxes."

Second, the bill diverts collection revenues away from the General Fund, thereby restricting funds that are used for General Fund expenditures. Unless *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* correspondingly reduces projected tax revenues in the FY2013 and future appropriation bills, the result will be deficit spending and an unbalanced budget.

Third, Bill 89-32 is duplicative with respect to the prioritization of expenditures. Unallocated cash resources are only realized at the end of the fiscal year. Current Guam law already requires that any funds collected above projections be used towards the payments of court-ordered judgments, prior year obligations, etcetera.

Finally, Bill 89-32 has the general effect of limiting the Government of Guam's ability to address liabilities. Revenue projection is based on actual collections from the last three years and adjusted for organic growth. The alleged unallocated cash revenues have already been factored and accounted for in these projections. Restricting the Government of Guam's ability to manage finances will impair its ability to provide basic services, and is not in the best interests of the island.

Senseramente,

EDDIE BAZA CALVO

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. 89-32 (COR), "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW ARTICLE 17 TO CHAPTER 22, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO CREATING THE RESPONSIBLE RECEIVABLES FUND", was on the 24th day of June, 2013, duly and regularly passed.

Acting Speaker_ Attested: Thomas C. Ada **Acting Legislative Secretary** Assistant Staff Officer Maga'lahi's Office APPROVED. EDWARD J.B. CALVO I Maga'lahen Guåhan Date: ____JUL 0 5 2013 Public Law No.

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

Bill No. 89-32 (COR)

As amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

Vicente (ben) C. Pangelinan
T. C. Ada
T. R. Muña Barnes
R. J. Respicio
Aline A. Yamashita, Ph.D.
V. Anthony Ada
Frank B. Aguon, Jr.
B. J.F. Cruz
Chris M. Dueñas
Michael T. Limtiaco
Brant T. McCreadie
Tommy Morrison
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Michael F. Q. San Nicolas

AN ACT TO *ADD* A NEW ARTICLE 17 TO CHAPTER 22, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO CREATING THE RESPONSIBLE RECEIVABLES FUND.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

- 2 Section 1. Short Title. This Act shall be cited as the "Responsible
- 3 Receivables Fund Act."
- 4 Section 2. Legislative Findings and Intent. I Liheslaturan Guåhan finds
- 5 that the annual budgets of the government of Guam are based upon projected
- 6 revenues.

I Liheslaturan Guåhan further finds that revenues from accounts receivable and interest and penalties from collections items of the Department of Revenue and Taxation older than one year are unallocated cash resources.

I Liheslatura further finds that these unallocated cash resources become discretionary spending resources that make up for budget shortfalls, subsidizing the practice of poor spending practices, poor collections, or both.

I Liheslatura finds that these unallocated cash resources must be spent prudently on non-recurring expense items and investments in capital improvement projects and durable goods with extended useful lives, to maximize the return on investment.

Therefore, it is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to set aside unpredictable sources of revenue, accounts receivable and interest and penalties on collections items of the Department of Revenue and Taxation older than one year, by *adding* a new Article 17 to Chapter 22, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated.

Section 3. Responsible Receivables Fund. A new Article 17 is hereby *added* to Chapter 22, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, to read:

17	"ARTICLE 17
18	RESPONSIBLE RECEIVABLES FUND
19	§ 221701. Creation.
20	§ 221702. Separate Fund and Bank Account.
21	§ 221703. Administration of the Responsible Receivables Fund.
22	§ 221704. Expenditures from the Responsible Receivables Fund.
23	§ 221705. Annual Audit.
24	§ 221701. Creation.
25	There is hereby created, separate and apart from all other funds
26	of the government of Guam, a fund known as the Responsible
27	Receivables Fund.

§ 221702. Separate Fund and Bank Account.

The Responsible Receivables Fund *shall not* be commingled with the General Fund or any other funds of the government of Guam and *shall* be maintained in a separate bank account, administered by the Director of the Department of Administration in accordance with this Article.

§ 221703. Administration of the Responsible Receivables Fund.

Unless otherwise provided by law or prevented by contract, the following shall be deposited or transferred into the Responsible Receivables Fund:

- (a) all collections by the Department of Revenue and Taxation of accounts receivable older than twelve months; and
- (b) all interest and penalties from collections items of the Department of Revenue and Taxation older than twelve months.

§ 221704. Expenditures from the Responsible Receivables Fund.

- (a) Expenditures from the Responsible Receivables Fund *may* be authorized by legislative appropriation. Said appropriation *shall not* exceed the amount of money held in the Fund. Expenditures from the Responsible Receivables Fund *shall* be limited to payments toward:
 - (1) court-ordered amounts owed by the government of Guam:
 - (2) prior fiscal years' contractual obligations outstanding and payable;
 - (3) prior fiscal years' accrued and unpaid wages due to government of Guam employees;
 - (4) prior fiscal years' merit pay bonuses accrued and unpaid;

- (5) the procurement of medical supplies for the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority;
- (6) education expenses to comply with the Adequate Education Act:
- (7) capital improvement projects with an estimated useful life of five or more years, for agencies dealing with education, health, public safety, or services for individuals with disabilities;
- (8) procurement of durable goods with an estimated useful life of five (5) or more years, for agencies dealing with education, health, public safety, or services for individuals with disabilities; and/or
- (9) advanced prepayment of existing debt obligations of the government of Guam as defined by bond covenants, municipal lease agreements, or financial institution loan provisions.
- (b) The Responsible Receivables Fund *shall not* be subject to *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*'s transfer authority, or any other law allowing use or transfer of special funds. Revenues to and expenditures from the Responsible Receivables Fund are restricted to *only* those authorized by *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* in subsequent Acts. All interest and investment earnings of the Responsible Receivables Fund *shall* remain in the Fund until appropriated and expended pursuant to this Subsection.

§ 221705. Annual Audit.

The Office of Public Accountability *shall* perform an annual audit of the Responsible Receivables Fund and the compliance of the Director of the Department of Administration with the expenditure of such funds within the Responsible Receivables Fund in accordance with the administration and exclusive purposes of this Article. Said audit *shall* include, but is *not* limited

to, the revenues to the Responsible Receivables Fund and the expenditures from the Responsible Receivables Fund. The OPA *shall* prepare and provide a written report of compliance *no later than* ninety days after the end of the fiscal year to *I Maga'lahen Guåhan* and to the Speaker of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*."