

EDDIE BAZA CALVO
Governor
RAY TENORIO

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D

Received By: ..

Lieutenant Governor

Office of the Governor of Guam.

March 17, 2016

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

Dear Madame Speaker:

Pursuant to my authority under the Organic Act of Guam, I am transmitting herewith the attached proposed legislation entitled, An Act Relative to the Salary Pay Adjustments Received by the Unclassified Employees of the Office of I Maga'lahen Guahan and the Office of I Segundu Na Maga'lahen Guahan.

On behalf of the hard working employees of Adelup who are part of our "one government of Guam" family, I thank the *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* for its fair consideration of this bill.

Senseramente.

EDDIE BAZA CALVO

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

Bill No33	
Introduced by:	
	By request of <i>I Maga'Låhen Guåhan</i> , the Governor of Guam, in accordance with the Organic Act of Guam.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE SALARY PAY ADJUSTMENTS RECEIVED BY THE UNCLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES OF THE OFFICE OF *I MAGA'LAHEN GUAHAN* AND THE OFFICE OF *I SEGUNDU NA MAGA'LAHEN GUAHAN*.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

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consulting firm.

Section 1. Findings and Intent. On January 15, 2014, the Governor issued Executive Order 2006-21, the *Government of Guam Competitive Wage Act* of 2014 ("CWA"), which was transmitted and received by the Guam Legislature. The CWA is a plan authorized and funded by P.L. 32-068:XI(2) to raise the compensation, and adjust the classification and benefits of, government of Guam employees based upon a 2010 assessment by the Hay Group, a global management

- 1 With the transmittal of Executive Order 2006-21, the CWA went into effect
- 2 for certain General Pay Plan employees, namely, nurses, teachers, and government
- 3 attorneys as of January 15, 2014. On March 7, 2014, P.L. 32-136 lapsed into law,
- 4 repealing the CWA pay adjustments for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor,
- 5 Senators, Attorney General, Public Auditor, and appointed cabinet members of the
- 6 Executive Branch. In September 2014, the CWA went into effect for the
- 7 remaining employees under the General Pay Plan.
- 8 On June 24, 2014, P.L. 32-166 was signed into law, authorizing the
- 9 Judiciary to raise the salaries of its classified and unclassified employees in
- 10 accordance with the CWA and to retroactively pay these salaries back to the date
- 11 of January 15, 2014.
- On November 21, 2014, P.L. 32-208 was signed into effect, repealing P.L.
- 13 32-136 and increasing the salaries of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Senators,
- 14 Attorney General, and appointed cabinet members in accordance with the CWA,
- and retroactively paying these salaries back to the date of January 15, 2014.
- On December 17, 2014, and in accordance with the Governor's instructions,
- 17 the salaries of about 107 unclassified Adelup employees were adjusted and
- increased pursuant to the Governor's authority under Title 4 G.C.A. Section 6207
- and 6207.1. The Governor recognized the hard work and efforts of the staff at
- 20 Adelup, and further recognized that for nearly two years the members of the

- 1 Adelup staff had voluntarily taken a 10% pay cut in order to help the government's
- 2 finances.
- 3 However, due to the limitations of the government's payroll software
- 4 system, DOA was unable to input the pay adjustments to have an effective date of
- 5 December 15, 2014, as was originally instructed. Therefore, in order to go forward
- 6 with processing the pay adjustments, DOA instructed the Governor's Office to
- 7 input the earlier effective date of January 26, 2014 on the GG-1s.
- 8 On December 10, 2015, the Attorney General opined that because of the
- 9 January 26, 2014, effective date on the GG-1s, the Adelup salary adjustments
- 10 represented "retroactive compensation for each individual employee in violation of
- 11 Guam's anti-retroactive payment statutes." The Attorney General concluded that,
- 12 "This matter can only be resolved through repayment of the retroactive pay
- 13 adjustments by each individual employee, or through legislative action. It is not
- 14 unprecedented for the Legislature to take action where employees relied in good
- 15 faith." (Citing, P.L. 30-126, codified at 4 G.C.A. § 6205.2(c), which ratified three
- 16 years worth of unauthorized pay increases received by employees in the Office of
- 17 Public Accountabilty).
- The Legislature agrees with the opinion of the Attorney General and finds
- 19 that the pay adjustments received by the Adelup employees were made in good
- 20 faith. The Legislature finds that it is in the best interest of the Territory and the

- 1 Government of Guam to allow the Governor to compensate his staff and the Lt.
- 2 Governor's staff consistent with the spirit and intent of the CWA.
- 3 Section 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the retroactive
- 4 payment of the salaries of the Office of *I Maga'lahen Guahan* and the Office of *I*
- 5 Segundu Na Maga'lahen Guahan, paid pursuant to those GG-1s issued by the
- 6 Governor's Office and the Lt. Governor's Office to the Department of
- Administration on or about December 15, 2014, with an effective date of January
- 8 26, 2014, are hereby deemed authorized and valid under law.
- 9 Section 3. Effective Date. This Act shall become effective upon
- 10 enactment.
- 11 Section 4. Severability. If any provision of this Act or its application to
- 12 any person or circumstance is found to be invalid or contrary to law, such
- invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be
- 14 given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the
- provisions of this Act are severable.