

THIRTEENTH GUAM LEGISLATURE  
1975 (FIRST) Regular Session

CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO THE GOVERNOR

This is to certify that Bill No. 326, "An Act establishing a special commission on the political status of Guam", was on the 4th day of June, 1975, duly and regularly passed.

Joseph F. Ada  
JOSEPH F. ADA  
Speaker

ATTESTED:

Concepcion C. Barrett  
CONCEPCION C. BARRETT  
Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by the Governor this 5th day of June, 1975 at 4:15 o'clock P.M.

Ruth F. Won Pat  
RUTH F. WON PAT  
Assistant Staff Officer  
Governor's Office

APPROVED:

[Signature]  
RICARDO J. BORDALLO  
Governor of Guam

DATED: June 6, 1975  
10:47 AM  
P.L. 13-24

THIRTEENTH GUAM LEGISLATURE  
1975 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 326

Introduced by

J. F. Ada  
V. D. Ada  
C. C. Barrett  
F. F. Blas  
E. T. Charfauros  
A. L. Cristobal  
E. R. Duenas  
J. R. Duenas  
R. P. Duenas  
C. T.C. Gutierrez  
B. M. Palomo  
J. M. Rivera  
G. R. Salas  
A. C. Sanchez  
F. R. Santos  
R. F. Taitano  
T. V.C. Tanaka  
A. C. Ysrael

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL COMMISSION  
ON THE POLITICAL STATUS OF GUAM.

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

Section 1. Legislative findings. The Legislature finds:

(a) That previous attempts to concern the general public with questions about Guam's political status have been inconclusive because of a lack of general information on and understanding of the subject as well as a lack of direction and impermanence for those who involve themselves in this vital and important subject.

(b) That previous studies of Guam's political status along with other information available, provides the basic information from which a new Political Status Commission may set its goals and timetables.

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1 (c) That a resolution of some of Guam's basic  
2 economic, social and political questions should be sought  
3 within the framework of Political Status negotiations with  
4 the Federal government with all due speed.

5 (d) That only through Political Status negotiations  
6 with the Federal government will major federal controls  
7 such as the continued application of the Jones Act to  
8 Guam Shipping, the agricultural import restrictions created  
9 by federal regulations, the Immigration & Naturalization  
10 laws of the United States, the Organic Act of Guam and the  
11 inability to meaningfully participate in International  
12 Organizations and share economic ideas and programs with  
13 Guam's neighbors can ever be removed.

14 (e) That a wide-ranging educational campaign  
15 involving the media, educational institutions and the  
16 political institutions of Guam must be undertaken before  
17 any determination of Guam's Political Status desires may  
18 be made.

19 (f) That the individual components which make up any  
20 Political Status position should be focused upon and  
21 discussed, rather than the political titles Guam should  
22 seek.

23 (g) That the membership of a Commission concerned  
24 with Political Status should be as broad as possible to  
25 ensure that all points of view are discussed and  
26 considered.

27 Section 2. Members of Commission. Qualifications and

1 members thereof. The Political Status Commission shall be  
2 composed of thirteen (13) members, including three (3)  
3 members from the Executive Office or cabinet appointed by  
4 the Governor, three (3) Senators appointed by the Minority  
5 Leader of the Thirteenth Guam Legislature, four (4) Senators  
6 appointed by the Speaker and three (3) members of the general  
7 public appointed by the Speaker.

8 Section 3. Purposes of Commission. The Commission shall  
9 be established for the following purposes in descending  
10 order of priority:

11 (a) To set the goals of the Commission, among  
12 which shall be a Plebiscite on Political Status no later  
13 than the 1976 Primary Election;

14 (b) To set a definite timetable for accomplishment  
15 of goals;

16 (c) To identify components of Political Status  
17 that most likely would be included as points of discussion  
18 in any status negotiations;

19 (d) To develop a system to interest and educate  
20 the people about each component of Political Status  
21 identified above;

22 (e) To hold public hearings and otherwise encourage  
23 public forum events to discuss Political Status components;

24 (f) To draft and submit to the Legislature enabling  
25 legislation for a Plebiscite for the 1976 Primary Election  
26 giving the public the chance to formulate a Guam position  
27 on each individual component of Political Status; and

1 (g) To submit to the Legislature, no later than one  
2 (1) year after the effective date of this Act, recommended  
3 legislation restructuring the Political Status Commission  
4 to give it a greater degree of continuity and broadbased  
5 representation.

6 Section 4. Organization meeting. The Speaker shall  
7 call the first meeting of the Political Status Commission,  
8 which shall devote itself to organizing the Commission, adopting  
9 rules of order governing procedure and to elect a chairman  
10 from among the members, the Speaker to initially preside at such  
11 organizational meeting until the members have elected their  
12 chairman.

13 Section 5. All meetings of the Political Status Commission  
14 shall be open to the public.

15 Section 6. Report to the Legislature. The Political  
16 Status Commission shall, no later than November 15, 1976,  
17 report to the Legislature on its accomplishments in terms of  
18 its previously set goals and timetable.

19 "Section 7. The staff of the Guam Legislature shall give  
20 such support and assistance to the Special Commission on the  
21 Political Status of Guam as is necessary."

22 "Section 8. Continuation. The Commission created by this  
23 Act shall continue its operations, with the same membership,  
24 until succeeded by another legally constituted Political Status  
25 Commission."