FOURTEENTH GUAM LEGISLATURE 1977 (FIRST) Regular Session

CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO THE GOVERNOR

This is to certify that Substitute Bill No. 273, "An Act to appropriate funds for reimbursement of CETA funds and for other purposes," was on the 15th day of April, 1977, duly and regularly passed.

ATTESTED:

ERNESTO M.

PL 14-21

This Act was received by the Governor this 18th April , 1977, at 3:05 o'clock / .M.

Assistant Staff Officer

Governor's Office

Though I take exception to the statements made in the Legislative findings. The findings contained several statements that are inaccurate or ill-informed. The following is a statement of Executive Findings: Pertinent information related to the statement of Legislative findings are hereby provided

for your guidance. Application for Grant on Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) Titles I, II, and VI have been submitted on schedule.

Title I - Covering the period of Α. October 1, 1976 to November 30, 1977 was in the process for submission,

however as per instruction of Mr. Pickens, he instructed extension of the existing Title I budget which would have ended on September 1976 to December 1976. This was approved by Mr. Royce Halsey on December 30, 1976. The period covering January 1, 1977 to September 30, 1977 was resubmitted on December 29, 1976 to the Regional Office at San Francisco. Mr. Pickens in early January via telephone informed the Guam Director of Labor that the grant package still need corrections. Mr. Umagat suggested to Mr. Pickens to good a letter to Guar out tions. Mr. Umagat suggested to Mr. Pickens to send a letter to Guam outlining the deficiencies so that corrections could be made and ready for his review when he arrive Guam, but Mr. Pickens said that he will handcarry the package to Guam. At this point, Mr. Umagat had expressed his concern in spending Title I funds without an approved grant, but Mr. Pickens assured him that he will take care of this matter at his end. Mr. Pickens arrived Chang Mebruary 5th but was not able to confer with the Labor officials until Mubruary 7th. Discussion on the matter was held at the Department of Labor and corrections as per his instructions were made. Acting CECA Administrator handcarried the application on Mebruary 16, 1977 to the Regional Office upon instruction of Mr. Charles Fickens. The Acting Administrator upon her

return to Guam brought back the application for corrections. ... This application was still pending with our Office for compliance with the new instructions provided by Mr. Pickens.

- B. Title IT This application was submitted to Regional Office on January 14, 1977 to cover period beginning January 1, 1977 to September 30, 1977 and was approved on January 31, 1977. Therefore, the reimbursement required by Region IX is improper.
- C. Title VI Application covering the period January 1, 1977 to September 30, 1977 was submitted to the Regional Office on January 14, 1977. Application was prepared for full funding.

On February 3, 1977, a call from Miss Alice Freeman was received by the CETA Accountant and a cable was send on the same date by Miss Freeman advising us that they were recommending conditional approval and funding pending submission of up-to-date narratives. Narrative submitted were based on the old federal guidelines because Guam Department of Labor has not been furnished the new guidelines specified in CETA Bulletin 49-76. Miss Alice Freeman in the cable stated that new guidelines will be mailed to Guam on February 2, 1977 but we have not received the copy as of March 17, 1977. Expenditures of \$147,863 for Title VI was based on information provided by Miss Freeman in her telex dated February 3, 1977.

Please take note that on February 23, Mr. Pickens made a confirmation of our application on Title VI in his letter to the Director of Labor pointing out the areas needing correction on Title VI application based on CETA Bulletin 49-76 which was never received by Guam Labor Department nor is it included in the letter giving Guam until February 25, 1977 to complete the changes and corrections required. The letter did not arrive on Guam until February 28, 1977. The Director of Labor made a reply on March 1, 1977 addressed to Mr. Charles Pickens.

To assure that substantive efforts are made to remedy the deficiencies in the program and to properly apply for federal grants to continue the CETA programs, the Governor appointed a Task

Force to recommend and oversee the implementation of needed changes.

1. The Governor has ordered that the positions of CETA

FOURTEENTH GUAM LEGISLATURE 1977 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 273 Substituted by the Committee on Finance and Taxation

Introduced by

E. M. Calvo B. M. Palono F. F. Blas

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF CETA FUNDS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Section 1. Statement of Legislative Findings. The Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) has fulfilled an important function in the territory of Guam since 1974, helping hundreds of unemployed individuals obtain job training and ultimately, full-time employment in the public and private sectors of Guam's aconomy. Since 1976, despite federal audit reports and formal notification of serious problems in the local administration of the CETA programs, meither the Governor, as prime sponsor of the CETA program on Guam, nor his subgrantae, the Guam Department of Labor, have engaged in substantive efforts to remedy the recognized deficiencies in the program or to properly apply for federal grants to continue the CETA programs for the succeeding fiscal year.

The Federal government, having received no proper grant applications or adequate answers to a seven (7) month old letter detailing serious charges against the administration of the local CETA program, terminated all federal support for the local CETA program as of December 31, 1976, their previously stated deadline. Nonetheless, the local sponsor and his subgrantee continued to draw funds through a federal letter-of-credit and improperly expended such funds to continue the CETA program beyond the December 31, 1976

deadline in the sum of One Hundred Eighty-Seven Thousand 1 Five Hundred Seventy-Seven Dollars (\$187,577). 2 The Legislature finds that it is necessary to refund 3 the sum of One Hundred Eighty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Seventy-Seven Dollars (\$187,577) to the Federal government 5 in order to ensure that efforts to reinstate federal funding 6 of Guam's CRTA program are immediately begun. 7 8 In addition, local funds from an as yet unidentified budget source were unlawfully expended to continue the local 0 CETA program until pay period ending March 26, 1977. On 10 April 11, 1977, the Director of the Guam Department of 11 Labor notified CETA participants that further local funds 12 were not available unless the Fourteenth Guam Legislature 13 14 appropriated local funds to operate the federal CETA program. 15 The Legislature finds that CETA participants should be paid for the week they worked before being terminated by 16 the Governor because neither federal nor local funds were 17 available to pay them. 18 19 During the three (3) month period of January-March 1977, 20 the CETA program operated with local funds but without 21 legislative authorization. In excess of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) of local funds were expanded by 22 the Governor and the Guam Department of Labor. 23 The Legislature finds that any appropriation made by 24 this Act shall not be construed as forgiving any mis-25 appropriation of funds by the CETA sponsor or the CETA 26 27 subgrantee. 28 After meeting with federal officials concerning the termination of federal funding of the Guam CETA program; 29 30 after several days of receiving testimony from those individuals responsible for the sponsorship and administra-31 tion of the Guam CETA program; and upon formal written 32 - 2 -

request of the federal representative for Guam and the Trust 1 Territory on GETA matters, the Legislature determined that 2 it had reason to subposus all local CETA records for safe-3 keeping, audit and possible criminal charges for alleged 4 improper payments by Special Assistants to the Governor 5 and local government of Guam department of Labor officials. 6 The Legislature finds that both the prime sponsor of 7 the Guam CETA program, the Governor of Guam, and the sub-8 grantee, the Guam Department of Labor, by their inactions 9 and questionable actions concerning the local CETA program, 10 are unfit to continue in any capacity to administer the 11 federal CETA program, and therefore the Legislature respect-1.2 fully requests the Federal Department of Labor Regional 13 Administrator for Employment and Training Administration. 14 or his designee, to designate a new prime sponsor for the 15 Guam CETA program. 16 The Legislature finds that although the federally-17 funded CBTA program for Guam has been and should continue 18 to be an important vehicle in the training and job placement 19 of a large number of unemployed individuals on Guam, the 20 Legislature must look to the broader responsibilities it 21 carries to the whole territory in determining that it cannot 22 fund a continuation of the federal CETA program from scarce 23 local funds. 24

The Legislature finds that if every good faith effort is made by all local parties involved in the administration of the CETA program a rapid reinstatement of federal funds for the renewal of the Guam CETA program can occur.

The Legislature pledges that it will exert every affort to expedite the reinstatement of federal funding for the Guam CETA program and to that end, the Legislature respectfully requests the Federal Department of Labor Regional

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Administrator for Employment and Training Administration, or his designee, to move with all dispatch to respond to the good faith efforts of the Legislature to resolve federal concerns over the administration of the Guam CETA program.

Section 2. There is hereby appropriated One Hundred Eighty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Seventy-Seven Dollars (\$187,577) from the General Fund to the Guam Legislature Operations Fund for reimbursement to the Federal government of overdrawn CETA funds.

Section 3. The sum appropriated in Section 2 shall be used for raimbursement of the U.S. Federal government Department of Labor Region 9 Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) funds.

Section 4. The sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) is appropriated from any available funds in the General Fund to the Departmentof Labor to fund salaries of CETA employees for the period beginning March 27, 1977 and ending April 9, 1977.

Section 5. This Act shall be effective upon enactment.