Territory of Guam Teritorion Guam OFFICE OF THE OOVERNOR UFISINAN I MAGA LAHI EC-AGANA, OL AM 96910 U S 13 MAL The Honorable joe T. San Agustin Speaker Twentieth Guam Legislature Agana, Guam 96910

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Transmitted herewith is Substitute Bill No. 431 which I have signed into law this date as Public Law 20=159.

For the past several months, this administration has been addressing the need to provide services to the growing number of homeless people on our island. Recently, the Department of Public Helath and Social Services awarded a contract to Catholic Social Services to open a shelter, to provide temporary housing and which will serve two meals daily. A service center known as a drop in center will assist the homeless in obtaining government services such as counseling, medical care, housing, employment, schooling and so forth. To date this project has been funded through federal funds,

However, as we face an ever increasing number of homeless people on Guam, we must also face the requirement for use of I note that the measure states how local local funds. but fails appropriations may be used 20 make any appropriation. If the department i s unable to fully implement the needed program without local funds, 1 will seek funding. For now, the current contract will soon alleviate many of the critical needs of our less fortunate brothers and sisters.

Cordially,

/JOSÉPH F. ADA Governor 200797 TWENTIETH GUAM LEGISLATURE 1990 (SECOND) Regular Session

CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO THE GOVERNOR

This is to certify that Substitute Bill No. 431 (COR), "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 16 TO TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THE HOMELESS," was on the 7th day of March, 1990, duly and regularly passed.

Speaker

Attested:

PILAR C. LUJA

Senator and Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by the Governor this 9^{μ} day of March, 1990, at 4:52 o'clock p.m.

Assistant Staff Officer Governor's Office

APPROVED:

JOSEPH F. ADA

Governor of Guam

MAR 2 1 1990 Date:

Public Law No. 20-159

TWENTIETH GUAM LEGISLATURE 1990 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 431 (COR) As substituted by the Committee on Rules

Introduced by:

- E. P. Arriola
- H. D. Dierking
- T. S. Nelson
- P. C. Lujan
- M. Z. Bordallo
- J. P. Aguon
- C. T. C. Gutierrez
- G. Mailloux
- D. Parkinison
- F. J. A. Quitugua
- E. D. Reyes
- F. R. Santos
- J. T. San Agustin
- E. R. Duenas
- M. C. Ruth
- J. G. Bamba
- D. F. Brooks
- E. M. Espaldon
- M. D. A. Manibusan
- T. V. C. Tanaka
- A. R. Unpingco

AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 16 TO TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THE HOMELESS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORY OF GUAM: Section 1. Legislative Intent. It is the policy of this Legislature to help provide shelter and essential social services to homeless individuals so that these individuals may have access not only to safe and sanitary shelter, but also to gainful employment and other supportive services they may need to make their lives better.

7 Section 2. Chapter 16 is hereby added to Title 10, Guam Code
8 Annotated, to read:

1	"Chapter 16
2	Assistance to the Homeless
3	\$16101. Definitions. As used in this Chapter, unless the context
4	requires a different meaning:
5	(a) "Shelter" means any facility with sleeping
6	accommodations and acceptable sanitary facilities, the primary
7	purpose of which to provide temporary shelter to the homeless.
8	This definition encompasses transitional housing and similar
9	arrangements that provide longer term accommodations, so long as
10	the maximum length of stay does not exceed twelve months.
11	(b) "Department" means the the Department of Public Health
12	and Social Services.
13	(c) "Homeless" means families or individuals who are
14	economically disadvantaged and have no access to shelter.
15	\$16102. Administration. It is the duties and responsibility of the
16	Department to initiate and administer a pilot program for the homeless.
17	The Department shall with its own personnel and facilities:
18	(a) Conduct an island-wide assessment of the homeless
19	situation. Such survey must include the following: Numbers,
20	ages, ethnicity and gender, the nature and extent of the
21	problems relating to homelessness, the immediate and long term
22	needs of the homeless in Guam;
23	(b) Survey existing programs that provide to the homeless
24	population;
25	(c) Establish criteria for eligibility of services under this
26	Chapter, which criteria should include consideration of:
27	1. Individuals who because of personal/domestic and/or
28	financial problems are forced to move out of their place of
29	residence.
30	2. Newly arrived immigrants to the Guam.
31	3. Elderly and disabled adults who are not wanted by
32	their families.
33	4. Persons who temporarily reside with friends or
34	families.

1 5. Persons in transit on island who do not have living accommodations. 2 6. Families with children. 3 (d) Formulate plans and policies with the Agency for Human 4 Resources Development or the Department of Labor for job 5 6 training and job placement for the homeless in order to enable them to develop and maintain their potential skills and abilities; 7 8 (e) Cooperate with civic. businesses and community 9 organizations or groups which provide or sponsor programs and 10 services beneficial to the homeless: (f) Keep the Governor, the Legislature, the municipal 11 12 mayors and the general public informed on all major developments 13 and achievements in programs and services for the homeless; 14 (g) Apply and receive Federal grants or other forms of assistance for the homeless. 15 16 \$16103. Eligible activities. Appropriations under this Chapter 17 may be used for: 18 (a) Contracting shelter for the homeless; 19 (b) Renovation \mathbf{or} conversion of government-owned 20 buildings for use as shelters for the homeless; 21 (c) Essential services to the homeless, including, but not 22limited to, services concerned with employment, physical health, 23 mental health, substance abuse, education or food. 24 \$16104. Ineligible activities. Appropriation under this Chapter 25 may not be used for: 26 (a) Acquisition or construction of shelters for the homeless; 27 (b) Renovation, rehabilitation, or converting buildings 28 owned by religious organizations or by private entities. 29 \$16105. Non-discrimination requirements. Shelter provided under 30 this Chapter may not be denied on the basis of race, color, age, 31 religion, sex, or national origin.

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TWENTIETH GUAM LEGISLATURE 1989 (FIRST) Regular Session

ROLL CALL SHEET

Bill No. <u>431</u>

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Date:	3/7	190

Resolution No.

QUESTION:

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YNFMER

Twentieth Guam Legislature 1989 (First) Regular Session Introducer

FEB 1 4 '89

Bill No. 431 (COR) Introduced by:

E.P. Arriola

AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER TO TITLE 10, GCA, TO BE KNOWN AS THE HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1989

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

Section I. Legislative Intent. It is the policy of this Legislature to help provide shelter and essential social services to homeless individuals, so that these individuals may have access not only to safe and sanitary shelter, but also gainful employment and other supportive services they may need to make their lives better.

Section 2. Definitions. As used in this Chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:

- (a) "Shelter" means any facility with sleeping accomodations, the primary purpose of which is to provide temporary shelter to the homeless. This definition encompasses transitional housing and similar arrangements that provide longer term accomodations, so long as the maximum length of stay does not exceed 12 months.
- (b) "Department" means the Department of Public Health and Social Services.
- (c) "Homeless" means families and individuals who are poor and have no access to shelter.

Section 3. Administration. It is the duties and responsibility of the Department to initiate and administer a pilot program for the homeless. The Department shall:

> (a) Develop a comprehensive plan to identify and establish a registry for the homeless;

- (b) Coordinate or consolidate existing programs and services for the homeless, plan and implement new programs and services where deemed necessary;
- (c) Develop a plan to assist or contract for a decent, safe, and sanitary shelter for the homeless;
- (d) Formulate plans and policies, and coordinate with the Agency for Human Resources Development or Department of Labor for job training and job placement for the homeless in order to enable them to develop or maintain their potential skills and abilities;
- (e) Cooperate with civic, business and community organizations or groups which provide or sponsor programs and services beneficial to the homeless;
- (f) Conduct research relative to the needs and problems of the homeless;
- (g) Keep the Governor, the Guam Legislature, the District Commissioners and the general public informed on all major developments and achievements in programs and services for the homeless;
- (h) Apply and receive federal grants or other forms of assistance for the program.

Section 4. Eligible activities. Appropriation under this Chapter may be used for:

- (a) Contracting shelter for the homeless;
- (b) Renovation or conversion of government owned buildings for use as shelters for the homeless;
- (c) Essential services, including, but not limited to, services concerned with employment, physical health, mental health, substance abuse, education or food.

Section 5. Ineligible activities. Appropriation under this Chapter may not be used for:

*

- (a) Acquisition or construction of shelters for the homeless;
- (b) Renovation, rehabilitation, or converting buildings owned by religious organizations or entities.

Section 6. Non-descrimination requirements. Shelter may not be denied on the basis of race, color, age, religion, sex, or national origin.

Section 7. Appropriation. There is hereby appropriated the sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000) from the General Fund to the Department of Public Health and Social Services for the implementation and administration of this Act.

SENATOR ELIZABETH P. ARRIOLA Chairperson

Committee on Youth, Senior Citizens, Cultural Affairs and Human Resources



Twentieth Guam Legislature

February 6, 1990

- 10

The Honorable Joe T. San Agustin Speaker Twentieth Guam Legislature 163 Chalan Santo Papa Agana, Guam 96910.

VIA: Chairman, Committee on Rules

20-159

Dear Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Youth, Senior Citizens, Cultural Affairs and Human Resources to which were referred Bill No. 431 (COR), "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER TO TITLE 10, GCA, TO BE KNOWN AS THE HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1989", has had the same under consideration and now wishes to report back its recommendation.

Committee votes received:

TO DO PASS	TO NOT PASS	REPORT OUT	OTHER
			CONTRACTOR -
-13-	-0-	-0-	-0-

Attached herewith are the Committee Report and other pertinent documents for your perusal.

Sincerely,

Elizabert Parial

ELIZABETH P. ARRIOLA

Attachments

VOTE SHEET THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH, SENIOR CITIZENS, CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND HUMAN RESOURCES

On Bill No. 431 (COR) - as substituted by the Committee "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER TO TITLE 10, GCA, TO BE KNOWN AS THE HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1989."

To Pass

Not To Pass Report Out

Inactive File

Chairperson:

Frank R. Santos J. George Bamba 11 Madeleine Bordallo Herminia Dienking Edward Duenas Ernesto Espaldon, Gordon Mailloux d D. Reyes Martha C. Ruth

Elizabeth P. Arriola

Member

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Pilar Q

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Joed San Agustin

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COMMITTEE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH, SENIOR CITIZENS, CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND HUMAN RESOURCES ON BILL NO. 431 (COR)

Bill No. 431 - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER TO TITLE 10, GCA, TO BE KNOWN AS THE HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1989.

PREFACE

The Committee on Youth, Senior Citizens, Cultural Affairs and Human Resources held a public hearing in the Legislative Session Hall on November 28, 1989, to receive testimony on **Bill No. 431 (COR)**. The hearing was conducted by Committee Chairperson, Senator Elizabeth P. Arriola and attended by Senators Frank R. Santos, Pilar C. Lujan, Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Thomas V. C. Tanaka and Martha C. Ruth.

TESTIMONY

Dr. Kirk Bellis, Psychiatrist, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, submitted written testimony in support of Bill 431. Dr. Bellis stated that the intent of the bill shows "the needs of many displaced and dispossessed individuals are not going unnoticed by the Legislative body and the people of Guam".

Dr. Leticia V. Espaldon, Director of the Department of Public Health and Social Services, submitted written comments at a later date in support of Bill No. 431.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee on Youth, Senior Citizens, Cultural Affairs and Human Resources, to which was referred *Bill No. 431 - "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER TO TITLE 10, GCA, TO BE KNOWN AS THE HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1989"*, as substituted has had the same under consideration, and now wishes to report back the same with the recommendation of the Committee members as reflected on the attached vote sheet.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Written testimony from Dr. Kirk Bellis, D. O., Psychiatrist, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse.
- 2. Written testimony from Dr. Leticia V. Espaldon, Director, Department of Public Health and Social Services

Twentieth Guam Legislature

1990 (Second) Regular Session

Bill No. <u>431</u> as Substituted by the Committee on Youth, Senior Citizens, Cultural Affairs and Human Resources

Introduced by:

Arriola

AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER TO TITLE 10, M. GARAGE GCA, TO BE KNOWN AS THE HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1989.

¹ BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORY OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Intent. It is the policy of this Legislature to help provide shelter
 and essential social services to homeless individuals, so that these individuals may have access
 not only to safe and sanitary shelter, but also gainful employment and other supportive services
 they may need to make their lives better.

Section 2. Definitions. As used in this Chapter, unless the context requires a different
 meaning:

- 8 (a) "Shelter" means any facility with sleeping accomodations and acceptable 9 sanitary facilities, the primary purpose of which to provide temporary shelter to 10 the homeless. This definition encompasses transitional housing and similar 11 arrangements that provide longer term accomodations, so long as the maxium 12 length of stay does not exceed 12 months.
- 13 (b) "Department" means the Department of Public Health and Social Services.
- 14 (c) "Homeless" means families and/or individuals who are economically

disadvantaged and have no access to shelter.

2 Section 3. Administration. It is the duties and reponsibility of the Department to initiate 3 and administer a pilot program for the homeless. The Department shall:

- (a) Conduct an island-wide assessment of the homeless situation. Survey
 must include the following demographics numbers, ages, ethnicity and
 gender. Also, the nature and extent of the problems relating to
 homelessness. A result of the review must clearly identify and quantify the
 immediate and long term needs of the homeless in Guam;
- 9 (b) Survey existing programs that provides services to the homeless 10 population;
- 11(c) Establish criteria for eligibility of services under this Chapter. Issues to12be considered are:
- 131. Individuals who because of personal/domestic and/or financial problems14are forced to move out of their place or residence.
- 15 2. Newly arrived immigrants to the island.
- 16 3. Elderly and disabled adults who are not wanted by their families.
- 17 4. Persons who temporarily reside with friends or families.
 - 5. Persons in transit on island who do not have living accomodations.
- 19 6. Families with children.

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18

- (d) Formulate plans and policies with the Agency for Human Resources
 Development or Department of Labor for job training and job placement for the
 homeless in order to enable them to develop or maintain their potential skills
 and abilities;
- (e) Cooperate with civic, businesses and community organizations or groups
 which provide or sponsor programs and services beneficial to the homeless;
- (f) Keep the Governor, the Guam Legislature, the District Mayors and
 the general public informed on all major developments and achievements in
 programs and services for the homeless;
- (g) Apply and receive federal grants or other forms of assistance for theprogram.

- Section 4. Eligible activities. Appropriation under this Chapter may be used for:
 - (a) Contracting shelter for the homeless;

1

2

- 3 (b) Renovation or conversion of government owned buildings for use as
 4 shelters for the homeless;
- 5 (c) Essential services, including, but not limited to, services concerned with 6 employment, physical health, mental health, substance abuse, education or 7 food.
- 8 Section 5. Ineligible activities. Appropriation under this Chapter may not be used for:
 9 (a) Acquisition or construction of shelters for the homeless;
- (b) Renovation, rehabilitation, or converting buildings owned by religious
 organizations, and/or private entities.

12 Section 6. Non-discrimination requirements. Shelter may not be denied on the 13 basis of race, color, age, religion, sex, or national origin. SENATOR HERMINIA D. DIERKING CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON RULES

TWENTIETH GUAM LEGISLATURE 163 Chalan Santo Papa Agana, Guam 96910 (671) 472-3438/39

February 21, 1989

MEMORANDUM

 TO: Chairperson, Committee on Ways and Means Committee on Housing and Community Development Committee on Health, Welfare and Ecology Committee on Youth, Human Resources, Senior Citizens and Cultural Affairs
 FROM: Chairperson, Committee on Rules

SUBJECT: Referral - Bill No. 431

_____ The above bill is referred to your Committee. Please note that the referral is subject to ratification by the Committee on Rules at its next meeting.

It is recommended that a joint hearing be coordinated with the Committees involved.

Allenkin

HERMINIA D. DIERKING

Enclosure

Twentieth Guam Legislature

FEB 1 4 '89

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Bill No.<u></3/ (C</u>∂R) Introduced by:

E.P. Arriola

AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER TO TITLE 10, GCA, TO BE KNOWN AS THE HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1989

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF-GUAM:

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- (b) Coordinate or consolidate existing programs and secures for the homeless, plan and implement new programs and services where deemed necessary;
- (c) Develop a plan to assist or contract for a decent, safe, and sanitary shelter for the homeless;
- (d) Formulate plans and policies, and coordinate with the Agency for Human Resources Development or Department of Labor for job training and job placement for the homeless in order to enable them to develop or maintain their potential skills and abilities;
- (e) Cooperate with civic, business and community organizations or groups which provide or sponsor programs and services beneficial to the homeless;
 - (f) Conduct research relative to the needs and problems of the homeless;
- (g) Keep the Governor, the Guam Legislature, the District Commissioners and the general public informed on all major developments and achievements in programs and services for the homeless;
- (h) Apply and receive federal grants or other forms of assistance for the program.

Section 4. Eligible activities. Appropriation under this Chapter may be used tor:

- (a) Contracting shelter for the homeless;
- (b) Renovation or conversion of government owned buildings for use as shelters for the homeless;
- (c) Essential services, including, but not limited to, services concerned with employment, physical health, mental health, substance abuse, education or food.

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(a) Acquisition or construction of shelters for the homeless;

(b) Renovation, rehabilitation, or converting buildings owned by religious organizations or entities.

Section 6. Non-descrimination requirements. Shelter may not be denied on the basis of race, color, age, religion, sex, or national origin.

Section 7. Appropriation. There is hereby appropriated the sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000) from the General Fund to the Department of Public Health and Social Services for the implementation and administration of this Act.



DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

"People Caring For People"

MARILYN L. WINGFIELD Director

> NORY R. SANTZ Deputy Director

November 27, 1989

Senator Madeleine Z. Bordallo Chairperson, Committee on Health, Welfare and Ecology Twentieth Guam Legislature 163 Chalan Santo Papa Agana, Guam 96910

Re: Bill No. 548 and Bill 431

Dear Senator Bordallo:

I applaud the thinking and caring which both Bills 548 and 431 propose. I think they show that the needs of many displaced and dispossesed individuals are not going unnoticed by the legislative body and the people of Guam.

I think in order for these Bills to have an effect at the level intended (i.e., servicing the homeless). One very important aspect needs addressing, that is the personnel who would help administer the programs. Specifically I am referring to the need for competent social workers especially masters level social workers which is willfully lacking on Guam. We currently have four (4) full-time psychiatrists at the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse and are flurishing and excited about the future. I also realize that the future is going to be diminished if we are not able to increase the number of essential people needed to implement the programs you propose.

As a psychiatrist with two years experience on Guam, I can say without hesitation that the social workers which we currently have do a great job with the tremendous amount of work and stress placed upon them. I see this in Department of Education, the Diagnostic and Treatment Services Unit, Child Protective Services and in my department at Mental Health and Substance Abuse. If we cont consider an active approach to recruitment similar to what took place at Guam Memorial Hospital for nurses, I perceive professional loss increasing and ultimately the needs of the people you wish to service will go unmet. Therefore, I support Bill 548 which is the alternative placement program only to the extent that it is an administrative program in nature and that this administrative role that it plays to develop criteria, license programs, establish standards and monitor the placement system are definitely a needed item in the continuum of care. I think not only does prevention need to be paid attention to but in home treatment such as treatment teams of social workers in the homes of these troubled individuals to better facilitate keeping these children out of the system which is already overloaded. I think it would also help to decrease the need for more therapeutic foster homes and group homes if we are able to treat the children in their home environment.

Senator Madeleine 2. Bordallo Page Two

I have enclosed a recent article from American Psychiatric Association about empowering families when treating disturbed youth.

Again, I thank you for your time and consideration in this matter and I hope I can be of service to the legislators as time goes on with the implementation of these programs. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Kurk Billis BQ

KIRK BELLIS, D.O. Psychiatrist, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse

Enclosure

cc: Director, DMHSA

Taking Issue

More Power to the Families

Hospitals and clinics, by their very nature, undermine family members and their authority by creating an aura that experts will fix the patient. Since most conditions we treat do not have rapid positive outcomes, we must reverse that dynamic and create strategies that allow family members to become the experts.

In the past 25 years treatment approaches have changed greatly. Consumer families are actualizing their inherent power through advocacy movements. Such changes require us to reevaluate our traditional relationship with patients and their family members. When treatment is long term or unsuccessful, it is not the "experts" but the family members who suffer the havoc and pain. We must support families, not supplant them.

Families have always had what we do not have: the inherent power to facilitate change. The question is how to tap their expertise and power. A staff's power to bring about change exists only in the context of a positive relationship with those desiring change. To ignore or disparage family members disempowers treatment, just as when family members disparage treatment.

Our focus should be on harnessing the neglected power within families. What needs changing may not totally reside within the patient or family but may relate to how the family and treatment system organize around the patient. How decisions are made and implemented determines that organization.

Traditionally, staff have had power over treatment decisions, while families have had control over whether the treatment is carried out. I believe that the decision-making power should be distributed differently in both the family and treatment systems and have attempted to do so in my own practice. I prescribe a approach in which the staff, while maintaining legal responsibility, delegate to appropriate family members the authority for all treatment decisions. Staff function only as consultants, with no authority to change family decisions unless there is risk of harm or liability. The staff's expertise is used in helping the family decide what they and the staff will do, or do differently, in their family member's treatment. However, staff must stop short of imposing a decision on the family.

A staff's traditional authority to make treatment decisions is not the equivalent of power to bring about change. That power derives only from our relationship with those who desire change, in this case patients and/or their families. We must decide whether to supplant or support these families. One way to support them is to put them back in charge.-MICHAEL R. FOX, M.D., clinical assistant professor of psychiatry, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore

Milton Greenblatt, M.D Ezra E. H. Griffith, M.D Robert E. Hales, M.D. Steven M. Mirin, M.D. Carl Salzman, M.D.

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Hospital and Community Psychiatry

Hospital and Community Psychiatry, established in 1950 by Daniel Blain, M.D., is published monthly by the American Psychiatric Association for staff members of facilities and agencies concerned with the care of the mentally disabled, in keeping with the association's objectives to improve care and treatment, to promote research and professional education in mental health and related fields, and to advance the standards of all mental health services and facilities.



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

GOVERNMENT OF GUAM P. O. BOX 2816 AGANA, GUAM 96910



DEC 18 1989

Senator Elizabeth P. Arriola Chairperson, Committee on Youth, Senior Citizens, Cultural Affairs and Human Resources Twentieth Guam Legislature Agana, Guam 96910

Re: Comments on Bill No. 431

Dear Senator:

My name is Dr. Leticia V. Espaldon, Director of Public Health and Social Services. I am here to present testimony on Bill No. 431 - An Act To A New Chapter to Title 10, GCA, To Be Known As the Homeless Assistance Act. of 1989.

The Department is in support of the Legislative intent of Bill No. 431. The plight regarding Guam's homeless is not new. Our agency has identified lapse monies from fiscal year 1989 and is in the process of advertising a Request for Proposal for the Homeless. Program personnel and staff from the Governor's Office developed a RFP and we intend to purchase shelter and support services for these individuals.

I recommend that the bill be revised to address the following concerns:

(For the purpose of clarity, we have enumerated the department's concerns to follow the bill's origional format.)

Section 1. The Department is in full support of Section 1 as written.

Section 2. Definitions:

- a. "Shelter" means any facility with sleeping accomodations and acceptable sanitary facilities, the primary purpose of which is to provide temporary shelter to the homeless. This definition encompasses transitional housing and similar arrangements that provide longer term accomodations, so long as the maximum length of stay does not exceed 12 months.
- b. "Homeless" means families and/or individuals who are not poor and are in need of shelter.

Section 3.

Please note that the additional comments change the origional lettering.

- a. Conduct an island-wide assessment of the homeless situation. Survey must include the following demographics - numbers, ages, ethnicity and gender. Also, the nature and extent of the problems relating to homelessness. A result of the review must clearly identify and quantify the immediate and long term needs of the homeless in Guam.
- b. Survey existing programs that provides services to the homeless population.
- c. Establish criteria for eligibility of services under this appropriation. Issues to be considered are:
 - 1. Individuals who because of personal/domestic and/or financial problems are forced to move out of their place or residence.
 - 2. Newly arrived immigrants to the island.
 - 3. Elderly and disabled adults who are not wanted by their families.
 - Persons who temporarily reside with friends or families.
 - 5. Persons in transit on island who do not have living accomodations.
 - 6. Families with children.
- (b) Amend to read: We recommend the words "or consolidated" be deleted.

Federal regulations may prohibit consolidation of programs within the Department. Those found outside of the Department would even less likely to be consolidated. The Department can coordinate and network services to the homeless.

(f) delete

Section 4.

No changes

Section 5.

- Amend to read:
- (b) religious organizations, and/or private entitles.

Section 7.

Until a needs assessment is completed the \$300,000 appropriation is a bit premature. The size of the need should dictate the amount of funding.

In closing, I would like to commend Senator Arriola for her interest and effort in responding to the plight of the homeless.

Caring about supporting and being responsive to the needs of the most vulnerable members of our community is the central theme of the Department's mission.

Sincerely,

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LETIC A V. ESPALDON, M.D. Director of Public Health and Social Services

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