

CARL T.C. GUTIERREZ
GOVERNOR OF GUAN

## Refer to Legislative Secretary DEC 2 2 1999

OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY

ACKNOWLEDGMENT RECEIPT

Received by Franci

Time 1:34 m

Usta 12-22-99

The Honorable Antonio R. Unpingco Speaker I Mina'Bente Singko na Liheslaturan Guåhan Twenty-Fifth Guam Legislature Guam Legislature Temporary Building 155 Hesler Street Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Dear Speaker Unpingco:

ANTONIO R. UNPINGCO
Date. 29299
Prime. 1.20p
Rec'd by: 444
Print Name 1.202

Enclosed please find Substitute Bill No. 368 (COR), "AN ACT TO REPEAL §§9105(c), 9105(d) AND 9115(n), AND TO REPEAL AND REENACT §§9103(p) AND 9144, ALL OF CHAPTER 9, DIVISION 1 OF TITLE 22 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO APPROPRIATING ONE MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE PERSONNEL RESERVE FUND TO THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM SPECIAL FUND FOR WORKER'S COMPENSATION PAYMENTS", which I have signed into law today as Public Law No. 25-91.

The legislation appropriates \$1 Million from the Personnel Reserve Fund created in Public Law Number 25-72, to be used for Workers Compensation payments for current claims, prior years' claims, and future obligations.

Presumably, the Personnel Reserve Fund from which this money is diverted was reserved in September of this year to pay for the remainder of the personnel services payments needed for employees of the government through the remainder of Fiscal Year 2000, ending next September, 30, 2000. Only the first 3 months of this Fiscal Year were provided for in the budget, and this expires on December 31, 1999. Due to the mass confusion created by the early retirement and voluntary separation programs instituted by i Liheslatura, it is unknown at this time exactly how many employees will be continuing their employment and will therefore need to be paid as an obligation of the government from the \$190,763,768 reserved in the Personnel Reserve Fund.

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The Workers Compensation program, under this new legislation, is to be funded from the appropriations made to each of the departments and agencies of the government, including all three branches and autonomous entities and public corporations. Previously, i Liheslatura funded the Workers Compensation program by appropriating a lump sum to the Workers Compensation Fund in each annual budget.

Although a lump sum of \$1 Million is appropriated in this legislation for workers compensation claims, this full amount may, in fact, not be available to pay workers compensation claims if the total payroll of current employees still remaining employed after December 31, 1999 who need to be paid from this reserved fund exceeds \$189,763,768. Presumably, i Liheslatura will appropriate for the current employees of the government from this fund, although as of this date, December 22, 1999, no appropriation has been made for the government's payroll after December 31, 1999.

In future years, i Liheslatura will need to program an estimated amount into the budgets of each and every entity of the government, including public corporations, to fund the Workers Compensation program, since the government's subdivisions have been designated to fund the program under this legislation, instead of the usual lump sum appropriation made by i Liheslatura. It will also be difficult to anticipate, in advance, how many employees will need to be paid for workers compensation from each department and other governmental entity, since it will require guessing in advance how many employees, per department or governmental entity, will become injured on the job.

Very truly yours,

Carl T. C. Gutierrez I Maga'Lahen Guåhan

Governor of Guam

Attachment:

copy attached for signed bill or overridden bill

original attached for vetoed bill

cc: The Honorable Joanne M. S. Brown

Legislative Secretary

## MINA'BENTE SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN 1999 (FIRST) Regular Session

#### CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO I MAGA'LAHEN GUAHAN

This is to certify that Substitute Bill No. 368 (COR) "AN ACT TO REPEAL §§9105(c), 9105(d) AND 9115(n), AND TO REPEAL AND REENACT §§9103(p) AND 9144, ALL OF CHAPTER 9, DIVISION 1 OF TITLE 22 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO APPROPRIATING ONE MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE PERSONNEL RESERVE FUND TO THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM SPECIAL FUND FOR WORKER'S COMPENSATION PAYMENTS," was on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1999, duly and regularly passed.

NTONIO R. UNPINGCO **Speaker** Attested: TOANNE M.S. BRO Senator and Legislative Secretary This Act was received by I Maga'lahen Guahan this 16th day of December, 1999, at 6:06 o'clock P .M. Assistant Staff Officer Maga'lahi's Office APPROVED: CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ I Maga'lahen Guahan Public Law No. 25-91

# MINA'BENTE SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 1999 (FIRST) Regular Session

**Bill No. 368 (COR)** 

As substituted on the Floor and amended in the Committee of the Whole.

Introduced by:

V. C. Pangelinan

J. C. Salas

A. R. Unpingco

F. B. Aguon, Jr.

E. C. Bermudes

A. C. Blaz

I. M.S. Brown

E. B. Calvo

M. G. Camacho

Mark Forbes

L. F. Kasperbauer

A. C. Lamorena, V

C. A. Leon Guerrero

K. S. Moylan

S. A. Sanchez, II

AN ACT TO REPEAL §§9105(c), 9105(d) AND 9115(n), AND TO REPEAL AND REENACT §§9103(p) AND 9144, ALL OF CHAPTER 9, DIVISION 1 OF TITLE 22 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO APPROPRIATING ONE MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE PERSONNEL RESERVE FUND TO THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM SPECIAL FUND FOR WORKER'S COMPENSATION PAYMENTS.

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

Section 1. I Liheslaturan Guåhan finds that certain government employees who have incurred injuries in the course of employment are unfairly denied their right to compensation. While private entities are punished for any failure to secure payment for compensation to their employees, certain government agencies have failed to fulfill their obligations to its public servants who are injured while in public employ. These agencies have either failed to include specific funding for worker's compensation in their annual budget requests, or, despite having funding available in each position prior to the injury of the employee and subsequent claim for compensation, redirected such funding to cover shortfalls in other areas of operations.

It is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to ensure that those individuals who have injured themselves while faithfully serving the people of Guam as public servants are duly compensated.

Section 2. Appropriation to the Government of Guam Special Fund for Worker's Compensation. (a) One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) is

appropriated from the Personnel Reserve Fund created by §3 of Chapter II of Public Law Number 25-72 to the Government of Guam Special Fund for worker's compensation payments for the purpose set out in §9144 of Title 22 of the Guam Code Annotated to pay worker's compensation for claims by employees of the government of Guam, including outstanding prior years' obligations and future obligations associated with the provisions of this Section.

1	(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the					
2	appropriation made in this Section may be used to pay for medical,					
3	surgical, and other attendance or treatment; nurse; hospital service;					
4	medicine; crutches; and apparatus required by the claimant for such					
5	period as the nature of the injury, or the process of recovery, may					
6	require.					
7	Section 3. Sections 9105(c), 9105(d) and 9115(n) of Chapter 9, Division					
8	1 of Title 22 of the Guam Code Annotated are hereby repealed.					
9	Section 4. Section 9103(p) of Chapter 9, Division 1 of Title 22 of the					
10	Guam Code Annotated is hereby repealed and reenacted to read as follows:					
11	"(p) Public Employment. The term 'public employment' means					
12	employment by the government of Guam Executive, Judicial or					
13	Legislative departments, agencies, instrumentalities, inclusive of semi-					
14	autonomous and autonomous agencies, and any other government of					
15	Guam entities and public corporations. It shall include all elected					
16	officials."					
17	Section 5. Section 9144 of Chapter 9, Division 1 of Title 22 of the Guam					
18	Code Annotated is hereby repealed and reenacted to read as follows:					
19	"Section 9144. Government of Guam Special Fund.					
20	(a) There is hereby authorized to be established, out					
21	of any money in the Treasury of Guam not otherwise					
22	appropriated, a fund sufficient to secure the payment of					
23	benefits under this Chapter in respect of employees in public					
24	employment.					

employment.

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- (b) With respect to employees in public employment, the Commission may authorize direct benefit payments from such fund, or, *if* it deems desirable, insure and keep insured the payment of such benefits with any stock or mutual company or association.
- (c) Prior to any lump sum payment of compensation pursuant to §9115(j) of this Chapter, the Commission must certify that an amount equal to the lump sum payable is deposited into the Government of Guam Special Fund by the respective public employment employer of the employee who is to receive the lump sum payment.
- (d) All public employment employers shall reimburse the Government of Guam Special Fund such sums as may be necessary from their annual operational appropriations or revenues for the compensation paid to their employees or dependents pursuant to this Chapter.
- (e) Reimbursements into the Government of Guam Special Fund pursuant to Subsection (d) of this Section shall be made within fourteen (14) days of receipt of each assessment demand by the Commission for amounts equal to the amount paid pursuant to this Chapter, except when the Commission deems it advisable that the public employment employer make a deposit into the Government of Guam Special Fund prior to payment of compensation.
  - (f) The Treasurer of Guam shall be the custodian of

such fund and is authorized to disburse moneys from such fund *only* upon the order of the Commission. The Treasurer of Guam shall deposit any moneys appropriated or paid into such fund into such depository banks as the Commission may designate, and may invest any portion of the funds which in the opinion of the Commission is *not* needed for current requirements, in bonds or notes of the United States or of any Federal land bank.

(g) The account for such fund shall be subject to audit in accordance with the established government of Guam auditing procedure, but action of the Commission in making payments from such fund shall be final and *not* subject to review."



#### MINA' BENTE SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN TWENTY-FIFTH GUAM LEGISLATURE

155 Hesier Street, Hagatña, Guam 96910

# 1999 (FIRST) Regular Session

I, Antonio R. Unpingco, Speaker of *I Mina'Bente Singko Na Liheslaturan Guàhan*, hereby certify, in conformance with Title 2 Guam Code Annotated §2103, *Public Hearings Mandatory*, as amended, that an emergency condition exists involving danger to the public health, safety and welfare of the people and therefore waive the statutory requirements for a public hearing on Bill Number 368 (COR), "AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000.00) FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE WORKER'S COMPENSATION FUND," which was introduced on December 10, 1999, and therefore waive the statutory requirements for a public hearing on Bill Number 368 (COR).

Dated:

December 16, 1999

R. UNPINGCO

Spleaker



#### MINA' BENTE SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN TWENTY-FIFTH GUAM LEGISLATURE

155 Hesler Street, Hagåtña, Guam 96910



The Honorable Carl T.C. Gutierrez I Maga'lahen Guåhan Ufisinan I Maga'lahi Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Dear Maga'lahi Gutierrez:

Transmitted herewith is Substitute Bill No. 368(COR) which was passed by I Mina' Bente Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan on December 16, 1999.

Sincerely,

JOANNE M.S. BROWN

Senator and Legislative Secretary

Enclosure (1)

Informed by Officer Identy Flores
that GUN'T HUUSE SECURITY W/
PECEIVE BILL (NOT AT RESIDENCE)
APVISED MS. BRENNAN (Clerk) & INSTRUCTED
TO RETURN BILL TO LEGISLATURE



#### MINA' BENTE SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN TWENTY-FIFTH GUAM LEGISLATURE

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## 1999 (FIRST) Regular Session

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Dated:

December 16, 1999

R. UNPINGCO

eaker

# CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE

TRANSMISSION CHECKLIST TO I MAGA'LAHEN GUAHAN (Included in File w/ All Bills Transmitted)

BILL NO. 368 (Lgg)

# FINAL PROOF-READING OF BLUEBACK COPY

EXHIBITS ATTACHED								
CONFIRM NUMBER OF PAGES								
CAPTION ON CERTIFICATION MATCHES BILL CAPTION								
ENGROSSED SIGN"*" REMOVED FROM BILL								
15 SENATORS IN SPONSORSHIP OR CONFIRM OTHERWISE								
CERTIFICATION SIGNED BY SPEAKER & LEGIS. SECRETARY								
EMERGENCY DECLARATION, if any								
Confirmed By: Dated:								

## MINA'BENTE SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN 1999 (FIRST) Regular Session

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Date:

Public Law No.

# MINA'BENTE SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 1999 (FIRST) Regular Session

#### **Bill No. 368 (COR)**

As substituted on the Floor and amended in the Committee of the Whole.

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J. C. Salas

A. R. Unpingco

F. B. Aguon, Jr.

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associated with the provisions of this Section.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, (b) appropriation made in this Section may be used to pay for medical, surgical, and other attendance or treatment; nurse; hospital service; medicine; crutches; and apparatus required by the claimant for such period as the nature of the injury, or the process of recovery, may require. **Section 3.** Sections 9105(c), 9105(d) and 9115(n) of Chapter 9, Division 1 of Title 22 of the Guam Code Annotated are hereby *repealed*.

**Section 4.** Section 9103(p) of Chapter 9, Division 1 of Title 22 of the Guam Code Annotated is hereby *repealed and reenacted* to read as follows:

- "(p) Public Employment. The term 'public employment' means employment by the government of Guam Executive, Judicial or Legislative departments, agencies, instrumentalities, inclusive of semi-autonomous and autonomous agencies, and any other government of Guam entities and public corporations. It shall include all elected officials."
- **Section 5.** Section 9144 of Chapter 9, Division 1 of Title 22 of the Guam Code Annotated is hereby *repealed and reenacted* to read as follows:

## "Section 9144. Government of Guam Special Fund.

(a) There is hereby authorized to be established, out of any money in the Treasury of Guam not otherwise appropriated, a fund sufficient to secure the payment of benefits under this Chapter in respect of employees in public employment.

- (b) With respect to employees in public employment, the Commission may authorize direct benefit payments from such fund, or, *if* it deems desirable, insure and keep insured the payment of such benefits with any stock or mutual company or association.
- (c) Prior to any lump sum payment of compensation pursuant to §9115(j) of this Chapter, the Commission must certify that an amount equal to the lump sum payable is deposited into the Government of Guam Special Fund by the respective public employment employer of the employee who is to receive the lump sum payment.
- (d) All public employment employers shall reimburse the Government of Guam Special Fund such sums as may be necessary from their annual operational appropriations or revenues for the compensation paid to their employees or dependents pursuant to this Chapter.
- (e) Reimbursements into the Government of Guam Special Fund pursuant to Subsection (d) of this Section shall be made within fourteen (14) days of receipt of each assessment demand by the Commission for amounts equal to the amount paid pursuant to this Chapter, *except* when the Commission deems it advisable that the public employment employer make a deposit into the Government of Guam Special Fund *prior to* payment of compensation.
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# I MINA' BENTE SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN

1999 (FIRST) Regular Session

Date: 12/16/99

## **VOTING SHEET**

5 Bill No. <u>368</u> (Cor)  Resolution No  Question:					
<u>NAME</u>	YEAS	<u>NAYS</u>	NOT VOTING <u>/</u> <u>ABSTAINED</u>	OUT DURING ROLL CALL	ABSENT
AGUON, Frank B., Jr.					
BERMUDES, Eulogio C.	~				
BLAZ, Anthony C.	<b>✓</b>				
BROWN , Joanne M.S.	L				
CALVO, Eduardo B.					
CAMACHO, Marcel G.	L				
FORBES, Mark					
KASPERBAUER, Lawrence F.	~				
LAMORENA, Alberto C., V					
LEON GUERRERO, Carlotta A.	V				
MOYLAN, Kaleo Scott	V				
PANGELINAN, Vicente C.					
SALAS, John C.					
SANCHEZ, Simon A., II					
UNPINGCO, Antonio R.					
TOTAL	13				2
CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:				<b>★</b> 3 Passes = No	vote
Clerk of the Legislature				EA = Excused A	

# MINA'BENTE SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 1999 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 368km)
Introduced by:

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v. c. pangelinan

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000.00) FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE WORKER'S COMPENSATION FUND.

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

2 **Section 1.** I Liheslaturan Guåhan finds that certain government employees who have incurred injuries in the course of employment are 3 unfairly denied their right to compensation. While private entities are 4 punished for any failure to secure payment for compensation to their 5 employees, certain government agencies have either ignored or failed to fulfill 7 their obligations to its public servants who are injured while in public employ. These agencies have either failed to include specific funding for 8 9 workers' compensation in their annual budget requests, or, despite having funding available in each position prior to the injury of the employee and 10 subsequent claim for compensation, redirected such funding to cover 11 12 shortfalls in other areas of operations.

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