

Office of the Governor of Guam

P.O. Box 2950 Hagåtña, Guam 96932 TEL: (671) 472-8931 • FAX: (671) 477-4826 • EMAIL: governor@mail.gov.gu

Felix P. Camacho Governor

Michael W. Cruz, M.D.

Lieutenant Governor

The Honorable Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D. Speaker *Mina' Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* 155 Hessler Street Hagåtña, Guam 96910

1 3 AUG 2008 AUG 18 PM 3: 57

Dear Speaker Won Pat:

Transmitted herewith is Bill No. 349(LS), "AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH FUND TO THE GUAM ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, FOR AN INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION AND STUDY OF THE LEAKAGE OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL INTO APRA HARBOR BY A UNITED STATES NAVY NUCLEAR SUBMARINE, AND TO REQUIRE THAT A PERMANENT MONITORING DEVICE BE LOCATED AT THE ENTRANCE TO APRA HARBOR TO DETECT AND PROVIDE THE PEOPLE OF GUAM WITH AN EARLY WARNING OF THE PRESENCE OF RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS THAT HAVE DISCHARGED INTO GUAM'S WATERS; AND TO APPROPRIATE TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) TO THE COCONUT RHINOCEROS BEETLE ERADICATION PROGRAM" which I signed into law on August 12, 2008 as **Public Law 29-104.**

Sinseru yan Magåhet,



MICHAEL W. CRUZ, M.D.

I Maga'låhen Guåhan, para pa'go Acting Governor of Guam

Attachment: copy of Bill

cc: The Honorable Tina Rose Muña Barnes,

Senator and Legislative Secretary

Cyfice of the Speaker
Judito T. Won Pat, Ed. D.
Date 0 3 0 8

1806

I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2008 (SECOND) Regular Session

CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO I MAGA'LAHEN GUÅHAN

This is to certify that Bill No. 349 (LS), "AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH FUND TO THE GUAM ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, FOR AN INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION AND STUDY OF THE LEAKAGE OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL INTO APRA HARBOR BY A UNITED STATES NAVY NUCLEAR SUBMARINE, AND TO REQUIRE THAT A PERMANENT MONITORING DEVICE BE LOCATED AT THE ENTRANCE OF APRA HARBOR TO DETECT AND PROVIDE THE PEOPLE OF GUAM WITH AN**EARLY WARNING** OF THE **PRESENCE** OF **RADIOACTIVE** CONTAMINANTS THAT HAVE DISCHARGED INTO GUAM'S WATERS; AND TO APPROPRIATE TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) TO THE COCONUT RHINOCEROS BEETLE ERADICATION PROGRAM," was on the 9th day of August, 2008, duly and regularly passed.

Attested: White Attested Attested Attested Attested	Judith T. Won Pat Speaker
Tina Rose Muña Barnes Senator and Secretary of the Legislature	-
This Act was received by <i>I Maga'lahen Guåhan</i> thiso'clockM.	is, 2008, at
_	Assistant Staff Officer Maga'lahi's Office
APPROVED: MIKE W. CRUZ, MD	C .
APPROVED: WHIKE W. CRUZ, MD GOVERNOR OF GUAM ACTING Date: 12 AVG 08	

Public Law No. __29-104

I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2008 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 349 (LS)

As amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

B. J.F. Cruz
Judith P. Guthertz, DPA
R. J. Respicio
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Edward J.B. Calvo
James V. Espaldon
Mark Forbes
Frank T. Ishizaki
J. A. Lujan
A. B. Palacios, Sr.
v. c. pangelinan
Dr. David L.G. Shimizu
Ray Tenorio
J. T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

AN ACT TO **APPROPRIATE** TWO HUNDRED **FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS** (\$250,000) **FROM** THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH **FUND** TO THE **GUAM ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION** AGENCY. FOR INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION AND STUDY OF THE LEAKAGE OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL INTO APRA BY A HARBOR UNITED STATES NAVY NUCLEAR SUBMARINE, AND TO REQUIRE THAT A PERMANENT MONITORING DEVICE BE LOCATED AT THE ENTRANCE OF APRA HARBOR TO DETECT AND PROVIDE THE PEOPLE OF GUAM WITH AN EARLY WARNING OF THE PRESENCE OF RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS THAT HAVE DISCHARGED INTO GUAM'S WATERS; AND TO APPROPRIATE TWO HUNDRED **FIFTY THOUSAND** DOLLARS (\$250,000) TO THE COCONUT RHINOCEROS BEETLE ERADICATION PROGRAM.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. I Liheslaturan Guåhan finds that one of the common goals of the various military branches of the United States government is to maintain secrecy and deniability over various matters that are considered by the military hierarchy to be confidential, and for which they deem the general public need not be informed.

I Liheslatura finds that Guam has been affected, sometimes negatively, by the military's tight-lipped stance on topics that may and have caused unnecessary endangerment and injury to some of the American citizens who live and work in Guam. The military's actions have ranged from total denial, to neglecting to warn local residents of possible hazards, to downplaying the effects of any possible hazards.

The latest example is that of the U.S.S. Houston, a nuclear powered fast attack submarine stationed in Guam, which we now know through news reports, leaked what has been called a small amount of radiation into Guam's waters. The leaky valve in the vessel was not discovered until the ship was dry-docked at Pear Harbor Naval Shipyard in Hawaii last month, and it could have leaked radioactive material in Japan as well.

There is a long history of the Federal Government and its various entities, particularly the United States Armed Forces, withholding valuable information on potential life-threatening dangers from an innocent public in Guam. Examples include:

Agent Orange. While the United States government has acknowledged that there exists a correlation between herbicide agents containing dioxin *or* 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid, more commonly referred to as Agent Orange, they have never acknowledged that this powerful herbicide was ever used in Guam.

In spite of this lack of confirmation, in 2005 the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans ruled in favor of an airman who developed diabetes mellitus after exposure to defoliants while on duty at Andersen Air Force Base (AAFB) from 1966 to 1968. In another case that was concluded in March of 2007, the Veterans Administration approved the claim of another Vietnam War veteran who developed cancer because of his exposure to Agent Orange at AAFB between 1968 and 1969.

Nuclear Fallout. Between 1946 and 1962, the United States conducted tests on a total of sixty-seven (67) atomic and thermonuclear bombs on Enewetok and Bikini Atolls in the Marshall Islands, with a total yield of one hundred eight thousand four hundred ninety-two (108,492) kilotons, causing radiation fallout across a wide area of the Pacific, including Guam.

Shortly after the first hydrogen bomb test in 1952, the Radiological Safety Officer for Headquarters Command, Guam, detected a large amount of radioactivity in the air and his first thought was that Guam had been subjected to some kind of radioactive dust attack. That National Research Council has corroborated the Safety Officer's report of airborne radioactive fallout reaching Guam, one thousand two hundred (1,200) miles from the test site.

In addition, U.S. Navy ships present during the nuclear testing were decontaminated in Guam harbors with acidic detergents, with the runoff going directly into the local fishing and reef environments. Aircraft present during the testing were also brought to Guam and washed down here, with the runoff going into the earth.

The people of Guam were never warned about the testing *or* the potential hazards of radiation exposure. Although Guam now meets the eligibility criteria for Claims by Onsite Participants, it is because of the wash-down of ships and aircraft here. The possibility of airborne radioactivity contamination has *not* been

acknowledged by the military or the Federal Government.

I Liheslatura finds that other examples exist (such as the burial of tons of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in Guam by the United States military) in which the Federal Government or their agents have kept important health and safety information from the people of Guam in order to serve what they believe to be national security interests. While we are loyal Americans and understand the need for cooperation, secrecy and patriotism, we also recognize that in situations in which the health and safety of our island and people are threatened, we may need to act independently of our Federal Government.

It is, therefore, the intent of *I Liheslatura* to require that an independent investigation and test of the waters in Apra Harbor be conducted to ensure that radiation levels are indeed as low as the military suggests. It is further the intent of *I Liheslatura* that a permanent monitoring device be placed near the mouth of Apra Harbor in order for the people of Guam to have an early warning should vessels leaking nuclear radiation enter our harbor.

Section 2. Appropriation for Independent Study and Investigation. Notwithstanding §22107 of Chapter 2, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, the sum of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) is appropriated from the Environmental Health Fund to the Guam Environmental Protection Agency, to conduct *or* cause to be conducted an independent study and investigation into the contamination of Guam water's located in the inner and outer Apra Harbor, as well as the area utilized by the United States Navy for the berthing of the USS Houston. The findings of the study and investigation *shall* be reported to *I Maga'lahen Guåhan* and *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* within one hundred eighty (180) days of the effective date of this Act.

I Maga'lahi may, as an alternative to this appropriation, utilize his transfer authority to fund this independent study and investigation. If another source of funds is used, this Section shall be null and void.

Section 3. Monitoring Device. Guam Environmental Protection Agency, shall determine the cost, feasibility and time frame to install a radioactivity monitoring device at or near the entrance to Apra Harbor, either on a buoy or on the floor of the harbor, that will monitor and report any sign of an increase in radioactivity in the waters of Guam's harbor, and the possible source or sources and reasons for such increase.

The findings of this study *shall* be reported to *I Maga'lahen Guåhan* and *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* within one hundred eighty (180) days of the effective date of this Act.

Section 4. Authorization to Expend General Fund Revenues in Excess of Fiscal Year 2008 Projections for Eradication of the Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle. (a) Statement of Intent. The Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (CRB) was first detected on Guam in September of 2007 in the Tumon Bay area. Since then, efforts have been made to control its spread through the distribution of pheromone bucket traps, a restriction on the disposal of coconut tree leaves from the quarantine area, and surveillance of adjacent areas to determine if the control methods were effective. Initially, these traps were put in place to ring the Tumon Bay quarantine area in the hopes of limiting the spread of the infestation. However, a July 13, 2008 report from the University of Guam Cooperative Extension Service (GCES), notes that there have been verified reports of beetle activity outside the quarantine area, including sightings in Adelup and Piti to the south and in Yigo to the north.

The Guam CRB Eradication Program is currently in a holding pattern due to budgetary issues. The delay of account establishment, payment and processing

within the government of Guam has resulted in the sanitation contractor stopping all work. Federal funds designated to the Guam Department of Agriculture have been redirected to the GCES to carry out the remainder of the work for Fiscal Year 2008. This shift in funds has set the eradication efforts back sixty (60) days due to new paper work and the need to hire and retrain personnel. The CRB Incident Command is currently trying to secure federal funding to carry out most of the

7 project work, but local funding must be released in a timely manner to cover the

8 costs of the current operations.

As of July 2008, scouting and rapid response crews have been redeployed to sanitation and treatment, putting the quarantine area at risk of being breached. Newly discovered infestation reveals a new generation of beetle is ready to emerge within thirty to forty-five (30-45) days.

- (b) Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) is hereby appropriated from Fiscal Year 2008 General Fund revenues that are in excess of the General Fund revenues, as adopted in P.L. 29-19, to the University of Guam Cooperative Extension Service for the funding of the Guam Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (GCRB) Eradication Program. This funding *shall* continue to be available until expended, shall *not* be subject to *I Maga'lahi's* transfer authority, and is *exempt* from the Bureau of Budget and Management Research's allotment control.
- (c) Reporting Requirement. The Guam CES *shall* submit quarterly reports to *I Maga'lahen Guåhan* and *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* detailing the expenditure of funds authorized in this Act.



OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER 29th GUAM LEGISLATURE JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D

August 8, 2008

To: I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guahan

RE: Emergency Certification of Bill 349

After careful evaluation for a request to waive the requirements for a public hearing on bill 349;

Bill No. 349 (LS) - B.J.F. Cruz / J.P. Guthertz, DPA / R.J. Respicio / T.R. Muña-Barnes - An act to appropriate One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) from the General Fund to the Department of Public Health & Social Services, Environmental Health Division, for an independent investigation and study of the leakage of radioactive material into Apra Harbor by a United States Navy Nuclear Submarine, and to require that a permanent monitoring device be located at the entrance of Apra Harbor to detect and provide the people of Guam with an early warning of the presence of radioactive contaminants that have discharged into Guam's waters.

I certify, pursuant to 2 GCA §2103, that an emergency condition exists and that the requirements for a public hearing on bill 349 is accordingly waived.

Senseramente,

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Speaker

cc: Senator Benjamin J.F. Cruz Clerk of the Legislature E-MAIL: cjbjcruz@aol.com PHONE: (671)472-3546/48 • FAX: (671)472-3547



I Mina Bente Nuebi Na Libeslaturan Guåban 29th Guam Legislature

155 Hesler Place, Hagåtña, Guam 96910 OFFICE: Suite 205 Aspinal Avenue, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

August 8, 2008

TO:

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Speaker

SUBJECT: Request for Emergency Certification of Bill No. 349 (LS)

I am requesting that Bill No. 349 (LS) be declared an emergency for the purpose of waiving the public hearing requirements.

Bill No. 349 seeks to appropriate \$100,000 from the General Fund to the Environmental Health Division of the Department of Public Health & Social Services to conduct an independent investigation and study of the leakage of radioactive material into Apra Harbor by a U.S. Navy Nuclear Submarine. The Bill also requires that a permanent monitoring device be located at the entrance of Apra Harbor to provide an early warning of the presence of radioactive contaminants discharged into Guam's waters.

As we were shocked to learn on August 7, the vessel has been leaking radioactive material for at least two years, and it has been in and out of Apra Harbor a number of times since 2006, spending more than a year of that time berthed in Guam. There is great concern in our community that the Navy and the Federal Government have not been totally forthcoming about this issue, and Lt. Governor Mike Cruz has said that the U.S. EPA will be examining the Navy's findings.

Lt. Governor Cruz has also directed government of Guam agencies to identify resources to begin independent testing of the waters in and around Apra Harbor as well as long-term environmental monitoring. This is the exact intent and purpose of Bill No. 349, and with the passage of this Bill, the resources will be made available and the process of long-term monitoring can begin.

I look forward to your consideration of this important request, and look forward to swift passage of the Bill.

Benjamin J.F. Cruz