

EDDIE BAZA CALVO Governor RAY TENORIO Lieutenant Governor

# Office of the Governor of Guam.

MAR 1 6 2016

Honorable Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D. Speaker I Mina' trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan 155 Hesler Street Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Dear Madame Speaker:

Transmitted herewith is Bill No. 228-33 (COR), "AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE REVENUES PROJECTED TO BE OR ACTUALLY COLLECTED IN EXCESS OF THE ADOPTED REVENUES FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016 TO BE USED TO EXPEDITE THE PAYMENT OF TAX REFUNDS OWING TO TAXPAYERS," which lapsed into law on March 5, 2016, as Public Law 33-142.

Senseramente,

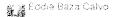
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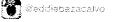
33-16-1453 Office of the Speaker Judith T. Won Pat. Fd.D

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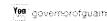
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## I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2016 (SECOND) Regular Session

## CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO I MAGA'LÅHEN GUÅHAN

This is to certify that Substitute Bill No. 228-33 (COR), "AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE REVENUES PROJECTED TO BE OR ACTUALLY COLLECTED IN EXCESS OF THE ADOPTED REVENUES FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016 TO BE USED TO EXPEDITE THE PAYMENT OF TAX REFUNDS OWING TO TAXPAYERS," was on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of February 2016, duly and regularly passed.

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D. Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes Legislative Secretary This Act was received by I Maga'låhen Guåhan this 2200 day of FEBRUARY 2016, at <u>0:59</u> o'clock <u>P</u>.M. Maga'låhi's Office APPROVED: EDWARD J.B. CALVO I Maga'låhen Guåhan MAR 0 5 2016 Date: Public Law No.\_\_\_ 33-142

### I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2016 (SECOND) Regular Session

#### Bill No. 228-33 (COR)

As substituted by the Committee on Appropriations and Adjudication; and amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
T. C. Ada
V. Anthony Ada
FRANK B. AGUON, JR.
Frank F. Blas, Jr.
B. J.F. Cruz
James V. Espaldon
Brant T. McCreadie
Tommy Morrison
T. R. Muña Barnes
R. J. Respicio
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
Mary Camacho Torres
N. B. Underwood, Ph.D.
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE REVENUES PROJECTED TO BE OR ACTUALLY COLLECTED IN EXCESS OF THE ADOPTED REVENUES FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016 TO BE USED TO EXPEDITE THE PAYMENT OF TAX REFUNDS OWING TO TAXPAYERS.

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

- 2 Section 1. Short Title. This Act shall be cited as the "Responsible Tax
- 3 Refund Payment Act of 2016."

**Section 2.** Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that since 2011, the government of Guam has faced a federal injunction requiring that taxpayers receive their tax refunds within six (6) months of when error-free returns are filed.

I Liheslatura further finds that since 2002, Guam law has required that a certain proportion of income tax revenue be set aside from collections and deposited into the Income Tax Refund Efficient Payment Trust Fund. This measure is intended to ensure that sufficient amounts are set aside to pay tax refunds in each fiscal year. The mandatory deposits should be made, but this may not be enough to assure that tax refunds are paid within weeks of error-free filing.

It is, therefore, the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* that revenues projected to be or actually collected in excess of the adopted revenues for Fiscal Year 2016 *shall* be authorized to be used *exclusively* for deposit into the Income Tax Refund Efficient Payment Trust Fund to facilitate expedited payment of tax refunds owed to taxpayers.

Refunds Owing to Taxpayers. Any revenues projected to be or actually collected in Fiscal Year 2016 in excess of the adopted revenues from the General Fund for Fiscal Year 2016, pursuant to Section 2, Chapter I of Public Law 33-66, are hereby authorized exclusively for deposit into the Income Tax Refund Efficient Payment Trust Fund to facilitate the expedited payment of tax refunds owing to taxpayers. Any deposits made into the Income Tax Refund Efficient Payment Trust Fund as a result of the use of funds as authorized in this Section shall be in addition to the One Hundred Twenty-Five Million Dollars (\$125,000,000) Income Tax Refund Provision pursuant to Public Law 33-66. Such authorization in this Section is effective only after I Maga'låhen Guåhan's submission of a written request to the Speaker of I Liheslaturan Guåhan that such revenues projected to be or actually

- 1 collected in Fiscal Year 2016 in excess of the adopted revenues from the General
- 2 Fund for Fiscal Year 2016, pursuant to Section 2, Chapter I of Public Law 33-66,
- 3 will be utilized for deposit into the Income Tax Refund Efficient Payment Trust
- 4 Fund. Such written request shall be submitted to the Speaker of I Liheslaturan
- 5 Guåhan five (5) days prior to any use of such revenues, and shall include the reason
- 6 for such use, and the amount.
- 7 **Section 4.** Severability. If any provision of this Act or its application to
- 8 any person or circumstance is found to be invalid or contrary to law, such invalidity
- 9 shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be given effect
- without the invalid provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this
- 11 Act are severable.