



EDDIE BAZA CALVO
Governor

RAY TENORIO
Lieutenant Governor

Office of the Governor Of Guam.

JAN 13 2017

Honorable Benjamin J. F. Cruz
Speaker
I Mina'trentai Kuâtro Na Liheslaturan Guâhan
155 Hesler Street
Hagâtña, Guam 96910

GLH 34-17-055
Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz

JAN 13 2017
Time: 4:44 [] AM [x] PM File No. _____
Received By:

Dear Speaker Cruz:

Transmitted herewith is Bill No. 398-33(COR), "AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM THE FISCAL YEAR 2016 FUND BALANCE OF THE TOURIST ATTRACTION FUND TO THE GUAM VISITORS BUREAU FOR THE HURÃO ACADEMY CHAMORU LANGUAGE "IMMERSION" PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAM," which was signed into law on January 9, 2017, as Public Law 33-232.

Senseramente,

RAY TENORIO
I Maga'lâhen Guâhan, para pa'go
Acting Governor of Guam

2017 JAN 13 PM 5:26

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

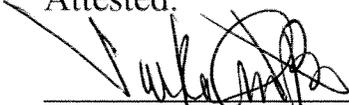
CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO I MAGA'LÁHEN GUÁHAN

This is to certify that **Bill No. 398-33 (COR)**, "AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM THE FISCAL YEAR 2016 FUND BALANCE OF THE TOURIST ATTRACTION FUND TO THE GUAM VISITORS BUREAU FOR THE *HURÁO* ACADEMY *CHAMORU* LANGUAGE "IMMERSION" PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAM," was on the 30th day of December 2016, duly and regularly passed.



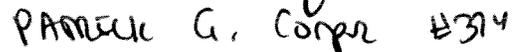
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.
Speaker

Attested:



Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by *I Maga'láhen Guáhan* this 30^m day of DEC,
2016, at 8:50 o'clock P.M.



PAMELA G. COOPER #314
Assistant Staff Officer
Maga'láhi's Office

APPROVED:



EDWARD J.B. CALVO
I Maga'láhen Guáhan

Date: JAN 09 2017

Public Law No. 33-232

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

Bill No. 398-33 (COR)

As amended by the Committee on Municipal Affairs,
Tourism, Housing and Historic Preservation.

Introduced by:

T. R. Muña Barnes
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
R. J. Respicio
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
Mary Camacho Torres
N. B. Underwood, Ph.D.
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

**AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM THE FISCAL
YEAR 2016 FUND BALANCE OF THE TOURIST
ATTRACTION FUND TO THE GUAM VISITORS
BUREAU FOR THE *HURÃO* ACADEMY *CHAMORU*
LANGUAGE “IMMERSION” PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAM.**

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

2 **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds
3 that the number of *Chamoru* speakers continues to decline and is under threat of
4 extinction. The average number of “proficient” *Chamoru* speakers is over the age of

1 fifty-five (55) years old. Furthermore, with the average life expectancy of Guam’s
2 *Chamoru* people at sixty-five (65) to seventy (70) years, it is conceivable that the
3 *Chamoru* language will be extinct by the year 2025.

4 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that efforts must be made to preserve and
5 protect the *Chamoru* language by encouraging young children to use the *Chamoru*
6 language in their daily lives. Language immersion methodologies have proven to be
7 successful for language restoration in a number of communities around the world.
8 One (1) model is the *Aha Punana Leo* Pre-School in Hawaii, which surrounds pre-
9 school age children in an environment conducive to learning their native language.

10 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that *Huråo*, Inc., dba *Huråo* Academy, is
11 building on the *Aha Punana Leo* Pre-School’s model to teach the *Chamoru* language
12 to the next generation of *Chamoru* speakers. Established in 2005, *Huråo* Academy
13 is the first “full-immersion” *Chamoru* language program to meet the needs of a
14 community struggling to preserve its language by continuing its mission, “to
15 promote and perpetuate the *Chamoru* language and culture in honor of the past, for
16 present and future generations, through community immersion education and other
17 programs in support of this mission.” The *Huråo* Academy has served over four
18 thousand (4000) students in its short history, and has a wait list of parents wanting
19 their children to participate in this program. The *Huråo* Academy sees that in order
20 to provide an effective language program, consistent exposure to and practice of the
21 *Chamoru* language should be integrated in every subject in class starting at the pre-
22 school level.

23 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that the increase in fluency of the
24 *Chamoru* language creates a greater awareness of *Chamoru* culture. This will further
25 develop and enhance our tourism industry, filling a growing trend in a type of
26 traveler called the “experiential traveler” who visits destinations to experience the
27 unique culture of the native people.

1 It is, therefore, the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to support the *Huråo*
2 Academy’s development of a *Chamoru* language “immersion” pre-school program.

3 **Section 2. Appropriation.** Notwithstanding any provision of law, the sum
4 of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) is hereby appropriated from the
5 unappropriated, unallocated fund balance of the Fiscal Year 2016 Tourist Attraction
6 Fund to the Guam Visitors Bureau for the *Huråo* Academy’s development of a
7 *Chamoru* language “immersion” pre-school program.

8 **Section 3. Effective Date.** The provisions contained herein *shall* be
9 effective upon enactment of this Act.