

EDDIE BAZA CALVO Governor

> RAY TENORIO Lieutenant Governor

> > **53** The CT ANN 5902

- Office of the Governor of Guam.

NOV 1 3 2015

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

Dear Madame Speaker:

Transmitted herewith is Bill No. 181-33 (COR), "AN ACT TO AMEND § 3102.1 OF ARTICLE 1 CHAPTER 3 AND § 7160 (e) OF CHAPTER 7, TITLE 16 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO WAIVING MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENSE FEES AND MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE AND REGISTRATION FEES FOR THE SPOUSES AND LEGAL GUARDIANS OF 100% DISABLED VETERANS, FOR GOLD STAR WIDOWS/WIDOWERS AND PARENTS, AND FOR RECIPIENTS OF MEDALS OF VALOR AND THE PURPLE HEART MEDAL," which was signed into law on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of November 2015, as **Public Law 33-96**.

Senseramente

EDDIE BAZA CALVO

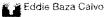
33-15-1094

Office of the Speaker Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D

Date: 11/13/15 Time: 4W pm Received By:

# 1094

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## I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2015 (FIRST) Regular Session

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

This is to certify that Substitute Bill No. 181-33 (COR), "AN ACT TO AMEND § 3102.1 OF ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 3 AND § 7160(e) OF CHAPTER 7, TITLE 16 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO WAIVING MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENSE FEES AND MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE AND REGISTRATION FEES FOR THE SPOUSES AND LEGAL GUARDIANS OF 100% DISABLED VETERANS, FOR GOLD STAR WIDOWS/WIDOWERS AND PARENTS, AND FOR RECIPIENTS OF MEDALS OF VALOR AND THE PURPLE HEART MEDAL," was on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of October 2015, 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'låhen Guåhan this \_\_\_\_\_ day of Ocfrher,

2015, at  $\underline{4:22}$  o'clock  $\underline{P}$ .M.

APPROVED

RAYMOND S. TENORIO Acting Governor of Guara NIIV Date:

Public Law No. 33-96

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Assistant Staff Öfficer Maga'låhi's Office

## *I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* 2015 (FIRST) Regular Session

### Bill No. 181-33 (COR)

As substituted by the Sponsor; and amended on the Floor.

#### Introduced by:

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T. C. Ada FRANK B. AGUON, JR. V. Anthony Ada N. B. Underwood, Ph.D. Mary Camacho Torres <u>T. R. Muña Barnes</u> 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 Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

AN ACT TO AMEND § 3102.1 OF ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 3 AND § 7160(e) OF CHAPTER 7, TITLE 16 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO WAIVING MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENSE FEES AND MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE AND REGISTRATION FEES FOR THE SPOUSES AND LEGAL GUARDIANS OF 100% DISABLED VETERANS, FOR GOLD STAR WIDOWS/WIDOWERS AND PARENTS, AND FOR RECIPIENTS OF MEDALS OF VALOR AND THE PURPLE HEART MEDAL.

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

1 Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* 2 appreciates the service and dedication of the members of our armed forces, both 3 past and present. As such, *I Liheslatura* has waived the fees for the issuance of a 4 motor vehicle driver's license, to include all classes and endorsements, for all 5 active duty members, reservists, and veterans. The vehicle registration fees have 6 been similarly waived for veterans who have been rated by the U.S. Veterans 7 Administration as 100% Disabled or Individually Unemployable (100% DAV).

I Liheslatura has previously recognized that for veterans certified as 100% 8 DAV, the same benefits should be extended to their spouses or legal guardians in 9 10 the event that the veteran's disability prevents them from taking advantage of their fee waiver benefits. In many cases, these spouses or legal guardians are the 11 caregivers for these 100% DAVs. This benefit has been extended through the 12 13 enactment of P.L. 31-240 on December 6, 2012, and was codified in Article 1B of Chapter 4 (Personnel Policy and Civil Service Commission), Title 4, Guam Code 14 Annotated. This authorization is now to be made a part of § 3102.1 of Article 1, 15 16 Chapter 3 and § 7160(e) of Chapter 7 (Vehicle License and Registration), Title 16, Guam Code Annotated, for clarity. 17

*I Liheslatura* also finds that the same benefits should be extended to the surviving spouse and parents who qualify as Gold Star widows/widowers and Gold Star parents of the soldier who was mortally wounded in combat as a result of hostile enemy action.

Finally, *I Liheslatura* has determined that veterans who have been awarded one (or more) of the nation's top military awards, i.e., the Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross (U.S. Army), the Navy Cross (U.S. Navy and Marine Corps), the Coast Guard Cross (U.S. Coast Guard), the Silver Star, and the Bronze Star with "V" Device, for personal acts of valor while engaging with enemy forces during combat, deserve special recognition for their valiant actions on the

battlefield. Similar recognition is due to recipients of the Purple Heart Medal for 1 2 wounds received during battle. 3 Section 2. § 3102.1 of Article 1, Chapter 3, Title 16, Guam Code Annotated, is *amended* to read as follows: 4 "§ 3102.1. Waiver of Motor Vehicle Driver's License Fees for 5 6 Veterans and Extended Beneficiaries. The fee for the issuance of a motor vehicle driver's 7 (a) license, to include all classes and endorsements, is waived for: 8 9 (1)Veterans of the United States Armed Forces, as 10 defined in § 7120.2(b) of Chapter 7 of this Title, to include 11 persons who are serving or have served on active duty, reserve 12 component members, and retirees of the United States Armed 13 Forces: and 14 (2)the spouse, legal guardian, or surviving spouse, as defined in § 67101 of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code 15 16 Annotated, and as authorized by § 4B101 of Article 1B of 17 Chapter 4, Title 4, Guam Code Annotated, and to Gold Star parents who are eligible pursuant to § 7120.3(b) of Chapter 7 of 18 this Title. 19 20Any person listed above and whose character of military (b)21 service was honorable as verified by the applicant's Report of Transfer or Discharge (DD Form 214), Military Identification Card 22 23 DD Form 2, DD Form 1173, DD Form 2765, or Common Access Card (CAC), or other accepted forms used to verify eligibility status 24 25 and certified by the government of Guam Office of Veterans Affairs 26 (OVA) may apply to the License Division of the Department of 27 Revenue and Taxation for a Driver's License. Certification by the

OVA will be based only upon records they have available. When requested by the OVA, the Department of Revenue and Taxation *shall* provide a listing of persons granted fee waivers pursuant to this Section.

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(c) Eligibility Period. The eligibility period for a spouse,
surviving spouse, and legal guardian *shall* be consistent as applicable
with §§ 4B103, 4B104, or 4B105 of Article 1B of Chapter 4, Title 4
Guam Code Annotated. The eligibility period for Gold Star parents *shall* be the same as the eligibility period for a surviving spouse."

Section 3. § 7160(e) of Chapter 7, Title 16, Guam Code Annotated, is *amended* to read as follows:

"(e) The annual license and registration fee in § 7160(a) *shall* be
waived upon the initial issuance and the subsequent renewal of the vehicle
license and registration for:

(1) any Veteran determined by the U.S. Department of
Veterans Affairs (USDVA) to be 100% Disabled or Individually
Unemployable due to military service connected injuries; and

18 (2) the spouse, legal guardian, or surviving spouse, as
19 defined in § 67101 of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated,
20 and as authorized by § 4B101 of Article 1B of Chapter 4, Title 4,
21 Guam Code Annotated, and to Gold Star parents who are eligible
22 pursuant to § 7120.3(b) of this Chapter.

(A) Eligible persons in Subsections (1) or (2) *shall*verify their status with a military identification card, to include
the DD Form 2, DD Form 1173, DD Form 2765, or other
accepted forms used to verify eligibility status and certified by
the government of Guam Office of Veterans Affairs (OVA).

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(B) The eligibility period for persons in Subsection (2) *shall* be consistent with §§ 4B103, 4B104, or 4B105 of Article 1B of Chapter 4, Title 4, Guam Code Annotated, and the eligibility period for Gold Star parents *shall* be the same as the eligibility period for a surviving spouse.

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6 (3) The recipients of at least one of the following military 7 awards: the Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross (U.S. 8 Army), the Navy Cross (U.S. Navy and Marine Corps), the Coast 9 Guard Cross (U.S. Coast Guard), the Silver Star, the Bronze Star with 10 "V" Device, or the Purple Heart Medal.

The fee shall be waived for one (1) non-commercial passenger 11 vehicle, which includes sedans, coupes, pick-up trucks, motorcycles, and 12 13 station wagons manufactured primarily for the purpose of carrying 14 passengers, and including those passenger cars pulling other light trailers, registered to the Veteran, or eligible persons applying for benefits under this 15 16 Section. A document issued by the USDVA or a U.S. military ID card which 17 certifies the disability rating, must be furnished to the Department of 18 Revenue and Taxation in order to waive the annual Motor Vehicle License and Registration Assessment." 19

Section 4. Severability. If any provision of this law or its application to any person or circumstance is found to be invalid or contrary to law, such invalidity *shall not* affect other provisions or applications of this law that can be given effect without the invalid provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this law are severable.