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I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GU HA N 2011 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 153-31 (cor)

Introduced by:

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F. F. Blas, Jr. 726 A. B. Palacios, Sr. My

AN ACT *ADD* SUBSECTION (j.) TO §9104 OF CHAPTER 9, TITLE 22, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO PROVIDING COMPENSATION BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS INJURED WHILE IN THE CONDUCT OF THEIR OFFICIAL DUTIES AT A LEVEL EQUIVALENT TO AND NO LESS THAN THE PERSON'S INCOME LEVEL RECEIVED PRIOR TO SUCH INJURY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. I Liheslaturan Guahan finds that the Workmen's Compensation Program within the government of Guam provides direct financial compensation to individuals who are injured while conducting their official duties, to include medical costs/treatment services and a regular stipend; which in several circumstances could be less than the salary compensation level that the individual was earning while fully employed. Because a person covered by workmen's compensation incurred the injury on the job, it is unreasonable to affect an immediate and direct reduction in the individual's compensation level, whenever applicable, when in fact the individual was carrying out their job responsibilities. Therefore, this provision would require that any public employee who receives

- 1 Workmen's Compensation shall continue to receive compensation equivalent to, if
- 2 applicable, and not less than the regular income level that they were receiving prior to
- 3 the injury and until such time that they are no longer recipients of Workmen's
- 4 Compensation benefits.

- Section 2. Public Employees Workmen's Compensation Provision for Injuries Sustained on the Job. Subsection "(j.)" is hereby *added* to §9104 of Chapter 9, Title 22, Guam Code Annotated, to read as follows:
 - "(j.) Any person who is injured in performing service for the government of Guam as an employee under the authorized direction of a public officer or employee shall be compensated, in addition to associated medical costs and treatment, a sum equivalent to and not less than that of the individual's regular compensation level to commence on the date of the injury. This provision shall apply only if the person's work compensation level exceeds the sums authorized in this Chapter, and shall terminate on the date the individual is no longer eligible for Workmen's Compensation benefits; otherwise, the compensation provisions authorized herein shall be applicable."