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

Bill No. 10 -33 (COR)

Introduced by:

D.G. RODRIGUEZ, JR $\mathcal{A}$ 

AN ACT TO EXEMPT CERTAIN PUBLIC SECTOR ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS FROM JURY DUTY, BY AMENDING § 22107 OF CHAPTER 22, TITLE 7, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.

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

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent: I Liheslaturan Guåhan 2 finds that jury duty service is impacting the provision of vitally needed 3 healthcare by allied health professionals. Certain professions are in high 4 demand, but few in numbers of available practicing providers, and difficult 5 to replace for extended periods of absence. Currently, only physicians, 6 dentists and registered nurses are exempted. This is particularly impacting 7 the consistent availability of public sector allied health professionals in 8 healthcare agencies. 9

It is, therefore, the *intent* of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to exempt certain allied healthcare professionals in the public service sector from jury duty service when such service would negatively impact the timely provision of medically necessary care. This exemption is solely specific to allied health professionals of the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority, the Department

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of Public Health and Social Services, the Guam Behavioral Health and 1 Wellness Center, and the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals 2 with Disabilities. 3 Section 2. § 22107 of Chapter 22 – Trial by Jury, Title 7, Guam Code 4 Annotated, is hereby *amended*, to read: 5 "§ 22107. Exempt When. 6 A person may claim exemption from service as a juror if he is: 7 (1) a member in the active services of the armed forces of the United 8 States: 9 (2) An elected official, or a judge, of the United States or the Territory 10 of Guam; 11 (3) an actively engaged member of the clergy; 12 (4) an actively practicing attorney, physician, dentist, or registered 13 nurse, or an allied health professional, as defined pursuant to 10 GCA 14 Chapter 12-Medical Practices, whose unavailability would directly impact 15 medically necessary patient care, and solely applies specifically to the Guam 16 17 Memorial Hospital Authority, the Department of Public Health and Social Services, the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center, and the 18 Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities; 19 (5) a member of the Fire or Police Departments or an employee of a 20 government contractor engaged in providing internal security or fire 21 protection for such contractors; 22

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- (6) a person who has served as a juror, either in the Superior
  Court or the United States District Court of Guam, within two (2)
  years preceding the time of filling out the juror qualification form; or
  (7) over sixty-five years old."
  Section 3. Effective Date. This Act shall become immediately
- 6 effective upon enactment.