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

Bill No. 285-33 (OR)

Introduced by:

FRANK B. AGUON, JR

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# AN ACT TO *ADD* A NEW ARTICLE 7 TO CHAPTER 77, DIVISION 2, TITLE 12, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO TAX CREDITS FOR THE REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE HARMON INDUSTRIAL PARK ROADWAY.

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

2 Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds 3 that the Harmon Industrial Park is a vital component of economic activity on 4 Guam, which houses several of the larger business entities on Guam, specifically 5 in the industrial, distribution, construction, retail, auto mechanical, maintenance, 6 recycling and the storage industries. This famous commerce zone also houses 7 hundreds of families in the many condominium and apartment complexes within 8 the mile and half long district.

9 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that thirty-six (36) business entities, 10 who employ almost Four Thousand (4,000) employees have recently created the 11 Harmon Industrial Park Association (HIPA), and this does not include the several 12 other business entities that have yet to submit their membership into the 13 organization.

14 The most important objective of the HIPA is to work with the government of 15 Guam in finding a way to permanently repair the primary roadway of the Harmon Industrial Park. There have been several "patchwork" projects conducted over the years, however the conditions of the primary road continues to be deplorable. The organization wishes to see the repair and expansion of the roadway, along with certain improvements along the secondary roads in this district as well.

5 I Liheslaturan Guåhan further finds that the Harmon Industrial Park also serves as a critical path that not only connects Marine Drive through the adjacent 6 Hamburger Road which exits into the village of Dededo, but also provides an exit 7 8 into the road that enters and exits The Home Depot, and eventually into the Guam 9 Airport, Tiyan and upwards to Barrigada. In other words, this economic zone also 10 plays a vital role in maintaining traffic flows that would alleviate travel woes. In 11 the long run, this provides additional longevity for the road condition of Route 12 One-Marine Drive.

While all road construction projects should be prioritized equally, due to economic conditions the government's ability to fund all projects is challenging. The Territorial Highway Fund (THF) has funding limitations each year, and typically get's tapped into for emergency road repairs which are unpredictable, thus legislating an allocation of the funds from this account, does not guarantee the project will be repaired in a stated timeline.

19 The members of the HIPA are willing to dig into their pockets to provide the funding of the rehabilitation and improvement of the roadway which they drive 20 21 through on a daily basis. However they request that in lieu of their contributions, a tax credit against unpledged business privilege taxes and excise taxes be provided, 22 23 by utilizing a similar program legislated and managed by the Guam Economic 24 Development Agency for other projects such as the construction and/or repairs of the Guam Raceway Park, the Guam Soccer Stadium, the University of Guam's 25 26 Sports Complex, and the Tiyan Gymnasium.

1 I Liheslaturan Guåhan further finds that the estimated costs to rehabilitate and improve the Harmon Industrial Park's Primary Roadway, including the 2 3 secondary roads that connect into the Hamburger Road and Home Depot, amounts 4 to around Four Million Dollars (\$4,000,000) for the first phase. HIPA understands 5 that the government can't afford to either fund this directly or provide this amount in tax credits in one year. The intent of this Act is to extend the financing of this 6 7 project over a 4 year period, with a limitation on the amount of tax credits issued 8 per year.

9 Therefore, it is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to add a new Article 7 to 10 Chapter 77, Division 2, Title 12, Guam Code Annotated, relative to tax credits for 11 the rehabilitation and improvement of the Harmon Industrial Park Roadway

Section 2. A new Article 7 is hereby *added* to Chapter 77, Division 2,
Title 12, Guam Code Annotated, to read:

**"ARTICLE 7** 

- 15 TAX CREDITS FOR THE HARMON INDUSTRIAL PARK ROADWAY
   16 REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
  - § 77701. Applicability of Article.
- 18 § 77702. Credits Against Unpledged Business Privilege Tax.
- 19§ 77703.Cap on Business Privilege Tax Credits for the20Rehabilitation and Improvement of the Harmon21Industrial Park Roadway.
- 22 § 77704. Credits Against Use Excise Tax.
- § 77705. Cap on on Use Excise Tax Credits for Rehabilitation and
  Improvement of the Harmon Industrial Park Roadway.
- 25 § 77706. GEDA Report.

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- 26 § 77707. Rules and Regulation.
- 27 § 77708. Approval of Contributions.

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§ 77709. Fines and Penalties.

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§ 77701. Applicability of Article.

The provisions of this Article are applicable to the Harmon Industrial Park's Roadway as authorized by the Act.

§ 77702. Credits Against Unpledged Business Privilege Tax.

6 (a) To the extent that any business contributes the cost of 7 design, labor and materials that is for the rehabilitation and 8 improvement of the Harmon Industrial Park Roadway as identified 9 and approved by GEDA, shall be entitled to credit of unpledged 10 business privilege taxes. The basis for contribution to the project shall 11 be the actual cost of the contribution plus the cost of transportation 12 from the point of origin to its destination.

(b) Any unused credits not used in the current tax period may
be carried over into subsequent tax periods until such credits are
exhausted.

16 (c) The total credits allowed under this Act shall not exceed the
17 actual dollar amount of the expenditures on the project.

18 § 77703. Cap on Business Privilege Tax Credits for the
19 Rehabilitation and Improvement of the Harmon Industrial Park
20 Roadway.

(a) The total amount of credits against unpledged business privilege
taxes for the rehabilitation and improvement of the Harmon Industrial Park
Roadway authorized herein *shall not* exceed One Million Dollars
(\$1,000,000) over a four (4) year period. No more than Two Hundred Fifty
Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) in tax credits shall be authorized for each year
of the program.

- (b) If, at the expiration of the four (4) year period authorized pursuant
   to this Article, there are still unclaimed authorized tax credits, I Liheslaturan
   Guåhan may, in its discretion, extend the eligible period until such time that
   all eligible tax credits are exhausted.
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(c) *I Liheslaturan Guåhan may*, in its discretion, extend the term and modify any part of the program based on future improvement plans and demand in this location.

8 (d) Construction and professional services and equipment and
9 materials shall be competitively procured.

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### § 77704. Credits Against Use Excise Tax.

(a) To the extent that any business contributes the cost of design,
labor and materials that are for the rehabilitation and improvement of the
Harmon Industrial Park Roadway as identified and approved by GEDA,
shall be entitled to credit of use excise taxes, not inclusive of those pledged
to the Healthy Future Funds. The basis for contribution to the project shall
be the actual cost of the contribution plus the cost of transportation from the
point of origin to its destination.

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(b) Any unused credits not used in the current tax period may be carried over into subsequent tax periods until such credits are exhausted.

20 (c) The total credits allowed under this Act shall not exceed the actual21 dollar amount of the expenditures on the project.

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# § 77705. Cap on Use Excise Tax Credits for Rehabilitation and Improvement of the Harmon Industrial Park Roadway.

(a) The total amount of credits against use excise taxes, not inclusive
of those pledged for the Healthy Future Funds, for the rehabilitation and
improvement of the Harmon Industrial Park Roadway authorized herein
shall not exceed Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) over a four (4) year

period. No more than Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000) in tax credits shall be authorized for each year of the program.

(b) If, at the expiration of the four (4) year period authorized pursuant to this Article, there are still unclaimed authorized tax credits, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* may, in its discretion, extend the eligible period until such time that all eligible tax credits are exhausted.

(c) *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* may, in its discretion, extend the term and modify any part of the program based on future improvement plans and demand in this location.

(d) Construction and professional services and equipment and materials shall be competitively procured.

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### § 77706. GEDA Report.

GEDA shall submit a report to I Liheslaturan Guåhan detailing the impact of the program on the business privilege, use excise taxes and economic activities on Guam. GEDA shall also include in its report its monitoring efforts and any other information related to the program. The report shall be transmitted to I Liheslaturan Guåhan on an annual basis until the tax credit cap pursuant to § 77703 and §77705 of this Article is exhausted.

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### § 77707. Rules and Regulations.

The Guam Economic Development Authority shall implement and monitor the tax credit program authorized pursuant to this Article based on rules and regulations already adopted by GEDA for previous tax credit programs.

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### § 77708. Approval of Contributions.

GEDA or its designee shall be responsible for approving the contributions made towards the development, construction, financing,

1 2 maintenance, rehabilitation and improvement of the Harmon Industrial Park Roadway project as identified in this Article.

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# § 77709. Fines and Penalties.

To the extent that a company providing materials and services 4 5 for the project contained herein takes more tax benefits in terms of 6 unpledged business privilege taxes or use excise taxes than the actual 7 value of the materials or services contributed to the project authorized 8 herein, that company shall be required to pay all interest and penalties 9 applicable under Guam law and the Internal Revenue Code for failure 10 to pay taxes in addition to payment of the actual taxes due. To the 11 extent that any individual, officer, director or other person having 12 interest in a company providing materials or services for the project 13 contained herein knowingly and willingly cause such company to take 14 more tax benefits in terms of business privilege taxes than the actual 15 value of the material or services contributed to the project, such 16 individual shall be guilty of a felony in the third degree punishable by 17 a fine of not less than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) or one (1) year 18 in prison or both."

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Section 3. Effective Date. This Act *shall* be effective upon enactment.

20 Section 4. Severability. *If* any provision of this Law or its application to 21 any person or circumstance is found to be invalid or contrary to law, such 22 invalidity *shall not* affect other provisions or applications of this Law which can be 23 given effect without the invalid provisions or application, and to this end the 24 provisions of this Law are severable.