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

Bill No. 321-33 (core)

Introduced by:

T.C. Ada

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 2 OF PUBLIC LAW 33-104, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE PAYMENT PERIOD FOR THE EXPIRED LAND FOR THE LANDLESS CONTRACTS; TO WAIVE THE 10 YEAR WAIT PERIOD PRIOR TO THE TRANSFER OF PROPERTY FOR EXCEPTIONAL CASES; TO PROVIDE A WAIVER FOR EXISTING RESIDENTS OF AFFECTED LOTS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR A JOURNAL VOUCHER TRANSFER OF FUNDS.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that Public Law 33-104 extended the time period to cure and remedy defaulted 10-year contracts in the various Land for the Landless Programs and also authorized the transfer of unpaid *Land for the Landless* subdivisions into the Chamorro Land Trust Commission land inventory. According to data provided by the Department of Land Management (DLM), out of the three hundred ninety-one (391) defaulted accounts in the Land for the Landless Program, thirty-nine (39) accounts were paid in full while forty-one (41) respondents requested for an appeal to the default notice letters.

I Liheslaturan Guåhan further finds that many of the respondents appealed to the default notice letters due to personal hardship, medical situations and in some cases the original applicant-assignee of the subject lot of the defaulted contract currently resides on the affected property.

It is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to extend the payment period of those who have responded to the notices and allow them sufficient time to pay their balance on the *Land for the Landless* default account.

## **Section 2.** Section 2 of P.L. 33-104 is hereby amended to read as follows:

## "Notification of Purchasers Under the Land for the Landless Who Had Defaulted and Remedy.

- (a) The Director of the Department of Land Management (Department) *shall* exercise his best efforts to notify purchasers who had defaulted on contracts under the *Land for the Landless* program to submit, at the purchaser's option, an appeal to rescind the default. The appeal must provide justification on why the default should be rescinded. Said notifications from the Department of Land Management *shall* be sent via certified mail, and accomplished within forty-five (45) days of enactment of this Act.
- (b) Purchasers, or their legal beneficiaries, *shall* be given thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the notice to submit their appeal and justification to the Department. The Department *shall* have forty-five (45) days to review the appeals and to make a determination. Appeals that *do not* receive a determination within the forty-five (45) days *shall* be deemed approved.
- (c) If the Department finds the justification to be reasonable or pursuant to (b) above, and Purchaser, or his/her legal beneficiaries, is still eligible under the program's guidelines, the Department shall give Purchaser the opportunity to rectify the default within sixty (60) three hundred sixty-five (365) days from the date of notice that the default has been reseinded the enactment of this Act. However the

Purchaser, or his/her legal beneficiaries shall be required to place a minimum deposit of 10% of the balance due.

(d) The remedy available to the purchaser, or his/her legal

have been made.

initial Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) purchase price.

(e) An interest penalty *shall* be assessed on the unpaid balance at an annual percentage rate (APR) of four and one half percent (4.5%) from the date that last payment was made or should

beneficiary, shall be to pay the full amount of the balance due on the

- (f) Funds received *shall* be deposited into the *Chamorro* Land Trust Survey and Infrastructure Fund.
- (g) Re-entry. Every deed of conveyance of a lot under this Act *shall* contain a right of re-entry by the government if the grantee sells or leases any of the conveyed property within ten (10) years after the date of execution of the deed by *I Maga'låhi* (the Governor).
- (h) Limitations in Deed. Each deed conveying a lot pursuant to this Act *shall* contain a right of reverter to the government if the grantee sells or leases any of the conveyed property within ten (10) years after the date of execution of the deed, or if the grantee inherits or otherwise acquires other land in Guam, in addition to the conveyed lot, and at the time of such subsequent acquisition of land the grantee has not constructed any structure on the conveyed lot.
- (i) If complete payment of the account was made 10 years or more ago but through some administrative error or some other reason a deed of conveyance failed to be signed; the 10-year waiting period before any subsequent transfer can be made is hereby waived and the

deed of conveyance shall be issued immediately without any reference to the waiting period.

- (j) If upon a field inspection of the subject lot of the expired contract the Department finds that the original assignee-applicant for that lot is found to be currently residing on the lot then the payment extension period is Three Hundred and Sixty Five (365) days. Interest shall continue to accrue in the payment extension period and the Provisions in Section 2c of Public Law 33-104 shall apply.
- (k) Notwithstanding any law, provision, rule, or regulation, the Department of Land Management is hereby authorized to transfer, by journal voucher, *Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00)* to reimburse the Department for postal and publication expenses related to the administration of Public Law 33-104. The transfer shall come from the *Chamorro Land Trust Survey and Infrastructure Fund* identified as Department of Administration Revenue Account Number 3669-57001, CLT-Sale of Government Land."

**Section 6. 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 applications and to this end the provisions of this Act are severable.