

I Mina'Trentai Kuáttro Na Liheslaturan
BILL STATUS

BILL NO.	SPONSOR	TITLE	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	FISCAL NOTES	NOTES
128-34 (COR)	Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Joe S. San Agustin Fernando B. Esteves Tommy A. Morrison FRANK B. AGUON, JR. William M. Castro Telena C. Nelson Louise B. Muña	AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 12420 TO CHAPTER 12, PART 1, ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MILITARY LIMITED VOLUNTEER DENTAL LICENSE FOR DENTISTS LICENSED WITH THE GUAM-BASED MILITARY CREDENTIALING OFFICE TO ENABLE THEM TO VOLUNTEER IN THE CIVILIAN COMMUNITY.	6/23/17 4:53 p.m.						

MINA' TRENTAI KUATTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2017 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 128 -34 (CDR)

Introduced by:

Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. *DR*
Joe S. San Agustin *JS*
Fernando B. Esteves *FE*
Thomas A. Morrison *TM*
FRANK B. AGUON, JR. *FB*
William M. Castro *WC*
Telena Cruz Nelson *TCN*
Louise Borja Muna *LB*

AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 12420 TO CHAPTER 12, PART 1, ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MILITARY LIMITED VOLUNTEER DENTAL LICENSE FOR DENTISTS LICENSED WITH THE GUAM-BASED MILITARY CREDENTIALING OFFICE TO ENABLE THEM TO VOLUNTEER IN THE CIVILIAN COMMUNITY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guahan* acknowledges that the military medical community has a long and proud continuing history on Guam beginning in August of 1899 with the arrival of the Medical Officer of the USS Yosemite, Surgeon Philip Leach, and Assistant Surgeons Mark V. Stone and Alfred G. Grunwell. By 1940 one dentist was among other healthcare professionals assigned to Naval Hospital Guam. Special acknowledgment goes to Captain Joe Commette, former commanding officer of Naval Dental Center who had an interest in history that piqued during his duties as the Navy's 50th anniversary 1994 Golden Salute commemoration liaison officer. Veterans inundated him with

2017 JUN 23 PM 4:53

artifacts when they came that year, making it necessary to bring in a 20-foot container as the first 'temporary' museum.

This legacy of military dental personnel working in the Guam community is marked with many significant events that built the camaraderie we experience today.

I *Liheslaturan Guahan* further acknowledges that the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) deems Guam as a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA). Though the island is currently not experiencing a critical shortage in Dental Professionals, a DOD Inspector General audit report shows the upcoming transfer of Marines from Okinawa may impact the islands dental community.

Dental care access to the indigent is limited and often neglected by this patient population. The provision of simple screening exams has proved effective at early detection of oral cancers and other conditions. Early detection is important to successful outcomes. Therefore, the addition of volunteer military dentists into our community will be a great benefit to the health of our people.

It is therefore the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guahan*, in recognizing the valuable contributions made by our military health care system and the recognized need to increase the early detection of dental disease, to establish an expedited Military Limited Volunteer License within the Guam Board of Examiners for Dentistry. This license is to make available, at no cost, to a Dentist who is authorized as a dentist to treat personnel enlisted in a branch of the United States armed forces or veterans, and is limited to the practice of dentistry for no compensation in clinics and outreach events that serve indigent populations.

Section 2. A new § 12420 is added to Chapter 12, Part 1, Article 4, of Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, to read:

"§ 12420 Military Limited Volunteer License.

A dentist who practices dentistry on Guam under a license issued under this Section may only practice at a clinic or outreach event that primarily treats indigent populations and the dentist does not receive direct or indirect compensation or payment of anything of monetary value in exchange for the dental services rendered by the dentist to the indigent patients at the clinic or outreach event. The Board is authorized to issue a military limited volunteer license to an applicant who:

(1) is licensed and in good standing as a dentist in another state;

(2) maintains their credentials within the military credentialing system and authorizes the Guam based Military Credentialing Office to provide to the Guam Board of Examiners for Dentistry the required verification documents and Commander's approval;

(3) agrees to be subject to board rules and regulations, including those regarding disciplinary action, license registration and renewal, and continuing medical education.

A military limited volunteer license shall be issued for a period of two (2) years at no charge to the applicant and may be renewed and maintained according to registration requirements as prescribed by the Board.

The license shall be in effect upon receipt of the application packet by the Guam Board of Examiners for Dentistry, subject to final review. This presumptive eligibility for licensure is contingent upon the appropriate Military Commander's permission allowing the dentist to practice in the community and the appropriate collaborative sharing of information between

the military credentialing office and the Guam Board of Examiners for Dentistry."

Section 3. Severability. If any provision of this Act 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 Act which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are severable.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Act shall become immediately effective upon enactment.