I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURÅN GUÅHAN 2009 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. <u>B191-30(COR</u>)

Introduced by:

Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr. Judith P. Guthertz, DPA

AN ACT TO INCLUDE ALL GRADUATES UNDER THE PEDRO "DOC" SANCHEZ SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM RECEIVES THE ONE-STEP MERIT PAY INCREASE BENEFIT.

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that
Public Law 29-137 was passed into law to reinstate the one-step merit pay increase to
those grantees that successfully complete the graduation requirements of the Pedro "Doc"
Sanchez Scholarship Program.

I Liheslaturan Guåhan further finds that P.L. 23-111 enacted on July 26, 1996
broadened the scope of the program to allow participants to enroll in any other
undergraduate degree program offered at the School of Business and Public
Administration as long as they minored in public administration.

10 It is the belief of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* that when P.L.23-111 was enacted, it was 11 the intent of the 23rd Guam Legislature that all the provisions and benefits of the Pedro 12 "Doc" Sanchez Program equally apply to persons who may have enrolled in any other 13 undergraduate degree program offered at the School of Business and Public 14 Administration who also minor in public administration.

15 It is therefore the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to ensure that the application of 16 the provisions and benefits of the Pedro "Doc" Sanchez Program are equally applied to 17 program participants who successfully meet all graduation requirements in any other 18 undergraduate degree program offered at the School of Business and Public

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1 Administration and who also minor in Public Administration, to receive a one-step merit 2 pay increase.

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Section 2. Public Law 29-137, Section 2, is hereby amended to read:

4 "Section 2. Subsection (e) of § 15906, Article 9, Chapter 15, Title 17, Guam Code 5 Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read:

6 "(e) Upon the effective date of this Act, the grantee will be eligible for a 7 mandatory pay merit increase upon graduation. The grantees entered into the program, as 8 evidenced with the awarding of an undergraduate or graduate degree in Public 9 Administration, or Business Administration by the University of Guam, or in any other 10 undergraduate degree program offered at the School of Business and Public 11 Administration and who minor in Public Administration, shall be entitled to receive a 12 one-step merit pay raise from the department, agency, office, autonomous or semi-13 autonomous instrumentality of the government of Guam or the Judiciary in which he or 14 she is employed effective FY2008 following official certification by the University of 15 Guam that the grantee has completed all degree requirements.

Government Employees who were enrolled in the Pedro "Doc" Sanchez Scholarship Program and graduated with a degree between the enactment of Public Law 23-111 and the enactment of this Section who would otherwise have received the onestep merit pay raise, *shall* be entitled to the same incentive benefit, provided that the employee is an active employee at the time of enactment of this Section and the merit pay increase *shall not* be retroactive. Awarding of the one-step merit pay raise *shall* be subject to the availability of funds."