



CARL T.C. GUTIERREZ
GOVERNOR OF GUAM

OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY
ACKNOWLEDGMENT RECEIPT
Received By <u>Tom Gumatay</u>
Time <u>4:16 p.m.</u>
Date <u>2-17-98</u>

FEB 16 1998

Refer to
Legislative Secretary

The Honorable Antonio R. Unpingco
Speaker
Twenty-Fourth Guam Legislature
Guam Legislature Temporary Building
155 Hesler Street
Agana, Guam 96910

Dear Speaker Unpingco:

Enclosed please find a copy of Bill No. 208 (COR), "AN ACT RELATIVE TO FURTHER ASSURING THE SAFETY AND PROTECTION OF OUR ISLAND'S SCHOOL CHILDREN AS THEY TRAVEL TO AND FROM SCHOOL BY REQUIRING THAT PROTECTIVE GUARDRAILS BE CONSTRUCTED FOR BUS SHELTERS LOCATED ADJACENT TO MAJOR ROADWAYS AND HIGHWAYS.", which I have signed into law today as **Public Law No. 24-131**.

Recently, there were 2 very sad accidents where 2 children were struck by vehicles and killed on their way to school. In these cases, their bus stops were on busy streets, and the children were either crossing the street or near the street. The children involved in these fatal accidents were not immediately next to their bus stops when they were struck, however, any effort that we can make to make the areas where children congregate and wait for their schoolbuses more safe, should be done.

Very truly yours,


Carl T. C. Gutierrez

Attachment 00651

cc: The Honorable Joanne M. S. Brown
Legislative Secretary

Office of the Speaker
ANTONIO R. UNPINGCO
Date: 2/17/98
Time: 1:45 pm
Rec'd by: [Signature]
Print Name: Tanice Mela

TWENTY-FOURTH GUAM LEGISLATURE
1998 (SECOND) Regular Session


CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO THE GOVERNOR

This is to certify that Bill No. 208 (COR), "AN ACT RELATIVE TO FURTHER ASSURING THE SAFETY AND PROTECTION OF OUR ISLAND'S SCHOOL CHILDREN AS THEY TRAVEL TO AND FROM SCHOOL BY REQUIRING THAT PROTECTIVE GUARDRAILS BE CONSTRUCTED FOR BUS SHELTERS LOCATED ADJACENT TO MAJOR ROADWAYS AND HIGHWAYS," was on the 4th day of February, 1998, duly and regularly passed.



ANTONIO R. UNPINGCO
Speaker

Attested:



JOANNE M.S. BROWN
Senator and Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by the Governor this 10th day of February, 1998, at
3:21 o'clock P.M.



Assistant Staff Officer
Governor's Office

APPROVED:



CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ
Governor of Guam

Date: 2-16-98

Public Law No. 24-131

TWENTY-FOURTH GUAM LEGISLATURE
1997 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 208 (COR)

As amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

F. B. Aguon, Jr.

T. C. Ada

E. Barrett-Anderson

A. C. Blaz

J. M.S. Brown

Felix P. Camacho

Francisco P. Camacho

M. C. Charfauros

E. J. Cruz

W. B.S.M. Flores

Mark Forbes

L. F. Kasperbauer

A. C. Lamorena, V

C. A. Leon Guerrero

L. Leon Guerrero

V. C. Pangelinan

J. C. Salas

A. L.G. Santos

F. E. Santos

A. R. Unpingco

J. Won Pat-Borja

AN ACT RELATIVE TO FURTHER ASSURING
THE SAFETY AND PROTECTION OF OUR
ISLAND'S SCHOOL CHILDREN AS THEY
TRAVEL TO AND FROM SCHOOL BY
REQUIRING THAT PROTECTIVE GUARDRAILS
BE CONSTRUCTED FOR BUS SHELTERS

LOCATED ADJACENT TO MAJOR ROADWAYS
AND HIGHWAYS.

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

2 Section 1. Legislative Intent. The Guam Legislature finds that

3 the Department of Public Works continues to effectively address the concerns
4 of the ever-increasing traffic congestion on our roadways by expanding and
5 enhancing the highways and streets throughout the island. As a result of
6 these road enhancement projects, the number of vehicles on the island's roads
7 continue to increase. It is becoming quite evident that the increase in vehicles
8 traveling our major roads is beginning to pose a concern for the safety of our
9 school children who utilize the bus shelters adjacent to these major highways.

10 Because these bus shelters are necessary to allow our school children to wait
11 for and board their appropriate buses to their schools, it is essential that
12 additional efforts be taken to insure their safety. One approach to insuring
13 the safety of our children is to construct an appropriately sized guardrail
14 along each bus shelter that is adjacent to any of the major highways, and other
15 bus shelters that are identified to be in need of such structures for the safety of
16 the children.

17 An extreme example of the need for such protective guardrails is an
18 unfortunate accident which occurred several years ago in which a vehicle ran
19 into a bus shelter during a school morning which resulted in the injury of
20 several children and the death of a child. The extensive injuries sustained by
21 the children and the single death may have been prevented had there been a
22 protective guardrail located at the site of the shelter. Similar potentially

1 damaging incidents must be prevented in the future, particularly as it directly
2 affects the children of Guam.

3 The construction of such guardrails would serve as a protective device
4 that would prevent or minimize any potential injury to the children, should a
5 vehicular accident occur. Therefore, this Act would require that all bus
6 shelters located along major highways be equipped with a guardrail for the
7 protection and safety of our island's school children.

8 **Section 2. Requirement for the Construction of Guardrails for Bus**
9 **Shelters Located Adjacent to Major Highways and Streets.** Bus shelters
10 located adjacent to major streets and highways throughout the island, shall
11 henceforth be equipped with appropriate guardrails for the safety and
12 protection of our school children. Major streets and highways, for purposes
13 of this act, shall be defined as major road arteries which include but is not
14 limited to Routes 1, 4, 2, 10, 16, 8, etc. Such guardrails shall be situated
15 between the major roadway and the bus shelter, and shall act as a safety
16 mechanism for the protection of the school children from potential accidents.
17 Bus shelters that are located in excess of twenty five (25) feet from the edge of
18 the highway may, if deemed unnecessary, be excluded from the provisions of
19 this Act.

20 The Department of Public Works shall be granted a time period of no
21 more than three (3) years to come into full compliance with the provisions set
22 forth in this section.

23 **Section 3. Budgetary Considerations.** The Department of Public
24 Works shall immediately conduct a cost assessment on the number of bus
25 shelters throughout the island that will need such guardrails, prepare a

1 comprehensive report of its findings, and present copies of the report to the
2 Governor of Guam and the Guam Legislature no later than ninety (90) days
3 following the enactment of this Act.

4 **Section 4. Construction of Future Bus Shelters.** Bus shelters
5 constructed in the future along the identified major roadways and highways
6 throughout the island shall be equipped with an appropriately sized
7 guardrail for the safety and protection of our island's school children.

