2013 JUNI 1-4 PM 5: 05 K-

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2013 (First) Regular Session

Bill No. 144-32 (COR)

Introduced by:

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FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

AN **ACT RELATIVE** TO REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION TO IDENTIFY **FUNDS NECESSARY TO** ADDRESS MERIT COMPENSATION **FOR JUDICIARY OF GUAM** EMPLOYEES; AND THEREBY AUTHORIZING THE REMITTANCE, **AND** TIMELY APPROPRIATION, PAYMENT OF SUCH OBLIGATIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Intent and Findings.

I Liheslaturan Guahan recognizes that, as a result of public statements recently made regarding the improving financial condition of the Government of Guam and the ability of I Maga'lahen Guahan to identify funds necessary for meeting outstanding personnel obligations, I Maga'lahen Guahan recently signed Executive Order No. 2013-004, which lifted the freeze on increments due to government of Guam employees within the Executive Branch, and in the same presentation he further highlighted his intention of addressing other personnel obligations throughout the Government of Guam that include the implementation of the Hay Study compensation plan. I Liheslaturan Guahan further recognizes that all government of Guam employees should be properly compensated their increments and merit bonuses in accordance with the authorization existent in law.

In addition, I Liheslaturan Guahan finds that the Judiciary of Guam has yet to receive funds from the executive branch that could be utilized to compensate its employees the merit bonuses due to them. Funds for the payment of these merit bonuses must be identified and thus remitted to the Judiciary of Guam for addressing such payments. As the Department of Administration manages the fund accounts of the Government of Guam, it is only proper that the agency be tasked with identifying a funding source that could be utilized to address the payment of Judiciary of Guam merit bonuses.

Therefore, to ensure that all public employees, to include the Judiciary of Guam personnel, are properly compensated their merit bonuses, it is essential that funds be identified to meet this obligation. Thus, this provision would require that the Department of Administration identify the funds necessary to address this outstanding obligation, and thereupon would appropriate such sums to the Judiciary of Guam necessary to put a closure to this requirement.

Section 2. Identification and Remittance of Funds to the Judiciary of Guam for the Payment of Merit Bonuses Due to Exemplary Employees.

The Department of Administration shall hereby identify the sum of One Million One Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty Six Dollars (\$1,125,256.00) from Fiscal Year 2013 revenues for the payment of outstanding merit bonuses due to Judiciary of Guam employees.

Such sums, upon identification, shall thereby be appropriated to the Judiciary of Guam and transferred for the specific purposes set forth herein. Any sum not expended for the purposes highlighted herein within sixty (60) days upon remittance to the Judiciary of Guam shall revert back to the General Fund.

Section 2. Reporting Requirement.

The Department of Administration shall, within ten (10) days of the remittance of the sums highlighted herein to the Judiciary of Guam, provide a written report to I Maga'lahen Guahan, the Speaker of I Liheslaturan Guahan, and the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee of I Liheslaturan Guahan on the funding source identified for the merit bonus payments and the date in which the transmittal of such funds were effectuated.

- 1 Section 3. Effective Date.
- The provisions contained herein shall be effective upon enactment of
- 3 this Act.