

**MINA' TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN
2013 (FIRST) Regular Session**

Bill No. 73-32 (LS) (COR)

Introduced by:

D.G. RODRIGUEZ, JR. 

B.J. CRUZ 

A. YAMASHITA, Ph.D. 

M. LIMTIACO 

AN ACT TO RENAME THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE (DMHSA), TO THE "GUAM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CENTER" (GBHC), BY AMENDING CHAPTER 86 OF TITLE 10, GUAM ANNOTATED, AND TO ALLOW FOR CHANGES TO OTHER RELEVANT LAWS AS NECESSARY SOLELY FOR CONSISTENCY WITH THE AGENCY'S NAME CHANGE.

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent: *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that the current title of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse (DMHSA) is *not* consistent with the current title of the majority of United States and Federal mental health agencies, and carries an undesirable stigma on the Island of Guam. Further, with the February 4, 2013 transfer of control of the DMHSA pursuant to the Amended Permanent Injunction, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds this to be an appropriate time to initiate the government's restored authority with a fresh start, to include, efforts to remove any social stigma which negatively impacts the psychological wellbeing of its patients.

I Liheslaturan Guåhan takes due notice that the request to make the name change comes from the Acting Director of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, and the, then, outgoing Federal Management Team member, Dr.

1 James J. Kiffer. Further, that the name, “Guam Behavioral Health Center”, is more
2 appropriate and carries less of a negative stigma.

3 It is, therefore, the *intent of I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to amend Chapter 86,
4 Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, for the *sole* purpose of renaming the Department,
5 and, *further*, to allow the Compiler of Laws to make name reference changes for
6 consistency with other provisions of law, as is determined to be necessary and
7 without giving any other effect to the various statutes operative provisions, so as to
8 solely reflect this departmental name change, where appropriate.

9 **Section 2.** Chapter 86 [Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse],
10 Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended*, to read:

11 **“Chapter 86. Guam Behavioral Health Center.”**

12 **Section 3.** Subsection (a) of §86102 [Definitions], and §86103, Title 10,
13 Guam Code Annotated, is *amended*, to read:

14 “(a) DEPARTMENT. *Department* means the Guam Behavioral
15 Health Center [~~Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse~~].”

16 **Section 4.** §86103, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, is *amended*, to read

17 **“§86103. Creation of Department.**

18 There is within the government of Guam the Guam Behavioral Health Center [a
19 ~~Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse~~]. The Council, by an
20 affirmative vote of four (4) members, shall select and, with the approval of the
21 Governor, appoint the Director of the Guam Behavioral Health Center [~~Department~~
22 ~~of Mental Health and Substance Abuse~~], with the advice and consent of the
23 Legislature. The Director shall be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the
24 Department. The Director's salary shall be as provided by 4 GCA § 6206.

1 **Section 4.** The Compiler of Laws *shall* have limited authority to make
2 changes throughout Chapter 86 of Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, and elsewhere
3 within the Guam Code Annotated, and applicable Guam Administrative Rules and
4 Regulations, as is determined to be necessary and *without* giving any other effect
5 to the various statutes operative provisions, so as to solely reflect for reference
6 consistency this departmental name change to the *Guam Behavioral Health Center*,
7 where appropriate.

8 **Section 5. Effective Date.** This Act shall become immediately effective
9 upon enactment.