I MINA 'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2009 (First) REGULAR SESSION

Bill No. 37 (25)

Introduced by:

J.V. Espaldon

AN ACT TO REPEAL AND RE-ENACT CHAPTER 67 OF TITLE 21 GUAM CODE ANNOATED, RELATIVE TO ADOPTING THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE AS THE BUILDING CODE OF GUAM.

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Intent. Nationally, building codes are updated in three expected year cycles. Guam is currently using a version of the building code that is based on the 1994 edition of the Uniform Building Code as promulgated by the International Conference of Building Officials (ICBO). In the year 2000, the Uniform Building Code was replaced by the International Building Code (IBC), a project of the three (3) model building codes groups to consolidate their requirements into a single set of codes applicable to all jurisdictions. There is no UBC edition after 1997, and the ICBO no longer exists. It is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*, therefore, to adopt the 2006 edition of the International Building Code as the Building Code of Guam, as well as to place in statute a provision that allows the adoption of subsequent updates to, or new editions of, the International Building Code as it may become published.

Section 2. Repeal and Re-enactment of Chapter 67 of Title 21, Guam Code Annotated. Chapter 67 of Title 21, Guam Code Annotated is repealed and re-enacted to read:

"Chapter 67

THE BUILDING CODE

§ 67101. International Building Code Adopted. (a) All Sections and appendices of the 2006 edition of the International (IBC), inclusive, are enacted and added to Division 2 of Title 21, Guam Code Annotated. The IBC shall be recognized as the standard for the furtherance of the intent of Chapter 66 of this Title. The Codifier shall number the sections of the IBC appropriately to correlate with provisions of this Title not repealed by this Act."

Section 3. Fees. All fees in effect upon the enactment of this Act shall continue to be in effect.

Section 4. Judicial Matters. The adoption of the IBC as the Building Code of Guam shall not be construed to affect any suit or proceeding impending in any court, or any rights acquired, or liability incurred, or any cause or causes of action acquired or existing, under any act or regulation hereby repealed as cited in Section 2 of this Act; nor shall any just or legal right or remedy of any character be lost, impaired or affected by this Act.

Section 5. Public Notice to be given. Following enactment into law of this Act, the Department of Public Works is hereby directed to publish in a newspaper of general circulation the adoption of the new building code of Guam, and to post in conspicuous locations within its premises notice of the same.

Section 6. Updates to the International Building Code to be adopted upon being published. Upon the publication of updates to, and new editions of, the International Building Code, the Department of Public Works shall publish in a newspaper of general circulation the planned adoption of the most recent updates to, and new editions of, the International Building Code. The department shall adopt each such update or new edition via the Administrative Adjudication Law.

Section 7. Severability. *If* any provisions of this Act, or its application to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the invalidity shall *not* affect other provisions or applications of this Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are severable.