

MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2009 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 274-30(LS)

Introduced by:

FRANK B. AGUON JR.

Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Pwarras Muna Blas

AN ACT RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING THE
"GUAM WORLD WAR II LOYALTY RECOGNITION
COMMISSION" FOR THE PURPOSES OF
BRINGING TOGETHER ISLAND LEADERS AND
WWII SURVIVORS OF THE COMMUNITY FOR
THE PURPOSE OF AGGRESSIVELY PURSUING
THE ENDORSEMENT AND TIMELY PASSAGE OF
THE GUAM WAR REPARATIONS LEGISLATION
IN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE INHUMANE
TREATMENT RECEIVED BY THE PEOPLE OF
GUAM DURING WORLD WAR II; AND, TO
REPEAL AND REENACT §2201 AND §2204 OF
CHAPTER 22, TITLE 1, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

1 Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. The Liheslaturan
2 Guahan finds that recent efforts by Guam's Delegate of the U. S. House of
3 Representatives and a few of Guam's leaders for the adoption of the war
4 reparations provision within the DOD budget was unsuccessful, and has
5 proven that additional and collective efforts will need to be exhausted to
6 realize the successful passage of the World War II reparations contained in
7 House Resolution 44 over the next year, or its insertion into the next fiscal
8 year's DOD budget.

1 Therefore, in an attempt to ensure that every effort is applied toward
2 educating members of the U. S. Congress and in acquiring their support for
3 Guam’s war reparations, it is essential that a collective effort be utilized to
4 maximize Guam’s quest to realize the final adoption and closure of the
5 Guam World War II reparations for the people of Guam. This provision
6 would provide for the establishment of a Commission, composed of
7 various island leader representatives, and to include World War II
8 survivors, who will be tasked with personally sharing Guam’s story on the
9 war reparations with members of the U. S. Congress and of President
10 Obama’s administration, through allowing Commission members to visit
11 and to petition members of Congress and President Obama’s
12 administration to adopt the Guam World War II Recognition Act or the
13 provisions therein; and to carry out the functions and powers as further
14 provided for in Chapter 22, Title 1, Guam Code Annotated.”

15 **Section 2. Section 2201 of Chapter 22, Title 1, Guam Code**
16 **Annotated, is repealed and reenacted, to read:**

17 **“§2201. Establishment of the Guam World War II Loyalty**
18 **Recognition Commission.**

19 There is hereby established the *“Guam World War II Loyalty*
20 *Recognition Commission”*, hereinafter referred to as the *“Commission”*,
21 which shall be tasked with the responsibility of aggressively working with
22 members of the U. S. Congress, to include both the House of
23 Representatives and the Senate, in educating these members of the

1 tremendous importance and time sensitive nature of continuing their
2 support and realizing the adoption of the Guam World War II Loyalty
3 Recognition Act (House Resolution 44) or the provisions contained therein.
4 In addition to conducting, at a minimum, quarterly visits to the U. S.
5 Congress and the Obama administration representatives, the Commission
6 shall also encourage key members of Congress or the Obama
7 administration to visit Guam and to dialogue with the community on the
8 tremendous importance for the adoption of the war reparations. In
9 carrying out these responsibilities, the Commission shall work
10 collaboratively with Guam's delegate to the U. S. House of Representatives.

11 The Commission shall be composed of the following members:

- 12 1. I Maga'lahaen Guahan, who shall serve as the Chairperson,
- 13 2. I Segundo Na Maga'lahaen Guahan;
- 14 3. Speaker of I Liheslaturan Guahan or a Senator designee;
- 15 4. Chairperson of the Committee of I Liheslaturan Guahan
16 maintaining oversight over federal issues;
- 17 5. Senator, minority, I Liheslaturan Guahan;
- 18 6. President of the Mayors Council of Guam, or a Mayor designee;
- 19 7. Mayor or Vice-Mayor, to be selected by a majority of the Mayors
20 Council of Guam;
- 21 8. World War II survivor;
- 22 9. World War II survivor;
- 23 10. World War II survivor;

1 11. World War II survivor, or heir.

2 The Commission shall conduct its initial meeting no later than thirty
3 (30) days following the enactment of this Act.”

4 **Section 3.** Section 2204 of Chapter 22, Title 21, Guam Code
5 Annotated is repealed and reenacted, to read:

6 “§2204. **Budget and term of existence.** As its first item of discussion,
7 the Commission shall adopt a budget that would address its operational
8 requirements for fiscal year 2010, and officially present such budgetary
9 requirements to I Liheslaturan Guahan immediately thereafter. The
10 Governor may, should he so choose, utilize his transfer authority to
11 provide the necessary funding to address the initial operations of the
12 Commission, pending legislative action on the Commission’s budget
13 request.

14 The Commission shall exist for the duration of fiscal year 2010 only,
15 or until such time that the World War II Loyalty Recognition Act or the
16 provisions therein are adopted by the U. S. Congress and signed by the
17 President of the United States. For the Commission to continue its
18 existence beyond September 30, 2010, a majority of members shall adopt a
19 resolution justifying its continual operations for the purposes outlined
20 above, and, shall further, present any additional budgetary requirements
21 and resolution to I Liheslaturan Guahan for action.”