## I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2009 (First) Regular Session

Bill No. <u>298-30 (co</u> R)

Introduced by:

T.C. Ada

## AN ACT TO AMEND §7120.2, OF CHAPTER 7, TITLE 16 OF GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEES FOR VETERANS RATED AT A 100% PERMANENT AND TOTAL DISABILITY.

## 1 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:**

2 Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds

3 that veterans have played and continue to protect our freedoms through their

4 dedicated and unselfish service to our island and country. Some veterans

5 have endured physical, emotional, and psychological injuries resulting in 0%

6 to 100% disability and individual unemployability (unable to secure

7 employment due to service related injuries).

8 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds in 2008, approximately \$19.8M was paid to 9 Guam veterans for service connected disability compensation. In 2008, there 10 were approximately 169 veterans that were rated as 100% disability and 11 another 195 rated as Individual Unemployability.

12 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* intends to authorize the Department of Revenue and

1

Taxation to waive the veteran license plate fees for those veterans who have
suffered significant injuries during their service to our country and have
received a 100% permanent and total disability rating from the U.S. Veterans
Affairs Office.

5 Section 2. Section §7120.2 of Chapter 7, Title 16 GCA is hereby *amended*6 as follows.

7	(e) <b>Fee.</b> The fee for the issuance of a veteran license plate shall
8	not exceed the fee charged for a similar license plate for the same class
9	of vehicle. <u>No fee shall be charged for the issuance of a veteran license</u>
10	plate to a veteran rated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs at a
11	100% permanent and total disability. Veteran license plate must be for a
12	non-commercial vehicle registered to the veteran, or legal guardian
13	applying for benefits under this Act. A copy of the decision letter issued
14	by the Regional Veterans Affairs Office which indicates approved
15	disability rating must be furnished to the Department of Revenue and
16	Taxation in order to waive the veteran license plate fees.
- 1 <b>m</b>	

**Section 3. Severability.** If any provisions of this Act or its application to any person or circumstance is found to be invalid or contrary to law, such invalidity shall *not* affect other provisions or applications of this Act which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or applications, and to this end the provisions of this Act are severable.

22

2