## I MINA' TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2010 (SECOND) Regular Session

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Bill No.451-30(231)

Introduced by:

Committee on Tourism, Cultural Affairs, Youth, and Public Broadcasting At the request of the 27<sup>th</sup> Guam Youth Congress

AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT CHAPTER 7, TITLE 2 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; RELATIVE TO THE GUAM YOUTH SENATE.

1		BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:	
2		Section 1.	Chapter 7, Title 2 of the Guam Code Annotated is repealed and reenacted to
3	read:		
4			Chapter 7
5			Guam Youth Senate
6		§ 7101.	Youth Senate.
7		§ 7102.	Functions.
8		§ 7103.	Membership.
9		§ 7104.	Eligibility of Representatives and Electorate.
10		§ 7105.	Vacancies.
11		§ 7106.	Sessions.
12		§ 7107.	Elections.
13		§ 7107.1.	Term of Office.
14		§ 7108.	Duties.
15		§ 7109.	Office of the Youth Congress.
16		§ 7109.1.	Budget of the Youth Senate and the Office of the Youth Senate.
17		§ 7110.	Stipends.
18		§ 7111.	Annual address by the Speaker of the Youth Senate.
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### § 7101. Youth Senate.

There is within the Legislative Branch of the government of Guam, a Youth Senate.

# § 7102. Functions.

The Youth Senate shall act as a legislative body with the power to make its own rules, hold hearings, pass resolutions, and to prepare and to pass bills which will be forwarded to the Rules Committee of the Guam Legislature for action as with a legislative bill.

The Youth Senate shall be the highest public youth body in Guam, and shall represent the Youth of Guam, their desires and aspirations, and will serve as a training and action area for Guam's future leaders.

### § 7103. Membership.

The Senate shall be composed of not to exceed twenty-five (25) members, to be known as Youth Senators, to be elected from the areas listed below:

### 1. District Representation

- a. Eight (9) representatives from Northern Guam: (Dededo, Yigo, and Mangilao).
- b. Seven (7) representatives from Central Guam: (Tamuning, Ordot-Chalan Pago, Sinajana, Barrigada, Hagatna, and Agana Heights).
- c. Seven (7) representatives from Southern Guam: (Asan, Piti, Yona, Santa Rita, Agat, Santa Rita, Umatac, Merizo, Inarajan, and Talofofo).

Each district shall gain one (1) representative for every five-hundred (500) residents beginning in the Census 2020 and thereafter.

### 2. School Representation

- a. One (1) representatives from the University of Guam.
- b. One (1) representative from the Guam Community College.

### § 7104. Eligibility of Representatives and Electorate.

No person shall be eligible to vote for a Representative, or sit in the Senate who has not attained the age of fourteen (14) years of age prior to the inauguration of the Youth Senate or entered high school as a freshman or who will be twenty-five (25) prior to the expiration of the term for which he seeks to qualify as a voter or as a member, or who has been convicted of a felony or crime involving moral turpitude and has not received a pardon restoring his civil rights.

#### § 7105. Vacancies.

In case of a vacancy occurring more than six (6) months from the next Youth Congress election, the Speaker of the Youth Congress shall appoint a youth of Guam who is of the same political party as the representative who has vacated the seat to assume the position. Such appointment shall be confirmed by a majority vote of the Guam Youth Senate. Any vacancy occurring less than six (6) months from the next Youth Congress election shall remain vacant until filled at the election.

### § 7106. Sessions.

Regular sessions of the Senate shall be held each second Saturday of the year exclusive of holidays, commencing the second Saturday of November and shall continue for Two (2) calendar years. Sessions shall be held in the legislative chamber of the Guam Legislature, or if the chamber is unavailable, shall be held at a suitable location to be determined by the Speaker of the Youth Senate and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules of the Youth Senate.

## § 7107. Elections.

General election to the Youth Senate shall be held on the third Monday in October commencing October, 2010 and every two (2) years thereafter. The elections for Youth Senators shall be conducted by the Office of the Youth Senate. Each voter shall be entitled to vote by private ballot for the number of representatives allotted as is provided in § 7103 of this Code.

The dates for filing for candidacy for the Youth Senate shall begin twenty (20) days prior to the Youth Senate election and shall conclude ten (10) days prior to the election.

Candidates for election may file to run as members of a political party or as independents, all such candidates to have received by petition from the eligible youth electorate of their districts at least thirty-five (35) signatures. Names of candidates who are certified by the Office of the Youth Senate shall appear in media at no later than one (1) week prior to the Youth Senate elections.

It shall be the responsibility of the Office of the Youth Senate to provide forms for petitions, to certify signatures on the petitions, to release the names of all candidates certified to run for the Youth Senate, to select polling sites across the island, to provide ballots, ballot boxes, and personnel to supervise the elections, and to count and tally the ballots.

Results of the election will be verified and certified by the Director of the Office of the Youth Senate within three (3) days of after the election to the Secretary of the Guam Legislature, who shall certify election of members to the Youth Senate.

Any disputes resulting from the election shall be resolved by the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules of the outgoing Guam Youth Senate.

### § 7107.1 Term of Office.

Members of the Youth Senate shall be elected for a term of two (2) years with the exception of a member who is appointed to fill a vacancy, the term of which will expire on the next general election for the Youth Senate.

### § 7108. Duties.

The Senate shall be the judge of the selection and qualification of its own members. It shall choose from its members its own officers, its rules and procedures, not inconsistent with this Chapter. The quorum of the Senate shall equal one-half of its elective membership plus one.

No bill shall be considered passed unless a majority of its members present and voting indicate by an affirmative vote their desire to do pass.

## § 7109. Office of the Youth Senate.

There shall be under the Guam Youth Senate, an Office of the Youth Senate, administered by a Director appointed jointly by the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules of *I Liheslaturan Guahan* and the Speaker of the Youth Senate for a term of two years. The Office shall coordinate all administrative and logistical needs of the Youth Senate, as well as to coordinate Youth Senate elections.

The Director shall oversee the Administrative Officer of the Youth Senate, the Clerk of the Youth Senate, and the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Youth Senate; and shall coordinate any activities between the Youth Senate and other organizations at the direction of the Speaker of the Youth Senate.

## § 7109.1. Budget of the Youth Senate and the Office of the Youth Senate.

The budget of the Youth Senate and the Office of the Youth Senate shall equal to fifty percent (50%) of the Office of Finance and Budget.

### § 7109.2. Personnel.

The Office of the Youth Senate is authorized to employ on a part time basis an Administrative Officer, a Clerk, and a Sergeant-at-Arms to assist the Director of the Office of the Youth Senate.

### § 7110. Stipends.

Youth Senators shall be compensated at the rate of Fifty Dollars (\$50) for each regularly monthly or special session they attend. The Youth Senate Vice Speaker and Legislative Secretary shall receive Seventy-Five Dollars (\$75) for each regularly monthly or special session they attend. The Youth Senate Speaker shall receive One-Hundred dollars (\$100) for every regularly monthly or special session he/she attend.

### § 7111. Annual address by the Speaker of the Youth Senate.

The Speaker of the Youth Senate shall deliver an address to the members of the Guam Youth Senate, the Guam Legislature, the Governor of Guam, and all other public leaders to identify the concerns of the youth of Guam and to what the Youth Senate shall be addressing during its term. The address shall be delivered on the second Monday in December at the Legislative Session Hall.