

I Mina'Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guahan
Bill Log Sheet

BILL NO.	SPONSOR	TITLE	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	FISCAL NOTES
233-32 (COR)	Michael F. Q. San Nicolas	AN ACT TO REQUIRE A PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AT EVERY PUBLIC MEETING OF AN AGENCY OR INSTRUMENTALITY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM, BY ADDING A NEW §8117 TO CHAPTER 8, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.	12/3/13 11:07 a.m.	12/04/13	Committee on General Governmental Operations and Cultural Affairs			



COMMITTEE ON RULES

I Mina'trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan • The 32nd Guam Legislature
155 Hesler Place, Hagåtña, Guam 96910 • www.guamlegislature.com
E-mail: roryforguam@gmail.com • Tel: (671)472-7679 • Fax: (671)472-3547

Senator
Rory J. Respicio
CHAIRPERSON
MAJORITY LEADER

Senator
Thomas C. Ada
VICE CHAIRPERSON
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

Senator
Vicente (Ben) C. Pangelinan
Member

Speaker
Judith T.P. Won Pat, Ed.D.
Member

Senator
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
Member

Vice-Speaker
Benjamin J.F. Cruz
Member

Legislative Secretary
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Member

Senator
Frank Blas Aguon, Jr.
Member

Senator
Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
Member

Senator
V. Anthony Ada
Member
MINORITY LEADER


Senator
Aline Yamashita
Member

December 4, 2013

MEMORANDUM

To: Rennae Meno
Clerk of the Legislature

Attorney Therese M. Terlaje
Legislative Legal Counsel

From: Senator Rory J. Respicio 
Chairperson of the Committee on Rules

Subject: Referral of Bill No. 233-32(COR)

As the Acting Chairperson of the Committee on Rules, I am forwarding my referral of **Bill No. 233-32(COR)**.

Please ensure that the subject bill is referred, in my name, to the respective committee, as shown on the attachment. I also request that the same be forwarded to all members of *I Mina'trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan*.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office at 472-7679.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse!

Attachment

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2013 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 233-32 (COR)

Introduced by:

Michael F.Q. San Nicolas

AN ACT TO REQUIRE A PERIOD FOR PUBLIC
COMMENT AT EVERY PUBLIC MEETING OF AN
AGENCY OR INSTRUMENTALITY OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF GUAM, BY ADDING A NEW §8117
TO CHAPTER 8, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE
ANNOTATED.

2013 DEC -3 AM 11:07
ms

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

2 **Section 1. Short Title.** This Act *shall* be cited as the “Responsible
3 Public Comment Act.”

4 **Section 2. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*
5 finds that the people of Guam individually and collectively hold
6 considerable wisdom and experience from their lives and education. Their
7 government is formed precisely to protect them, defend them, and improve
8 their lives. As a government for the people, by the people and of the
9 people, it is fundamental that our people be allowed to participate to the
10 fullest extent possible in the establishment of policy for the Territory. A
11 basic element of this is to provide an opportunity for the voices of the
12 people of Guam to be heard.

1 *I Liheslatura* further finds that currently there is no provision of the
2 Open Government Law that requires all agencies and instrumentalities of
3 the government of Guam to allow public comment during public meetings.
4 Such public comments are an integral part of the transparency and
5 accessibility of our government to our people.

6 It is therefore the intent of *I Liheslatura* that every public meeting of
7 an agency or instrumentality of the government of Guam include a period
8 for public comment, by adding a new §8117 to Chapter 8, Title 5, Guam
9 Code Annotated.

10 **Section 3. Public Comment.** A new §8117 is hereby *added* to Chapter
11 8, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, to read:

12 **“§ 8117. Public Comment.**

13 Every public meeting of an agency or instrumentality of the
14 government of Guam *shall* include a period for public comment. Such
15 agency *may* limit the length of each comment from a member of the
16 public, *provided* that such time limitation *shall* not be shorter than five
17 (5) minutes. *If* the agency intends either to hold an executive or
18 closed portion of the meeting, pursuant to §8111 of this Chapter, or to
19 take action on any motion, proposal, resolution or order, pertaining
20 to any fee or rate, then the period for public comment required by
21 this section *shall* precede such portion of the meeting.”