I MINA'TRENTAI KUÅTTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN

2018 (SECOND) Regular Session

LEGISLATIVE SESSION VOTING RECORD

Bill No. 334-34 (COR)	**Speaker Antonio R. Unpingco Legislative Session Hall December 17, 2018**					
NAME	**Aye**	**Nay**	**Not Voting/ Abstained**	**Out During Roll Call**	**Absent**	**Excused**
Senator Thomas C. **ADA**	✓					
Senator FRANK B. **AGUON, JR.**	✓					
Senator William M. **CASTRO**	✓					
Senator James V. **ESPALDON**	✓					
Senator Fernando Barcinas **ESTEVES**	✓					
Senator Régine Biscoe **LEE**	✓					
Senator Tommy **MORRISON**	✓					
Senator Louise B. **MUÑA**					✓	✓
Senator Telena Cruz **NELSON**	✓					
Senator Dennis G. **RODRIGUEZ, Jr.**	✓					
Senator Joe S. San **AGUSTIN**	✓					
Senator Michael F.Q. **SAN NICOLAS**	✓					
Acting Speaker Therese M. **TERLAJE**	✓					
Senator Mary Camacho **TORRES**	✓					

TOTAL:	**13**				**1**	**1**
	Aye	**Nay**	**Not Voting/ Abstained**	**Out During Roll Call**	**Absent**	**Excused**

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

Clerk of the Legislature

I = Pass

I MINA'TRENTAI KUÅTTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2018 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 334-34 (COR)

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Introduced by: FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

AN ACT TO *AMEND* §§ 122317 AND 122318 OF ARTICLE 23, PART 2, CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE TIMELINE FOR OBTAINING EXEMPTIONS AND EXCEPTIONS FOR SOCIAL WORKER LICENSURE UPON THE PROMULGATION AND ENACTMENT OF RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE SAME.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that the enactment of and the amendment to the Social Work Practice Act (SWPA) did not account for the period of time needed to apply for a Certificate of Exemption or meet the conditions for an exception under said provisions of law.

As a result, the period to apply for a Certificate of Exemption has expired and the conditions to be granted an exception under the provision of law requires all applications be received by the date of the promulgation and enactment of the rules and regulations.

I Liheslatura further finds that by extending the sunset provision of the SWPA to six (6) months of the promulgation of rules and regulations for the same, individuals seeking to obtain a Certificate of Exemption or meet the conditions for an exception from licensure will be afforded an acceptable period of time.

Therefore, it is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to allow individuals seeking to obtain a Certificate of Exemption or meet the conditions for an exception from social work licensure to do so within six (6) months of the promulgation of rules and regulations governing the SWPA.

Section 2. The first paragraph of § 122317 of Article 23, Part 2, Chapter 12, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, is *amended* to read:

"**§ 122317. Exemptions.**

Exemptions may be granted to non-social work degree holders who are employed with the job title "social worker" or any derivative thereof. Those granted a Certificate of Exemption by the Board would be allowed to remain in their social work positions without a social work license. Persons may apply for a Certificate of Exemption within six (6) months of the promulgation of the rules and regulations. The Certificate of Exemption *shall* be effective indefinitely throughout the course of the person's professional career."

Section 3. § 122318 of Article 23, Part 2, Chapter 12, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, is *amended* to read:

"**§ 122318. Exceptions.**

An exception is granted to any person meeting the following conditions:

(a) a person who is employed or has retired with the job title "social worker" or any derivative thereof and possesses a Bachelor's, Master's, or Ph.D. degree in the field of social work from an accredited or unaccredited social work degree program as of the date of passage of this law. Those granted exceptions must obtain a social work license within six (6) months of the promulgation of the rules and regulations;

(b) a person who self-identifies as a social worker and possesses a Bachelor's, Master's, or Ph.D. degree in the field of social work from an

accredited or unaccredited social work degree program upon enactment of this Act. Those granted exceptions must obtain a social work license within six (6) months of the promulgation of the rules and regulations; and

(c) a person who possesses a non-social work degree, but possesses a degree in a related social science, to include degrees such as psychology, sociology, counseling, human relations and human services, political science, criminal justice, and any other degrees as approved by the Board; and who self-identifies as a social worker may apply for an exception to obtain social work licensure meeting the following requirements:

(1) provide a written request for exception from licensure requirements to the Board;

(2) provide a written declaration that they are individuals in good standing based on satisfactory employment performance evaluations and with no ethical complaints in the course of their employment with the job title "social worker;"

(3) sign a declaration statement that they will abide by the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics;

(4) submit three (3) letters of verification, to include one (1) from their current employer acknowledging that he/she is an individual in good standing, and is highly recommended for employment with the job title, "social worker;" and

(5) obtain fifty (50) continuing education units (CEU) or certified training contact hours approved by the Social Work Board in the field of social work to include the following: the application of social work theory, knowledge, methods, ethics, and the professional use of self to restore or enhance social, psychosocial, or bio-psychosocial functioning of individuals, couples, families, groups,

organizations, and communities; and training in the social work Generalist Practice Model that includes assessment, planning, intervention, evaluation, case management, information and referral, counseling, supervision, consultation, education, advocacy, community organization, and the development, implementation, and administration of policies, programs, and activities. The fifty (50) CEUs or certified training contact hours shall have no time or date limitations.

(d) All persons qualified for exceptions do not need to take the appropriate licensure examination, but must conform to all other requirements consistent with the appropriate level of licensure as prescribed in the law. Exceptions may only be granted by the Board up until six (6) months of the promulgation of the rules and regulations."

Section 4. Effective Date. This Act *shall* become effective upon enactment.