


MINA' BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2005 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 178 (EC)

Introduced by:

J. M.S. Brown 

AN ACT TO DEAPPROPRIATE FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$50,000.00) FROM THE SUMS APPROPRIATED TO *I LIHESLATURA* FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005 AND TO REAPPROPRIATE SAID SUM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF HIRING AN ATTORNEY FOR FISCAL YEARS 2006 AND 2007.

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

2 **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds
3 that the Department of Agriculture is responsible for the protection,
4 preservation and enhancement of Guam's natural resources. Limited funds,
5 insufficient staff and resources, however, have caused a lack of consistency in
6 the prosecution of violations.

7 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* also finds this presents challenges in the
8 enforcement of the laws in place to allow the Department of Agriculture to
9 complete its mission of preventing the illegal poaching of animals, and the
10 preservation of our fragile marine preserves to protect our vital resources.

1 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* is aware that a federal grant in the amount of Two
2 Hundred Ninety-One Thousand and Five Hundred dollars (\$291,500) was
3 awarded by the U.S. Department of Interior to Guam for the island's Coral
4 Reef Initiative management projects, which will fund the first two years of a
5 Natural Resource Prosecutor position. These funds, however, are limited and
6 used specifically for Guam's coastal prosecution issues.

7 According to the Department of Agriculture, twenty-five percent (25%)
8 of arrests made are for illegal hunting violations. An additional Fifty
9 Thousand dollars (\$50,000) in local funding is needed to assist the agriculture
10 department in its prosecution efforts of those charged with hunting and
11 terrestrial violations.

12 It is, therefore, the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to assist the
13 Department of Agriculture in its mission to protect and preserve our island's
14 resources; marine and terrestrial, because of their importance in maintaining
15 the balance of our ecosystem and environment, now and in the future.

16 **Section 2. Deappropriation and Reappropriation.** The sum of Fifty
17 Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) is hereby deappropriated from the sums
18 appropriated to *I Liheslatura* prior to May 1, 2005 for Fiscal Year 2005 and
19 reappropriated to the Department of Agriculture for the *sole* purpose of hiring
20 an Assistant Attorney General to assist in the prosecution of illegal hunting
21 and terrestrial violations. The amount of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars
22 (\$25,000.00) shall be used to additionally fund the attorney's salary during

1 Fiscal Year 2006 and the remaining Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars
2 (\$25,000.00) shall be used to fund the attorney's salary during Fiscal Year
3 2007. Notwithstanding any other law or rule, the Fiscal Officer of *I Liheslatura*
4 shall reduce the budget allotment to Vice Speaker Joanne M.S. Brown for
5 Fiscal Year 2005 by an amount equal to the sum deappropriated by this
6 Section and transfer that sum to the Department of Administration for
7 expenditure in accordance herewith.

8 **Section 3. Reporting.** Within sixty (60) days after the end of Fiscal Years
9 2006 and 2007, the Director of the Department of Agriculture shall submit a
10 written report regarding the expenditure of this appropriation to *I Liheslaturan*
11 *Guåhan*. No portion of this appropriation shall be used for purposes other
12 than that specifically defined in Section 2 of this act.