EDDIE BAZA CALVO
Governor

RAY TENORIO
Lieutenant Governor

Office of the Governor Of Guam

MAR 02 2018

GCA 34-18-1611
Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz

Honorable Benjamin J.F. Cruz
Speaker
I Mina'trentai Kuåttro Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

MAR 0 2 2018
Time: 4:34 [ ] AM [ ] PM File No. 34-1614
Received By:

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Transmitted herewith is Substitute Bill No. 217-34 (COR), **"AN ACT TO *AMEND* § 67110 OF CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO UPDATING THE GUAM VETERANS REGISTRY,"** which was signed on March 2, 2018, as **Public Law 34-86**

Senseramente,

EDDIE BAZA CALVO

2018 MAR -2 PM 4:45 C.S

1611

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

CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO *I MAGA'LÅHEN GUÅHAN*

This is to certify that **Substitute Bill No. 217-34 (COR), "AN ACT TO *AMEND* § 67110 OF CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO UPDATING THE GUAM VETERANS REGISTRY,"** was on the 19th day of February 2018, duly and regularly passed.

Benjamin J.F. Cruz
Speaker

Attested:

Régine Biscoe Lee
Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by *I Maga'låhen Guåhan* this 20 day of FEB., 2018, at 3:44 o'clock P .M.

Assistant Staff Officer
Maga'låhi's Office

APPROVED:

EDWARD J.B. CALVO
I Maga'låhen Guåhan

Date: MAR 0 2 2018

Public Law No. 34-86

I MINA'TRENTAI KUÅTTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2017 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 217-34 (COR)
As substituted by the Committee on Health, Tourism, Military Affairs, and Senior Citizens; and amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

Therese M. Terlaje
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
Thomas C. Ada
FRANK B. AGUON, JR.
William M. Castro
B. J.F. Cruz
James V. Espaldon
Fernando Barcinas Esteves
Régine Biscoe Lee
Tommy Morrison
Louise B. Muña
Telena Cruz Nelson
Joe S. San Agustin
Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
Mary Camacho Torres

AN ACT TO *AMEND* § 67110 OF CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO UPDATING THE GUAM VETERANS REGISTRY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that since the enactment of Public Law 32-101 in November 2013, the Office of Veterans Affairs has been responsible for the establishment and maintenance of a Guam Veterans Registry.

I Liheslaturan Guåhan further finds that the established number of veterans on the Guam Veterans Registry directly influences the level of services and benefits

afforded to Guam veterans by the U.S. federal government. Public Law 32-101 authorizes the Office of Veterans Affairs to use data collected at other government agencies that may be "*collecting the data in whole or in part*" and allows that all other government agencies "*whenever applicable, shall render assistance*" to the Office of Veterans Affairs in carrying out the enumeration of the Guam Veterans Registry.

In furtherance of the current efforts of the Office of Veterans Affairs and other agencies, it is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to require all government agencies from which a DD214 or other proof of veteran status is required in order to qualify for benefits, to forward a copy of the proof of veteran status to the Office of Veterans Affairs for the purpose of updating the Guam Veterans Registry in accordance with 10 GCA § 67110.

Section 2. § 67110 (Guam Veterans Registry) of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

"**§ 67110. Guam Veterans Registry.**

The Office of Veterans Affairs *shall* be responsible for the establishment and maintenance of a Guam Veterans Registry (Registry), which *shall* be updated no less than semiannually. The update of the Registry *shall* entail the addition of newly registered veterans residing on Guam, and the scrubbing of the list to ensure that the names of veterans who no longer reside on the island or who have passed away are deleted from the Registry. The Registry *shall* be utilized by the Office for the purpose of providing Guam veterans and their families with current information on veterans' benefits and activities, through the use of its webpage or other means deemed necessary that would ensure the maximum dissemination of veteran-related information; and for the validation of Guam's veteran population to further strengthen the Office's ability to pursue financial resources and support in the provision of

services or programs for the benefit of Guam's veterans and their families. The Office may use data collected at other government agencies, which may be collecting the required data, in whole or in part. Nothing herein shall relieve the duty of any other entity to collect veterans' data for the benefit of veterans on Guam.

All government of Guam entities, whenever applicable, *shall* render assistance to the Office of Veterans Affairs in carrying out the provisions contained herein. All government entities to whom a DD214 form or other proof of veteran status is presented by an applicant as a qualifying document for benefits or services *shall* forward a copy of the applicant's DD214 form or other proof of veteran status to the Office of Veterans Affairs no later than thirty (30) days after the date of acceptance by that government entity; provided, that said service member or his or her legal guardian provides documented consent to the transmittal of said information to the Office of Veterans Affairs pursuant to this Section. Transmission of forms may be made by electronic means over a secured network as prescribed by the Office of Veterans Affairs. The Office of Veterans Affairs *shall* have the authority to adopt regulations to implement and administer the provisions of this Section and ensure the confidentiality of veteran information.

The Administrator of the Office of Veterans Affairs *shall* submit a quarterly progress report of the Guam Veterans Registry to the Speaker of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan.*"