EDDIE BAZA CALVO
Governor

RAY TENORIO
Lieutenant Governor

Office of the Governor Of Guam

DEC 31 2018

Hon. Speaker Therese M. Terlaje
34GL-18-2720
DEC 31 2018
Time: 11:35
Received by:

Honorable Therese M. Terlaje
Acting Speaker
I Mina'trentai Kuåttro Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

2019 JAN -2 AM 9:19

Dear Madame Speaker:

Transmitted herewith is Bill No. 334-34 (COR), **"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,"** which was signed on December 28, 2018, as **Public Law 34-156.**

Senseramente,

EDDIE BAZA CALVO

2720

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 **Bill No. 334-34 (COR), "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,"** was on the 17th day of December 2018, duly and regularly passed.

Therese M. Terlaje
Acting Speaker

Attested:

Régine Biscoe Lee
Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by *I Maga'låhen Guåhan* this 17th day of Dec, 2018, at 5:30 o'clock P.M.

Assistant Staff Officer
Maga'låhi's Office

APPROVED:

EDWARD J.B. CALVO
I Maga'låhen Guåhan

Date: DEC 28 2018

Public Law No. 34-156

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

Bill No. 334-34 (COR)

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

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.