UFISINAN I MAGA'HÅGA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
MAGA'HÅGA • GOVERNOR

JOSHUA F. TENORIO
SIGUNDO MAGA'LÅHI • LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

HAND DELIVERED

April 30, 2019

Honorable Tina Rose Muna-Barnes
Speaker
I Mina'trentai Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Guam Congress Building
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

35GL-19-0452
Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes
APR 30 2019
Time 4:49 ( )AM (✓)PM
Received By: Ellen

2019 APR 30 PM 4:55

Re: Executive Order 2019-12

Dear Madam Speaker:

Pursuant to Public Law 34-16, transmitted herewith is the following Executive Order:

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2019-12: RELATIVE TO THE CREATION OF THE GUAM AQUACULTURAL TASK FORCE

If you have any questions, I can be reached at 475-9475 or via email sophia.diaz@guam.gov.

Senseramente,

SOPHIA SANTOS DIAZ
Legal Counsel

Enclosure: EO 2019-12

cc: Governor of Guam (via email)
Lt. Governor of Guam (via email)
Compiler of Laws (via email)
Central Files

0452

RICARDO J. BORDALLO GOVERNOR'S COMPLEX · HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96910
P.O. BOX 2950 · HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96932
671.472.8931 · 671.472.8932/6

ISLAND OF GUAM
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96932
U.S.A.

Executive Order No. 2019-12

RELATIVE TO THE CREATION OF THE GUAM AQUACULTURAL TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, the United States imports a majority of its edible seafood supplies, creating an annual deficit exceeding $12 billion dollars; and

WHEREAS, Guam imports an estimated $10 million dollars of seafood products annually; and

WHEREAS, worldwide aquaculture production (inclusive of aquatic plants) is estimated to be valued at $250 billion dollars and in excess of 150 million tons; and

WHEREAS, Guam seeks to develop sustainable seafood products and strengthen the island's food security through further development of an aquaculture industry; and

WHEREAS, Guam first initiated an investigation into commercial aquaculture in 1973 by establishing experimental ponds in the village of Talofofo; and

WHEREAS, since the initial efforts, continuous leadership and support waned; and

WHEREAS, in the 2000s, a resurgence of interest in aquaculture production occurred and a fledgling industry was established and was successful in delivering products to Guam's market and for limited export; and

WHEREAS, in the past decade, the University of Guam has developed Pathogen-Free Shrimp at its bio-secure facility and is poised, through a public-private partnership, to produce pathogen-free shrimp and other aquaculture products for local consumption and export; and

WHEREAS, the University of Guam's Sea Grant Program is eligible to seek federal funding to support aquaculture research, strategic planning, technology commercialization, and innovation for the island; and

WHEREAS, the Qualifying Certificate Program, created under Public Law 8-80 and amended under Public Law 20-178 and Public Law 22-159, which is administered by the Guam Economic Development Authority lists aquaculture as an eligible activity wherein investors are able to obtain incentives to invest in this industry; and

WHEREAS, there is increasing demand on-island for seafood that is sustainable, affordable, and meets high standards for safety, quality, and environmental stewardship with maximum opportunity for small business profitability and economic growth; and

Doc. No. 35GL-19-0452.

ISLAND OF GUAM
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96932
U.S.A.

WHEREAS, Guam needs coordination to advance understanding of the interaction of aquaculture and the environment, improve production efficiency and well-being, increase supply of nutritious, safe, high-quality seafood and aquatic products, improve performance of production systems, create a skilled workforce and enhance technology transfer, develop, and use socioeconomic and business research to advance domestic aquaculture; and

WHEREAS, the aquaculture potential could benefit from additional leadership and coordination amongst educational institutions, government entities, and other stakeholders.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LOURDES A. LEON GUERERRO, *Maga'hågan Guåhan*, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, and the laws of Guam, do hereby:

Establish the Guam Aquacultural Task Force, to be comprised of representatives from the Department of Agriculture and the Guam Economic Development Authority, who shall serve as Co-Chairs, the Guam Environmental Protection Agency, the University of Guam, the Guam Community College, the Guam Department of Education, and other stakeholders and partners necessary to establish a sustainable aquaculture industry in Guam.

Signed and Promulgated at *Hagåtña*, Guam, this 30th day of April, 2019.

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
Maga'hågan Guåhan
Governor of Guam

Attested by:

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Åkto Sigundo Maga'hågan Guåhan
Acting Lieutenant Governor of Guam