UFISINAN I MAGA'HÅGA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
MAGA'HÅGA • GOVERNOR

JOSHUA F. TENORIO
SIGUNDO MAGA'LÅHI • LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

VIA HAND-DELIVERY

December 23, 2019

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Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes

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**HONORABLE TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES**
Speaker
*I Mina'trentai Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*
Guam Congress Building
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

**Re: Executive Order No. 2019-28**

Dear Madam Speaker:

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

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 2019-28:**
**RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING THE ZERO WASTE GUAM WORKING GROUP**

If you have any questions, please contact my office at # 475-9475.

*Senseramente,*

FOR

**HAIG T. HUYNH**
*Legal Counsel*

Enclosure(s): Executive Order No. 2019-28

cc: Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hagan Guahan* (via email)
Honorable Joshua F. Tenorio, *I Sigundo Maga'låhen Guahan* (via email)
Compiler of Law, via email
Central Files, via email

1349

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

Executive Order No. 2019-28

# RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING THE ZERO WASTE GUAM WORKING GROUP

**WHEREAS,** Zero Waste is recognized as one of the quickest, most cost-effective policies to build resiliency in communities and combat the negative impacts of climate change; and

**WHEREAS,** Zero Waste is the conservation of all resources by means of responsible production, consumption, reuse, and recovery of products, packaging, and materials without burning and with no discharges to land, water, or air that threaten the environment or human health; and

**WHEREAS,** Zero Waste can be linked to sustainable agriculture, permaculture, sustainable energy as well as sustainable industrial, economic and community development; and

**WHEREAS,** there is a clear connection between waste reduction, recycling, resource recovery, and beneficial reuse and the need to change unsustainable consumption, disposal, and production patterns; and

**WHEREAS,** the placement of materials in landfills increases greenhouse gases, wastes natural resources, and transfers liabilities to future generations; and

**WHEREAS,** over one hundred thousand of tons of materials are generated in Guam each year by residents, businesses, organizations, and institutions, and approximately 85% of this amount is sent to the landfill disposal; and

**WHEREAS,** the construction of the Layon Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Cell 3 is estimated to cost taxpayers 30 million dollars for an expected life of 10 years. The life span of the landfill can be extended only with effective implementation of waste reduction, recycling, resource recovery, and beneficial reuse programs such as those incorporated in a Zero Waste Strategy; and

**WHEREAS,** Zero Waste is a community-based model that aims to eliminate or minimize landfill disposal by the application of simple solutions and sustainable materials management systems that are healthy for our people, and our island; and

**WHEREAS,** establishing the Recycling Revolving Fund, and the Recycling Enterprise Zones at the Port Authority of Guam, were visionary policy achievements, at the time, that paved the way towards the eventual establishing a Zero Waste community for Guam; and

**WHEREAS,** The Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials (ASTSMWO) has endorsed developing a Zero Waste Strategy as a significant component in implementing a comprehensive (waste) materials management program for small island communities like Guam through both regulatory and cooperative environmental governance; and



Doc. No. 35GL-19-1349.

**WHEREAS,** waste prevention, reuse, recycling, and composting are material management options that conserve resources, and grow resilience while reducing environmental impacts and; and

**WHEREAS,** increased recycling saves energy, water, natural resources, reduces air and water pollution, reduces the damage caused by extracting resources from the environment, and reduces the need for landfill facilities; and

**WHEREAS,** it is estimated that a resource recovery-based economy will sustain, on a per-ton basis, up to ten times more jobs than landfilling, and these jobs will be more productive and meaningful; and

**WHEREAS,** recognizing that voluntary recycling goals have not, and in all probability, cannot achieve effective and efficient waste elimination; and

**WHEREAS,** a Zero Waste strategy presents our community with a great opportunity to protect the environment, save money for taxpayers, create new jobs and business opportunities, and advance the cause of creating a more sustainable community.

**NOW THEREFORE, I, LOURDES AFLAGUE LEON GUERRERO,** *I 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 order as follows:

**Creation of the Zero Waste Guam Working Group.** The Zero Waste Guam Working Group is and hereby created and tasked with the following mission, purposes, and operational parameters:

1. **Mission Statement**. It is the purpose and objective of the Zero Waste Working Group to have the responsibility for developing, making recommendations for the adoption of and then overseeing all aspects of implementation of the Guam Zero Waste Master Plan including developing the outreach and public education components required to raise public awareness, to share knowledge and transfer information to the community and to the broader pacific; and

2. The Zero Waste Guam Working Group shall be Chaired *by Finé'nena na Ásaguan Maga'hågan Guåhan*, the First Gentleman, and shall include the following members:

    a. Administrator of the Guam Environmental Protection Authority;

    b. Director of Statistics and Plans;

    c. General Manager of the Port Authority of Guam;

    d. Director of Public Works; and



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e. The Administrator of the Air and Land Division of the Guam Environmental Protection Agency who shall serve as Executive Director of the Working Group.

Signed and Promulgated at *Hagåtña*, Guam, this 23rd day of December, 2019.

**LOURDES AFLAGUE LEON GUERRERO**
*Maga'hågan Guåhan*
Governor of Guam

Attested by:

**JOSHUA FRANQUEZ TENORIO**
*Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan*
Lieutenant Governor of Guam



Doc. No. 35GL-19-1349.