UFISINAN I MAGA'HÅGA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
MAGA'HÅGA • GOVERNOR

JOSHUA F. TENORIO
SIGUNDO MAGA'LÅHI • LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

March 20, 2020

Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes
MAR 2 0 2020
Time 5:20 ( )AM (✓)PM
Received By:

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

Re: Bill No. 232-35 (COR) – An Act to Amend § 715(1)(13) of Chapter 7, Title 1, Guam Code Annotated, Relative to Defining the One Hundred Eighty (180) Instructional Days Equivalent as Nine Hundred (900) Instructional Hours for Guam Public Elementary and Secondary Schools; and Requiring the Superintendent of Education to Develop a Standard Operating Procedure for Making up the Loss of Instructional Time for Guam's Public Schools

Dear Madame Speaker:

It is unfortunately timely that I now sign Bill No. 232-35 into law as ***Public Law No. 35-77***. As our schools are closed down due to the concerns surrounding COVID-19, our students still need access to education. And while our educators are employing creative methods to do so, the rigidity of the law's previous mandate of one hundred and eighty (180) days of instructional time would have further disrupted the lives of our students. I agree with the intent to convert that mandate to the more flexible nine hundred (900) hours.

Senseremente,

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

Enclosure(s): Bill No. 232-35 (COR) *nka Public Law 35-77*

cc via email: *Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan*
Compiler of Laws

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I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2020 (SECOND) Regular Session

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

This is to certify that **Bill No. 232-35 (COR), "AN ACT TO *AMEND* § 715(l)(13) OF CHAPTER 7, TITLE 1, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO DEFINING THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY (180) INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS EQUIVALENT AS NINE HUNDRED (900) INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS FOR GUAM PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS; AND REQUIRING THE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP A STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR MAKING UP THE LOSS OF INSTRUCTIONAL TIME FOR GUAM'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS,"** was on the 11th day of March 2020, duly and regularly passed.

Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Speaker

Attested:

Amanda L. Shelton
Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* this 11th day of March, 2020, at 3:07 o'clock P.M.

Assistant Staff Officer
Maga'håga's Office

APPROVED:

Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero
I Maga'hågan Guåhan

Date: 3/20/2020

Public Law No. 35-77

I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2019 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 232-35 (COR)
As amended by the Committee on Education,
Air Transportation, and Statistics, Research,
and Planning; and further amended on the Floor.

Introduced by: Telena Cruz Nelson
William M. Castro
Régine Biscoe Lee
Kelly Marsh (Taitano), PhD
James C. Moylan
Louise B. Muña
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Sabina Flores Perez
Clynton E. Ridgell
Joe S. San Agustin
Amanda L. Shelton
Telo T. Taitague
Jose "Pedo" Terlaje
Therese M. Terlaje
Mary Camacho Torres

AN ACT TO *AMEND* § 715(l)(13) OF CHAPTER 7, TITLE 1, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO DEFINING THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY (180) INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS EQUIVALENT AS NINE HUNDRED (900) INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS FOR GUAM PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS; AND REQUIRING THE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP A STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR MAKING UP THE LOSS OF INSTRUCTIONAL TIME FOR GUAM'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that Public Law 28-45, the "Every Child is Entitled to an Adequate Public Education

Act" (Act), mandated at least one hundred eighty (180) instructional days each school year; and, Public Law 34-105 amended the Act by converting the one hundred eighty (180) instructional days into nine hundred (900) instructional hours for elementary schools and one thousand two hundred sixty (1,260) instructional hours for secondary schools.

I Liheslaturan Guåhan further finds that on October 24, 2019, the Guam Education Board (GEB) transmitted to *I Liheslatura* an amended Guam Education Board Resolution 2019-10, relative to requesting the 35th Guam Legislature to amend the requirement that public schools provide a minimum of the equivalent of one hundred eighty (180) instructional days.

I Liheslaturan Guåhan further finds, through GEB Resolution 2019-10, that the Joint Board Union Calendar Committee (JBUCC), comprised of school administrators, designees and representatives of the Guam Federation of Teachers, the Guam Department of Education Payroll Officer, the Program Director of Head Start, deputy superintendents, and a GEB member who serves as a liaison, advised the Superintendent of Education (Superintendent) that the amendment written in Public Law 34-105 created discrepancies between elementary and secondary schools' instructional hours by including and excluding meal times and breaks.

I Liheslaturan Guåhan further finds that the JBUCC suggested that the one hundred eighty (180) instructional days or its equivalence be converted to nine hundred (900) instructional hours, at a minimum, per school year for both elementary and secondary schools; and that the Superintendent be required to develop a standard operating procedure for the make-up of a loss in instructional hours.

Thus, it is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to mandate nine hundred (900) instructional hours per school year for Guam's elementary and secondary public schools; and further intends to mandate that the Superintendent develop a standard

operating procedure for making up the loss of instructional time for Guam's public schools.

Section 2. § 715(l)(13) of Chapter 7, Title 1, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read:

"(13) at least one hundred eighty (180) instructional days, or its equivalence, including make-up hours each school year with school years ending no later than thirty (30) days following the end of the calendared school year.

(A) The one hundred eighty (180) instructional days are to be converted into nine hundred (900) instructional hours per school year for both elementary and secondary schools.

(B) The Superintendent of Education shall develop a standard operating procedure for making up a loss in instructional hours caused by the occurrence of an emergency or a natural disaster. Scheduled Easter and Christmas breaks shall not be included in make-up days or hours; and"

Section 3. Severability. If any provision of this Act or its application to any person or circumstance is found to be invalid or contrary to law, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are severable.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Act shall be effective upon enactment.