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Honorable Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D
Speaker
I Mina' Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
155 Hessler Street
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Dear Speaker Won Pat:

Submitted herewith is Bill No. 233-30 (COR), "AN ACT TO AMEND §§7101 TO 7107 AND §7111 OF TITLE 17 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO THE RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE SCHOOL PROPERTY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION," which I have vetoed.

Although I support most of the amendments contained in Bill No.233-30, the legislation contains a provision which could potentially risk the government's effort to rebuild and reopen John F. Kennedy High School. This risk has compelled me to veto the measure.

Bill No. 233-30 amends 17 GCA § 7101 to prohibit the Department of Education from leasing any school buildings or grounds under its jurisdiction. Guam Economic Development Authority and Department of Public Works are in the process of implementing Public Law 29-114 which authorizes the leasing of John F. Kennedy High School (JFK) in order to rebuild the school for our high school students. Arguably, Public Law 29-114, which specifically authorizes the leasing of JFK, could prevail over this amendment; it would not prevent an opponent of JFK from using it as a litigation tactic to stall, delay and prevent the opening of the new JFK.

Reopening JFK is too important to this community. I am not willing to jeopardize its completion by signing this measure with the potential risk it may cause to further delay the opening of the new JFK.

Sinseru yan Magåhet,

FELIX P. CAMACHO
I Maga' Låhen Guahan
Governor of Guam

Attachment