



Office of the Governor of Guam

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Felix P. Camacho
Governor

Michael W. Cruz, M.D.
Lieutenant Governor

NOV 25 2009

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. 200-30 (COR), "AN ACT TO ADJUST THE COMPENSATION OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF GUAM TO BE COMPARABLE AND EQUITABLE WITH OTHER LEGAL OFFICER POSITIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM, BY AMENDING §30116(a), CHAPTER 30, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND REPEALING §30116(b), CHAPTER 30, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED," which I have vetoed.

The government of Guam is currently undertaking a Government-Wide Position Classification, Compensation and Benefits Study. The purpose for the study of all government positions and pay policies is to develop a plan with recommendations to bring the Unified Pay Schedule in line with the U.S. National Average levels as compared to the appropriate labor markets and taking into account relevant economic factors. As previously stated, the study extends to judicial, appointed and elected positions including the attorney general position. This study is expected to be completed by the end of the calendar year.

As of October 1, 2009, the Attorney General's salary is \$101,237.40. The legislative findings list compensation levels of other legal officer positions within the government. For example, Civil Service Commission legal counsel salary is listed at \$121,762.00. However, this salary level is based on years of public service as a government attorney. The salary for the position of CSC legal counsel is significantly less than \$121,762.00.

Rather than adjusting the Attorney General's compensation level based on salaries of attorneys that have served as government lawyers for many years or invoices from firms retained by different autonomous agencies with varying mandates, we should allow the government to complete the classification and compensation study and review the recommended salary schedule to determine the appropriate salary level to adopt. I appreciate the responsibilities and demands of the position of the attorney general and recognize that a salary adjustment may be warranted. However, as this legislation will not be effective until 2011, I simply ask that we wait

for the outcome of the study to recommend a salary level commensurate with the role of the Attorney General of Guam.

Sinseru yan Magâhet,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Felix P. Camacho', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

FELIX P. CAMACHO

I Maga' Låhen Guahan

Governor of Guam

Attachment