



Office of the Governor of Guam

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Felix P. Camacho

Governor

Michael W. Cruz, M.D.

Lieutenant Governor

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. 270-30 (LS), **“AN ACT TO AMEND §3401.1(f) AND (h), ARTICLE 4, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 16, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REQUIRING VOLUNTEERS TO DISPLAY THEIR IDENTIFICATION CARD AND TO BE IN PRESCRIBED UNIFORM ATTIRE WHILE ISSUING CITATIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMMEDIATE RECOGNITION OF AUTHORITY,”** which I have vetoed.

I commend the volunteers of the Guam Police Department's Community Assisted Policing Effort (C.A.P.E.) for their service and desire to contribute to our community. C.A.P.E. volunteers assist the Guam Police Department (GPD) by augmenting their services and enabling GPD to be more responsive especially to emergency calls. One of these services is ensuring availability of accessible parking for the disabled. Many of these volunteers share a compassion for the disabled and policing accessible parking is a rewarding way for them to support Guam's disabled community.

C.A.P.E. volunteers graduate from the program upon completion of initial training and receive periodic ongoing training. They are authorized to issue parking violation citations. They don a badge, identification card and hat and are issued citation forms from GPD.

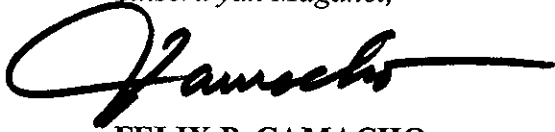
Bill No. 270-30 would require a prescribed uniform attire when issuing citations. Unfortunately, many volunteers oppose this requirement as it would limit their opportunity to issue citations when witnessing a parking violation. C.A.P.E. volunteers do this service any hour of the day. Citations are often issued by volunteers when they are doing personal errands. Most of the time, citations are issued while a vehicle is parked and empty. Requiring volunteers to wear uniforms when issuing citations prevents them from issuing a citation to a violator when they are in plain clothes which in turn denies a person with disability from accessible parking.

Several C.A.P.E. volunteers have expressed their opposition to wearing a uniform and avowed they will quit if legislation requires it thereby reducing the number of volunteers. With limited

resources, there is no guarantee there will be enough uniforms for all the volunteers or that any uniforms can be purchased. C.A.P.E. like the rest of the government is experiencing a financial shortfall. Requiring uniforms will further erode their Fund and divert it from its intended purpose of enforcing the accessible parking law.

C.A.P.E. volunteers have issued more than a thousand citations with only a fourth of the citations dismissed. The program has been successful and requiring a uniform may overturn their progress either by limiting their opportunity to issue a citation or reducing the number of volunteers with the implementation of this policy. It is for these reasons and the overwhelming opposition to this Bill that have compelled me to veto it.

Sinseru yan Magâhet,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Famacho', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

FELIX P. CAMACHO

I Maga' Lâhen Guahan

Governor of Guam

Attachment