MAY 06 1998

The Honorable Antonio R. Unpingco
Speaker
Mina’Bea’ese Kunstro na Libélumman Kuåhan
Twenty-Fourth Guam Legislature
Guam Legislature Temporary Building
155 Healer Street
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Dear Speaker Unpingco:

Enclosed please find Bill No. 596 (COR), "AN ACT TO ADD §3201.1 AND TO REPEAL AND REENACT §80113.1, BOTH OF TITLE 10 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REESTABLISHING THE GUAM CANCER REGISTRY WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES," which I have signed into law today as Public Law No. 24-196.

Cancer is noted to be the second leading cause of death on Guam. In order to monitor this disease, a cancer registry is much needed to gather the necessary information which may lead to more effective treatments, as well as locating possible causes of the disease. For example, it was pointed out that nasopharyngeal cavity cancer and liver cancer are extremely high on Guam.

These statistics will be gathered with the assistance of the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority and kept at the Division of Public Health, Office of Epidemiology, Department of Public Health and Social Services. This department also keeps vital statistics and is familiar with this type of record keeping. An epidemiologist will be charged with analyzing this data and making reports of the findings.

Very truly yours,

Carl T. C. Gutierrez
Governor of Guam

Attachment: copy attached for signed bill
original attached for vetoed bill

cc: The Honorable Joanne M. S. Brown
Legislative Secretary

Office of the Speaker
ANTONIO R. UNPINGCO
Date: 9/7/98
Time: 10:45 A.M.
Rec'd by: __________
Print name: __________
MINA'BENTE KUATTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN
1998 (SECOND) Regular Session

CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO MAGA'LAHEN GUAHAN

This is to certify that Bill No. 596 (COR), "AN ACT TO ADD §3201.1 AND TO REPEAL AND REENACT §80113.1, BOTH OF TITLE 10 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REESTABLISHING THE GUAM CANCER REGISTRY WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES," was on the 27th day of April, 1998, duly and regularly passed.

ANTONIO R. UNPINGCO
Speaker

Attested:

JOANNE M.S. BROWN
Senator and Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by Maga'lahen Guahan this 29th day of April, 1998, at 12:15 o'clock P.M.

Assistant Staff Officer
Governor's Office

APPROVED:

CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ
Maga'lahen Guahan

Date: 5-6-98

Public Law No. 24-198
MINA’BENTE KUATTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUANAN
1998 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 596 (COR)
As amended by the Author and
amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

E. J. Cruz
J. C. Salas
L. F. Kasperbauc
Felix P. Camacho
T. C. Ada
F. B. Aguon, Jr.
A. C. Blaz
J. M.S. Brown
Francisco P. Camacho
M. C. Charfauros
W. B.S.M. Flores
Mark Forbes
A. C. Lamorena, V
C. A. Leon Guerrero
L. Leon Guerrero
V. C. Pangelinan
A. L.G. Santos
F. E. Santos
A. R. Unpingco
J. Won Pat-Borja

AN ACT TO ADD §320L.1 AND TO REPEAL AND
REENACT §80113.1, BOTH OF TITLE 10 OF THE
GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO
REESTABLISHING THE GUAM CANCER
REGISTRY WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES.
BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. "Liho\'s laturan Guahan finds that according to the latest annual report issued by the Office of Vital Statistics, Department of Public Health and Social Services, cancer is the second leading cause of death on Guam, exceeded only by diseases of the heart. "Liho\'s laturan Guahan also finds that response to this threat to the health of our people can be improved. Public Law Number 17-81:4, codified as 10 GCA §80113.1, established a Guam Cancer Registry within the Laboratory Section of the Guam Memorial Hospital, and requires the registry to collect information on all cases of cancer occurring within Guam, to analyze and compare such data in appropriate ways and to annually prepare and distribute a report on their findings. Consequently, it is the intent of the "Liho\'s laturan Guahan to insure that the availability of timely data on the incidence of cancer on Guam is essential to the development of appropriate programs to more effectively attack this disease. Therefore, it is the intent of "Liho\'s laturan Guahan to remedy this situation by reestablishing the Guam Cancer Registry within the Department of Public Health and Social Services.

Section 2. Section 3201.1 is hereby added to Article 2, Chapter 3, Division 1, Part 1 of Title 10 of the Guam Code Annotated to read as follows:

"Section 3201.1. Guam Cancer Registry. (a) There is hereby established within the Department of Public Health and Social Services ('DPHSS') a Guam Cancer Registry, which shall operate under the supervision of the Division of Public Health, Office of Epidemiology
and Research, to collect information on all cases of cancer occurring within Guam, to analyze and compare such data in appropriate ways and to annually prepare and distribute a report on their findings. The Guam Epidemiologist shall be a Guam-licensed physician or a licensed veterinarian.

(b) Injunctions. In case of noncompliance with the provisions of this Act or with the rules and regulations of the program, the Director shall notify the respective licensing Board and may also notify the Attorney General of such noncompliance. The licensing Board shall notify the healthcare professional and may institute suspension of license for repeated noncompliance reported by the Director of DPHSS.

The Attorney General, upon receipt of such notification, may institute an appropriate action or proceeding at law or in equity to restrain, correct such noncompliance. For all cases of noncompliance referred to the Attorney General by the Director of DPHSS, quarterly reports shall be prepared by the Attorney General and submitted to the Director summarizing the status of actions taken to correct and comply.”

Section 3. Repeal and Reenact. Section 80113.1 of Chapter 80, Division 4, Part 2 of Title 10 of the Guam Code Annotated is hereby repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

“Section 80113.1. Cancer Data Collection. The Guam Memorial Hospital Authority (‘GMHA’), and the GMHA Medical Staff shall continue to collect information regarding cancer cases with
relevant data for the Cancer Registry as established by the Department of Public Health and Social Services. GMHA shall provide DPHSS cancer information semiannually."

Section 6. Regulations. The Director is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations as may be necessary for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act in accordance with the Administrative Adjudication Law.