

someone else decided to create a bill and create his own language in decolonization, we need to be consistent with the international prescription of what we have to exercise. There's a lot of things to discuss in the self-determination issue. And one thing I hope is that whoever sits in the Legislature, has the courage to confront any adversity, and stand on the strength of your blood. Because if the Legislature itself does not have the courage that Chief Huraó had, then you guys, we are stronger than we think. Among adversity we have to have strength. And believe me, if you have the strength to lead the people, the people will follow. And, short, if we must include, if we are so (feeling bad for the outsiders), if we want them to exercise, let's pass this bill after we finish our own self-determination. Let's find out what they want, but let's find out what we want first, and then let's go from there. I stand to be questioned. Thank you."

Senator Respicio: "Thank you. Please also stick around. Senator Dueñas? Thank you Mr. Garrido."

Senator Dueñas:

"Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (Joking about air conditioning)

I'd like to thank this Committee for holding this public forum. I think the question before us is very, very paramount for the future of Guam and the future generations, and we should not take it lightly. As I understand, and I'm still trying to make it clear in my mind when we talk about the decolonization vote, what is that? As I understand, and I stand ready to be corrected, that basically the United Nations saying that if you want to delink, from under the auspices of the United Nations, that you have to hold this plebiscite. Then if I'm not mistaken, I think they prescribe three different options which are considered terminal in itself. Terminal is an end, not in between. And if I'm not mistaken again, these options include independence, free association, I think they use the word integration with the administering authority. And we can only interpret that to mean statehood, what else? If you talk about commonwealth, that's just an intermediate status. If you talk about the present status quo, it's still an intermediate status. If you talk about simply amending the Organic Act to make it more palatable, then still an intermediate status. So I think the United Nations in its wisdom, says if you're going to make your self determination, make sure that it is final, finality. Meaning that you become independent on your own or free association, which I don't know what that means. Other than saying, well for one thing it's independent in itself per se, and then maybe giving you opening the door and associate with another nation. And then of course full integration is statehood. But that's where we are now at least as I said, that we are trying to delink ourselves from the United States and after that we go an paddle our own canoe. Then we can simply say to the United Nations, "Sir, we have made a determination already, this is what we wanted." How we pursue what we wanted then, you know, that will be the next chapter, political self-determination or in carving the future of our territory, politically speaking. So in regards to the two bills at hand, in fact that's the reason why we are here, I'll try to sort of confine my statement or my observation, on these two bills. First of all the one sponsored by Senator Tina Muña Barnes and Frank Blas, this gives me a recollection of what I did back in 1980 ... (interrupted by cel phone) ... if some of you will recall, that actually created the Guam Self Determination Commission. That's the beginning of what we're doing now. And from that we held a plebiscite. At that time we're talking about including everybody, I mean the voters of Guam. We're not saying self-determination to delink from the United Nations, we're trying to determine what the people of Guam, the voters of Guam would prefer. So as a result when the 16th Legislature that enacted the law. We included five different options, of

course it still included the status quo for those who say they don't want any changes ... (interrupted by cel phone) ... so like I said we included even commonwealth which is intermediate, and statehood, free association and independence. And the voters of Guam voted on that and of the five options the two that came out on top was commonwealth and statehood. But since there was no clear majority so there was a runoff and the voters of Guam decided that maybe commonwealth would be a better choice for the time being and so that's how we came about putting together the commonwealth status of whatever you want to call it. And so we gave ourselves the opportunity to try to craft a bill, what did we want to see in this commonwealth, knowing the full parameters that still have to be within the parameters to make sure it still complies with the U.S. Constitution because we're still part of the American family. So we went about and (unknown) the commonwealth act and went to Congress and to the executive branch, and even held a ratification vote here afterwards. But unfortunately it didn't go too far. It failed ratification by the people of Guam. So that's where we are, back to square one, where we are now. So I think this time, after we delink from the United Nations, we will no longer be under the category of non self-governing territory, then this is where we make a clear determination, where will we go from here. "Quo Vadis." That's Latin, it means where do we go from here? And at the time, the real determination and the real soul searching will come into play. At that time we will whatever we decide in the delinkage, we may pursue. Because I don't know where there's any binding, any binding for example if we were to vote for either independence or free association or statehood as far as the delinking from the United Nations you know. Whether we have the way of saying "that's it" and Guam will be forced to take that route regardless. By the same token too, we have to make sure that as much as we may dislike, knowing that we are administered under the U.S. and we call ourselves being second-class citizens, and we have very limited self-government, we're still in the fact that if you take a look at the history of the political evolution in Guam, our forefathers, our ancestors from the very beginning, after Guam was ceded to the U.S. by Spain after the 1898 Spanish-American War, our Chamorro leaders then, our forefathers, started thinking about trying to obtain more say-so in the governance of the island, and through the years there have been some political evolution that went about, and let me just cite a few dates just to refresh the memory of this ... for example ... first of all ... as early as 1904 the Chamorro leaders of Guam was making an overture to the Naval government to be provided more say so in the government of their island, to have a say so, call it limited government if you wish. And then back in 1936, this is where our evolution was formulated in a more focal point, and that is when the civilian inhabitants of Guam petitioned for U.S. citizenship. They held a plebiscite then, and they even did some fundraising to fund the cost of sending F.B. Leon Guerrero and B.J. Bordallo to Washington to petition for U.S. citizenship, they even met the President of the United States at that time. Unfortunately, that didn't materialize. And then what sparked the Organic Act of Guam was the famous walkout of the Guam Congress in 1949. And this includes the father of Speaker Won Pat, Judi Won Pat. They were bold enough to tell the Naval government basta, no more, so they walked out, and as a result this brought consciousness to the nation and shortly thereafter Congress enacted the Organic Act of Guam to give the inhabitants of Guam limited self-government and also conferred U.S. citizenship on the inhabitants of Guam. And then later on we started electing our Legislature from the very start in 1950 and the Governor later on and the Washington Delegate. And so we are at that stage, in which we do have limited self-government and we do have some say so in our affairs. Granted that we don't control immigration and we don't make treaties because we're not a nation by ourselves, we're just a part of the U.S. if you want to call it that. But this is where we're heading

now. Where do we go from here? That's why this upcoming plebiscite is very important. I like to, in regards to the bill here you know on the plebiscite (Bill No. 151-31) that maybe it's not a bad idea to have the, everybody just have a say so, I mean not say so, but I mean but in expressing their views. What they feel the island, the territory of Guam should take. But then I said it's very clear, the bill is very clear, it's non-binding so there's nothing to fear in my opinion, of course I must say it might provoke more dissention among ourselves, maybe, maybe not, I don't know. I'm always the type, that I like to know as much information and to be open minded as much as possible on whatever the situation calls for. And so like I said, it reminded me of the bill that I authored back in 1980 except that we didn't call it, because we were not delinking from the United Nations it was somewhat different, an animal of a different color. With regards to the bill by Senator Judi Guthertz, (Bill No. 154-31) I'd like to commend her for coming up with this proposed amendment. I think by so doing we should be able to now proceed with the plebiscite and ultimately make the final decision where do you want to go after that. If I'm not mistaken and correct me if I'm wrong, Senator, but basically the thrust of this bill is to make it easier for people to register."

Sen. Guthertz: "Just for clarification, Mr. Garrido, in the Bill I authored, there's no specification that makes a 70% threshold."

Senator Dueñas:

"Yeah, it's already been amended here. That's what it says here. But even that, I've wondered in the past when you say 70%, of what?"

Sen. Guthertz: "Of the eligible voters, which are those that are described in the present law."

Senator Dueñas:

"Eligible voters. I don't think that's what Senator ..."

Sen. Guthertz: "No, the voters, according to the current law."

Senator Dueñas:

"When Senator Pangelinan first came up with that thing I know he has a good reason for that you know but I was wondering, 70% of what? Because if it's 70% of ..."
Sen. Guthertz: "No, the bill refers back to the current law, which identifies who will be able to vote for..."

Senator Dueñas:

"Yeah this bill, this bill yeah but I'm wondering about Sen. Pangelinan's amendment, remember, Ben? Senator? If I'm not mistaken, correct me if I'm misinterpreting, but I've always wondered, 70% of what? 70% of the eligible voters for the plebiscite, or eligible voters for the Guam law."

Sen. Guthertz: "Of the self-determination vote."

Sen. Pangelinan: "For the plebiscite. The registry, the registry, the way that the law is written is that the registry, in order to proceed and call for the setting of a date of the plebiscite, that the registration rolls shall contain, that is required, shall contain 70% of those persons eligible to vote in the plebiscite. It's just a registration. So 70% of those people eligible to vote shall be registered."

Senator Dueñas:

"But eligible to vote in the general election or ..."

Sen. Pangelinan: "No. In the plebiscite."

Senator Dueñas:

"Before you decide that thing, you have to find out for example who are those inhabitants. Who are those that became U.S. citizen before ..."

Sen. Pangelinan: "We already know that. We know that. They know that."

Senator Dueñas:

"You mean in the voter registration or not? That's why I'm wondering how do we..."

Sen. Pangelinan: No, the people that will register on the decolonization registry itself. They know there's a process in the registration form for determining their eligibility. So once they put their lineage or they sign the affidavit saying that they are either a person who is made a citizen of the U.S. by virtue of the enactment of the Organic Act, or they are a descendant of that person, then they are eligible to vote in the plebiscite."

Senator Dueñas:

"I understand that, but I'm trying to compare, when it said 70%, the only way that we can figure that thing out, if we already know who are eligible to vote, and for example if it had been determined that 40,000 are eligible to vote, now if we can register 70% of that 40,000 then that will be it."

Sen. Pangelinan: "That's correct."

Senator Dueñas:

"But see at the beginning we don't know who are eligible to vote unless we go through the process of registration."

Sen. Pangelinan: "That is the process. When they come in to register, you will know if they are eligible. And it's really a self-declaration that they affirm that they are either a person who was made a citizen, or that their parents were, or they are a descendant of that person. So your son would know, in other words, when he comes to register. And so we have taken the ... there is actually a Decolonization Registration Commission, a sub commission of the Guam Election Commission, and when they met they looked at census statistics basically and this is my understanding of how they determined why we think that the number was about 25,000. They looked at the census of Guam at that time in 1950. So they knew that there were what would you call it, let's say 10,000 or 20,000 Chamorros on Guam at that time. And they know the death rate and the birth rate over that period of time and you can extrapolate then what that number would be at this point in time."

Senator Duenas:

"So that's your benchmark then. That's what I'm looking for. 70% of what."

Sen. Pangelinan: "That's the benchmark."

Senator Duenas:

"So I totally understand what you're saying, 70% of those for example in 1950."

Sen. Pangelinan: "If we had the self-determination vote in 1952 and we knew there were 10,000 people in 1950 and we knew that 1,000 died and so that would be 70% of the 9,000 people. Of the 70% of that 9,000, it would be then who is of eligible voting age. So if of that 9,000, 5,000 are children under the age of 18 and 4,000 are adults of voting age then it would be 70% of 4,000. So statistically you can determine a benchmark figure for what this number would be. And that was my understanding with the decolonization registration commission when they did that, what that number would be. Not who, but what that number would be."

Senator Duenas:

"Whether it's 10 or 15 or 20 or 30,000. Well thank you for clarifying that, it has been baffling my mind for a long time. I keep asking myself, 70% of what. I am in support of both bills. I don't see any harm in having Bill 151-31 authored by Sen. Tina Muña Barnes I mean it reminds me of what I did 30 years ago. And Sen. Guthertz, again I commend you for taking this initiative."

Sen. Respicio: "Thank you Senator Duenas. Do you have anything else to add, they're asking for equal time, because they're asking for more time because you got more time than they got. I want to recognize them, thank you. (Senator Respicio motions to Tony Sablan)"

Senator Dueñas:

"I'm just trying to confine myself to the bill, I'm not talking about that statehood is the best or what."

Tony Sablan: (translated from Chamorro)

"Follow the 1946 UN-US Treaty; Use that the move us toward self-determination. Don't allow the outsider vote; there are more outsiders than natives, Don't give away our ability to decide. Fast track plebiscite also dangerous because there are many things to discuss and a lot of things to put together. For example: What if we petition the neighborhood to give away the house of one of our neighbors? After 446 years of colonization and brainwashing, we cannot change that in two years, let's educate our people first. Do we know the true economic value of Guam? Weapons- why are we putting our children in danger of the pointed weapons of those people from somewhere else? We need to know how much we're worth. Independence is not isolationism. Palau, Australia, China are all negotiating. We're not telling the US to go and return to where you're from, but rather to compensate us for our true worth. We aren't told the things that aren't nice for the history books. We don't know about our leaders Hurao and Matapang. We are just now digging up all of it, but I knew more about Washington and cherry trees. I knew about apples and cherries, but no one told me about breadfruit and bananas. We must educate our people about our natural resources. If we were independent and we negotiated a payment of \$2.5 Billion, we could put it towards our children's education - give them scholarships, medical, free home loans, etc... These are the things we have to study. Let's not do fast track. We need to

support not only the education at UOG and GCC let's support the education at DOE. For example: Land owners who were given \$200K for their Tumon land were satisfied and thought they were rich, but they didn't know their land was worth millions and millions. I am appearing before this Committee on behalf of the Task Force for Independence. Thank you."

Senator Respicio: "Thank you, we just have two more that signed up to speak, Victoriano Camacho and Julian Aguon. (Indistinct conversation with Mr. Joe Garrido) Can you please speak into the mike because we're not only recording it, but the people watching at home.

Joe Garrido:

"Just a parting remark for the reunification bill. With all due respect, Sen. Guthertz, I believe that also is a Chamorro self-determination issue and should not allow all voters to decide. Quite frankly I think the United States can just pass a law to reunify the islands. We never did divide ourselves. That's an angle that maybe we can request. Ask Congress to pass a law to reunify the islands, and then we can begin to discuss the framework among ourselves. Thank you."

Senator Respicio: "Thank you Mr. Garrido. Julian?"

Julian Aguon:

"Thank you senators for this roundtable. I'd like to keep my comments relatively short. I'd like to limit them basically to the one issue implicated by the bill introduced by Senators Barnes and Blas, thank you. I guess the bill has one main feature that is problematic, the suffrage. It presupposes that anyone simply residing in Guam should have a right to vote in any political status plebiscite, should one be had. And I guess what I would like to point out is the jurisprudence that has grown up around this in international law because being in a U.S. unincorporated territory often we don't actually reach for international law to resolve some of the problems. But this issue is essentially of an international legal nature and that is why it's important to bring in international law to the discussion, and this issue that has already arisen, this issue of suffrage, who is entitled to the franchise, who gets to vote in the self-determination referendum. It has actually already arisen in the context of New Caledonia, also known as Canaque, is also a currently listed self-governing territory, and French citizens who had been denied the right to vote in the New Caledonia referendum brought a legal challenge in the international community. The case went up to the Human Rights Committee which is a legal body governing the international covenant on civil and political rights, and the Human Rights Committee has already explicitly spoken to this issue and said that the colonial power, in that case France, was not legally allowed to allow its own citizens, nationalists, expatriates, etc., to vote in the New Caledonia self-determination referendum. So inasmuch as the United States will proffer the legal argument that anyone who comes to Guam should be able to be extended the franchise, to be extended the right to vote in a self-determination vote, that issue has already been settled in international law. France under President Chirac, was very passionate and zealous about saying it would be fundamentally undemocratic to deny other citizens or residents, other French citizens living in New Caledonia the right to vote. And the Human Rights Committee said, "Not so." Not when self-determination is the norm we are dealing with, and in fact the U.N. General Assembly itself has spoken to this issue, in 1980 Resolution 31-188 was passed and they said any colonial power is not entitled to allow its own citizens to come to the colonized territory and participate in such a referendum because it would "majorly distort" the right of self-

determination as envisioned in 1945 in the U.N. charter and subsequently in various declarations and binding conventions. And the U.S. as a signatory state of the United Nations, is bound by those treaties it has signed. And the ICCPR (International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights) which I spoke about earlier, has been binding on the United States since 1977. So I just wanted to sort of bring this up because a lot of people have opinions about the law but the law is settled and the law is that people coming as part of the colonial project are not allowed to be considered part of the "self" in self-determination. And if I could make one last point, I think it would be helpful in terms of the discourse to go back to something that was said but I would like to flesh it out a little bit more. Besides the specific problems with the designation, the phrase "Chamorro-only vote," and "date-based," I think, at least the international lawyers I consult with, I just came back from an international law conference, I met with other international law scholars, the subject of which was the self-determination vote scheduled for Guam, and I was with four other international lawyers from four different countries and we hammered it out and they were saying a useful way to frame the issue would be to completely leave race aside and frame it as "harm," "historical harm and cure." So who suffered the harm of colonization? That group, and that group alone, is the group that's entitled to the cure of international legal protection, in this case the regime and the paradigm of decolonization under the United Nations. So everyone has spoken about this issue already but I would sort of like to add my voice in support of the fact that we can use a time-based designation, so Chamorro doesn't actually have to be necessarily a racial designation but it could be a time base. And international lawyers will most likely trace harm to 1898 and in that case we use the census and the population and then correlatively we prescribe the cure. So, necessarily, in certain cases, like New Caledonia and Guam, the colonized group is at origin, also, an indigenous people. But it's not like we are saying the indigenous people, by virtue of their indigeneity, get to vote. It's the indigenous people who happen to be the colonized group, in cases like New Caledonia and Guam, and hence it's not confusing. So under international law, it's not confusing at all. And I just would like to give you the benefit of that perspective. Thank you very much."

Senator Respicio: "Thank you. Thank you, attorney. Mr. Victoriano Camacho? Are there any questions for Attorney? Thank you. Mr. Camacho, sir?"

Victoriano Camacho:

"(Greetings) (Translated from Chamorro) I am not here to pressure Senator Barnes, because she is always being pressured not just once, not just for this bill. I'm here because of my right as a citizen. I'm 62 years old and yes, I am a colonized Chamorro, a native. What bothers or disturbs me the most about this Bill 151 when it first got published in the paper, if we take and read this newspaper sometimes they soil it because of the Legislature. If you take that newspaper and read this they are the same. I have this belief whatever you read, believe half of whatever you see or hear. Half of the writer of this bill Senator Tina Muña Barnes who introduced it along with Sen. Frank Blas Jr. I don't believe that you said only the Chamorro votes will count but we will let in people from outside and their votes to vote on my political status. (to Speaker Won Pat) Ai Adai, how is it how many years have passed on this movement remembering your father, the late A.B. Won Pat. I knew this man, when I was in junior high it was he that gave me the Organic Act. He was the one, yes many have adjusted, many have amended, many have deleted, many have changed, the same with the Bill 151, who is being truthful? It says to allow our neighbor to vote but it does not say that in the bible is said to love thy neighbor not let the neighbor vote as you

vote. "People of the land," that is wrong, it was God who created this island. It is not significant what your belief is but there is only one God. So when Hurao said no, he did not tell me I read his story, I know my history, I read it and he says my brothers and sisters we don't need the things from the outsiders we don't need their rules. What are we doing now? We are doing the opposite of his words. His words are at the Supreme Court. I don't know if you have those writings in here. Then you say the inefresi for all the people of Guam. I am Victoriano, I have been voting ever since I went to war for almost three years. I came back and we are still the same. Why is this? If we push the Governor Eddie Baza Calvo to let us do this for our political status, you think you're really gonna move on this, would there really be a Bill 151, will you really introduce unification with the CNMI? No, I don't believe that. Why? Because all of you have been sitting. Why are you going to wait for Calvo the Governor, head of the Executive Branch, then you're gonna move on this. Sen. Ben Pangelinan has been pursuing this movement of self determination before Calvo came in. I can say this because I've been to his office. He might not have been there but his staff was and they attended to me very well. I did my research and I believe in my rights. My mother, my father, my grandfather, grandmother, great grandfather, great grandmother, my great great grandfather, great great grandmother, they are all dead and they were never given their rights. Remember 1898 and 1521? Let's go back that far, forget 1946. There was a treaty signed that states people of the land have their rights and should not be colonized, why are we still here? Many Senators served and passed away you who are young were still like this. Is your politics worth it so you can be voted for and they when the election is over, oh never mind Victoriano, wait until next time. You guys are wrong, the people of the land have changed, their thoughts have changed, their feelings towards you. Me I have the solution. I only voted for five of you. Now I'm hurt you betrayed me, betrayed my family, my kids and my friends you know I thought that only Benedict Arnold would betray, and Satan. I'm painting a picture for you, I am not an activist, I am a Chamorro. It is not necessary for me to be part of a group or organization but I will tell you this, it would be better if you knew a lot of people, rather than for you to have a lot of money. What if the money is all gone? You don't know anyone. But myself, I know plenty of people and they're still with us. I don't know if you've ever been asked, "do you know Sen. Tina Muña Barnes?" I like that Senator, we know each other, she in the past has visited me in the classroom when I was still teaching. Likewise Senator Judi Won Pat. We worked together in "Chamorro Time." You know Senator Tina, I'm hurt. I can't accept this Bill 151, I understand you amended a lot, but before you introduce anything through the media, please from now and in the future make sure it is loud and clear, what is the term used, "transparency?" I don't know what glass you are allowing us to look through. I have completed my responsibilities, obligations here on this earth. The time I have remaining is short. What I would like to see in the days I have remaining is for my grandkids, my son, my two daughters in the United States, every time they say they are coming! Don't! Roads are all broken, the government is all mixed up. Why is Bill 151 so mixed up? Do you remember that Bill in the past year, 483 introduced by Sen. Frank Blas, Jr. who remembers that? That was the bill and correct me if I'm wrong. It says that all the laws and bills will be done in the Chamorro language. Where is it? You mean because it was not made law? In the beginning is when you should've started doing this in Chamorro. How are you going to educate the elders who really don't understand English besides myself. I'm not trying to insult the elderly but there are still many of them still here with us. 60, 70, some 100 years old. And they are still with their senses. It would be asked, "What is that Tina Barnes saying?" And it might be answered, "No that's not what she's trying to say. She's introducing a bill with Frank Blas, Jr." And what is Sen. Judi Guthertz saying about we are going

to rejoin with the CNMI and we don't want. Wow!! Where are you going to get the funding, Sen. Tina Muña Barnes? Where are you going to find the money for this? We don't even have money for a charter school. Or for that matter, money for a room for the Chamorro teachers or studies. So really you're going to find funding? Even tax returns in the newspaper saying the retirees will not be receiving. I've even heard about the Compact Impact, what is this for? I'm not here to pressure Tina, I'm here so that my voice might be heard so you can hear that there is a Chamorro like myself. There are many like myself. I don't represent anyone other than myself and my flag. I was so hurt when you came by, Tina. I don't know if you remember, Sen. Barnes, what year your school where the children were attending I was teaching. Look at us, look at where we are at? We are still in the same place. We are still the same. As if a new direction was present would like that. "A change is good if it's going to do me good and the people of Guam. What Governor Calvo said, "my fellow Guamanians," there's no problem with that. Now with you guys say Chamorro vote only, right, loud and clear don't look at your neighbor. I have a neighbor, Korean, and he addressed me on this, saying, "Hey Vic." And I told him my name is Victoriano. So he then asks me what am I hearing, I can vote on self determination. I tell him don't let me kick you. You're better off just keep to making your Kimchee. He's a good neighbor, don't even go there. I'm hurt, senator Barnes on the contradiction with Public Law 123-147. Ed spoke regarding that law two weeks aback. I was the one who called in and mentioned that law there was a lot I wanted to mention but there was not enough time for us so I ask truthfully are you studying this? Are we just going to talk about things. You people are being paid. I voted for you not all of you and you wouldn't see me in here except regarding retirement and about the COLA I was here. If I am bothered me or my kids I will stand firm. You know why? One day we will die and then it will be too late. Think about how the galaide was made. Where is your intelligence, Chamorro? Do not piggy-back off of the Organic Act, do not piggy-back the Constitution of the United States. Why? Because it is not ours! What is the value of an election regarding our government if we're going to ride on the back of the Constitution of the United States? Who wrote this, it wasn't Hurao, it wasn't Matpang, It wasn't the late A.B. Won Pat, not Ed Benavente there. You see that flag up there? Yes I swore to the United States when I was joining the military to become a soldier. I was not asked to be a soldier of the United States. I would not ask for such things. In other words, stop this Liberation Day parade. Why? Because during the time of war our parents were feed because they were being oppressed, but where are our rights to the ways and our beliefs? I am not going against the Congress of the Untied States because I am the son of the Department of Defense. They pay for all my medicine but they will also be the ones to kill me. Just like you guys. You're very fast to introduce to introduce a bill no matter even if it has me being dragged along. I've been paying my taxes Bill 151 tell me Sen. Tina Muña Barnes, where is the substance regarding the rights and freedoms of the native Chamorro people? Where are the rights and freedoms? Where? In the votes for you warranting the need to have people from the outside vote. Think about this we are the inhabitants. Once they make their millions they'll leave. Oh Senators wake up and smell the coffee. You know what I tell my troops when I was in the Army, Wake up and smell the taki. And they would say, Hey! My gosh, Sarge. Wow. I would respond, who is the one who took you out of the jungle? You're the boss here Sen. Judi Won Pat. My belief in you is high. But I'm hurt, because I've been betrayed in Vietnam, betrayed by the bosses here I cannot say that you are my bosses because Jesus is my only boss. Enough! You would say because you thin this guy is out of his mind. Just joking the context of PhD, but I myself have PTSD certified. No I'm not out of my mind but when it comes to when people from the outside to decide what's good for me, come on man talk t me tell me which one of you

truthfully. They're not going to do this in 2012, that's not true. Please friends, I know you're probably tired of me already but there's lots of Tylenol and hot herbal remedy can you truly accomplish this. You can't do this without us. For you to do this just amongst yourselves because you're already been elected you can't. You need us. Commonsense we elected you and the sentiment regarding elected officials have changed. It is not the "oh, I know her" way, it's not the same way, it's not done the same from when I thought "now they are educated." It's not "hey mom said this." I asked my son "so how about this," he says, "if you say this, dad, I'm not going to do that. I'll decide." If I have hurt or insulted any of you I ask you to forgive me. But you have hurt me maybe a lot of you are not taking as much medication as I do, I take medication that keeps me from moving around. Then there's the medicine I took so much that my wife chased me away. Please Sen. Barnes talk to me talk to the Chamorro people, your people. Do not worry yourself so much on the value of the outsider vote. Eventually they will vote but don't let them vote on my political status, let them try eating red rice but don't let them vote just because the Bible says to love your neighbor as you love yourself. It does not say vote for your neighbor and let him vote for you. Amen to that. Excuse me, I commend you Sen. Pangelinan on your committed efforts. Self-determination along with Frank Blas Jr. you as well Vice Speaker Cruz. You have written a lot of resolutions, never mind Madeleine. She should just park herself there in Washington, D. C. she has done nothing truthfully if she has done something you would not be writing this Bill 151. The Vice Speaker did not awaken the congresswoman. Oh you did Vice Speaker and what she visited the war zone so she would be given a Purple Heart and they didn't give her. I'm not being disrespectful, hold on Respicio. Are you bilingual?

Senator Respicio: I'd like to recognize Senator Barnes.

Senator Barnes: I respect what you have to say, and what we introduce as policy-makers may not always be the right thing for our people. The main intent for me to introduce this kind of legislation was to get a feel for those who love our island. As I support wanting and desiring that our people have and determine what our status should be, I think it's really important that we get the input, but you know I respect, I respect your comments, I respect your decisions, you're entitled to that as everyone on this island is entitled to that, and that doesn't mean because a bill is introduced, that it's set in stone. And as you take your time to comment on the decisions that are set before you today, it is because of recommendations and solutions and gathering ... if there's one thing that I can pull away from this table today, is that a true education is needed, a vital education is needed on where our people need to go. This has been a status that has been long, long awaited for our people. We have not decided for ourselves. And as I hear those who have been at this table today, I'm here to listen. I know you need to speak and I know you're looking at your time and I will continue to listen. If you want to meet with me and want to talk to me and write down every concern that you have, my door will always, always be open."

Mr. Camacho:

"Ai adai Senator Barnes. I'll accept what you say but your point I can't, who is this going to benefit? Who, me? A colonized native of the people not from here, straw poll, non-binding which one of you can answer these issues. Is this really going to work, a poll that's not even going to count. No way Jose, no way. Not even. Not ever. Why? Because this Bill 151 is not for the people of this island. It must be dinner time now so let me take this opportunity to end."

Senator Respicio: "Thank you. The final speaker is Abu Rose."

Abu Rose:

"Buenas everybody. I love all of you. I like to state that my belief is different from other beliefs. I believe that the U.S. came to Guam to kill Guam. And it is easier to you, Madame Won Pat, to you Madame Tina Muña Barnes, you're included. It is easier to complain that you aren't carrying the cross further on. It is easier to complain than to help. Now, I have an abrasive question that I would like to ask everyone at this table. The U.S. Constitution protects its citizens' equal rights and all its laws. The Organic Act does not permit equality within the U.S. Constitution. Question. When you won an elected seat, were you required, required, were you required to swear to the U.S. Constitution which does not include you equality? Mr. Cruz?"

(indistinct)

Abu Rose:

"Why? Is it a delight? They stomp on you and they kick your face in, and you say, "Yes sir." Mr. Pangelinan?"

(indistinct)

Abu Rose:

"So you want it, to be stomped on and kicked in the face. And you wanted to say Yes sir. Because you have no voice. Even pretty Madeleine doesn't have voice. Something to think about. Thank you all for your time. God bless you all. And remember, it is easier to complain than it is to help you."

Senator Respicio: "Thank you also for your time and everyone else's time over the past three hours. It's been very informative and insightful. And I think we have a good idea what we need to do in preparation for the public hearing next Thursday. Having said that, we're adjourned."

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I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2011 (FIRST) REGULAR SESSION

2011 APR 15 AM 11:08
LWA

Bill No. 154-31 (COR)

Introduced by:

Judith P. Guthertz, DPA

AN ACT TO ADD A NEW SUB ITEM 3104(A) AND 3105(A) TO CHAPTER 3, AND ADD A NEW SUB ITEM 20007(A) TO CHAPTER 20, AND ADD A NEW SUB ITEM 21007(A) TO CHAPTER 21, ALL OF TITLE 3 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED AND TO ADD A NEW SUB ITEM 2109(A) AND AMEND SUB SECTIONS 2110(A) AND 2111 OF CHAPTER 21, TITLE 1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO THE REGISTRATION, EDUCATION CAMPAIGN AND VOTING PROCESS FOR THE PLEBISCITE ON POLITICAL STATUS FOR GUAM.

1 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:**

2 **Section 1.** Sub items 3104(a) and 3105(a) are hereby added to Chapter 3, Title
3 3 Guam Code Annotated:

4 **“§ 3104. Times for Registration.** Ten (10) days prior to any general, primary
5 or special election, the registration rolls shall be closed for that election and no further
6 affidavits of registration shall be accepted by the Commission.

7 a) Exception: For the purposes of registering eligible persons to vote on the
8 plebiscite relative to Guam’s political status, the Commission shall develop a
9 methodology that will allow a registration process at each of the islands voting
10 precincts. This process shall coincide with the hours and date of the Primary Election
11 and General Election of 2012.

12 **§ 3105. Place of Registration.** The registration of electors shall be in progress
13 at the main office of the Commission during such hours as the office is open for
14 business at all times prior to the closing of the registration rolls. Electors may also be

1 registered at such times and places within Guam as the Commission shall deem
2 advisable and convenient from the time registration is open until twenty-one (21) days
3 prior to an election.

4 a) Exception: For the purposes of registering eligible persons to vote on the
5 plebiscite relative to Guam's political status, the Commission shall develop a
6 methodology that will allow a registration process at each of the islands voting
7 precincts. This process shall coincide with the hours and date of the Primary Election
8 and General Election of 2012."

9 **Section 2.** Sub item 20007(a) is hereby added to Chapter 20, Title 3 Guam
10 Code Annotated:

11 **"§ 20007. Times for Registration.** A person may register with the Chamorro
12 Registry at any time during the year except at such times when the Commission shall
13 close the registration rolls for the purposes of conducting elections or plebiscites. At
14 such times, the registration rolls shall be closed ten (10) days prior to such election or
15 plebiscite.

16 a) Exception: For the purposes of registering eligible persons to vote on the
17 plebiscite relative to Guam's political status, the Commission shall develop a
18 methodology that will allow a registration process at each of the islands voting
19 precincts. This process shall coincide with the hours and date of the Primary Election
20 and General Election of 2012."

21 **Section 3.** Sub item 21007(a) is hereby added to Chapter 21, Title 3 Guam
22 Code Annotated:

23 **"§21007. Times for Registration.** A person may register with the Guam
24 Decolonization Registry at any time during the year, except at such times when the
25 Commission shall close the registration rolls for the purposes of conducting the

1 Political Status Plebiscite. At such times the registration rolls shall be closed ten (10)
2 days prior to such Political Status Plebiscite.

3 a) Exception: For the purposes of registering eligible persons to vote on the
4 plebiscite relative to Guam’s political status, the Commission shall develop a
5 methodology that will allow a registration process at each of the islands voting
6 precincts. This process shall coincide with the hours and date of the Primary Election
7 and General Election of 2012.”

8 **Section 4.** Sub item 2109(a) is hereby added, sub section 2110(a) is hereby
9 amended, and sub section 2111 is hereby amended, all of Chapter 21, Title 1 Guam
10 Code Annotated to read:

11 **“§ 2109. Public Information Program.** The Commission, in conjunction with
12 the Commission’s task forces shall conduct an extensive public education program,
13 throughout the island, based on the position papers submitted by each task force.

14 “(a) The University of Guam and the Guam Community College shall be
15 commissioned to execute an educational campaign for the proposes of fulfilling the
16 educational outreach provisions of this chapter in order to ensure a successful
17 plebiscite relative to Guam’s political status determination.

18 **§ 2110. Plebiscite Date and Voting Ballot.**

19 (a) The Guam Election Commission shall conduct a ‘Political Status Plebiscite’,
20 at which the following question, which shall be printed in both English and
21 *Chamorro*, shall be asked of the eligible voters:

22 In recognition of your right to self-determination, which of the following
23 political status options do you favor? (Mark ONLY ONE):

- 24 1. Independence ()
25 2. Free Association with the United States of America ()
26 3. Statehood ().

1 Persons eligible to vote shall include those persons designated as Native
2 Inhabitants of Guam, as defined within this Chapter of the Guam Code Annotated,
3 who are eighteen (18) years of age or older on the date of the Political Status
4 Plebiscite' and are registered voters on Guam.

5 The 'Political Status Plebiscite' mandated in Subsection (a) of this Section shall
6 be held on a the date of the 2014 General Primary Election ~~at which seventy percent~~
7 ~~(70%) of~~ by eligible voters, pursuant to this Chapter, have been registered as
8 determined and conducted by the Guam Election Commission.

9 **§ 2111. Run-Off Plebiscite.** If one political status does not receive the majority
10 votes cast in the above plebiscite, a run-off plebiscite shall be held ~~sixty (60) days~~
11 ~~from the date thereof~~ during the date of the 2014 General Election between the two (2)
12 political status options receiving the highest number of votes.”

13 **Section 5.** Effective Date: This Act shall take effect upon enactment into law.
14 The Commission shall propose the methodology as contained in provisions of this Act
15 no later than thirty (30) days after the start of the First (1st) Quarter of the 2012
16 Budget cycle of the Government of Guam.