VIA HAND-DELIVERY

December 23, 2019

HONORABLE TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Speaker
I Mina'trentai Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Guam Congress Building
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Re: Executive Order No. 2019-28

Dear Madam Speaker:

Pursuant to Public Law 34-16, transmitted herewith is the following Executive Order:

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2019-28:
RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING THE ZERO WASTE GUAM WORKING GROUP

If you have any questions, please contact my office at # 475-9475.

Senseramente,

FOR

HAIG T. HUYNH
Legal Counsel

Enclosure(s): Executive Order No. 2019-28

cc: Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, I Maga'hagan Guahan (via email)
Honorable Joshua F. Tenorio, I Sigundo Maga'låhen Guahan (via email)
Compiler of Law, via email
Central Files, via email
RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING THE
ZERO WASTE GUAM WORKING GROUP

WHEREAS, Zero Waste is recognized as one of the quickest, most cost-effective policies
to build resiliency in communities and combat the negative impacts of climate change; and

WHEREAS, Zero Waste is the conservation of all resources by means of responsible
production, consumption, reuse, and recovery of products, packaging, and materials without
burning and with no discharges to land, water, or air that threaten the environment or human health; and

WHEREAS, Zero Waste can be linked to sustainable agriculture, permaculture,
sustainable energy as well as sustainable industrial, economic and community development; and

WHEREAS, there is a clear connection between waste reduction, recycling, resource
recovery, and beneficial reuse and the need to change unsustainable consumption, disposal, and
production patterns; and

WHEREAS, the placement of materials in landfills increases greenhouse gases, wastes
natural resources, and transfers liabilities to future generations; and

WHEREAS, over one hundred thousand of tons of materials are generated in Guam each
year by residents, businesses, organizations, and institutions, and approximately 85% of this
amount is sent to the landfill disposal; and

WHEREAS, the construction of the Layon Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Cell 3 is
estimated to cost taxpayers 30 million dollars for an expected life of 10 years. The life span of the
landfill can be extended only with effective implementation of waste reduction, recycling, resource
recovery, and beneficial reuse programs such as those incorporated in a Zero Waste Strategy; and

WHEREAS, Zero Waste is a community-based model that aims to eliminate or minimize
landfill disposal by the application of simple solutions and sustainable materials management
systems that are healthy for our people, and our island; and

WHEREAS, establishing the Recycling Revolving Fund, and the Recycling Enterprise
Zones at the Port Authority of Guam, were visionary policy achievements, at the time, that paved
the way towards the eventual establishing a Zero Waste community for Guam; and

WHEREAS, The Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials
(ASTSMWO) has endorsed developing a Zero Waste Strategy as a significant component in
implementing a comprehensive (waste) materials management program for small island
communities like Guam through both regulatory and cooperative environmental governance; and
WHEREAS, waste prevention, reuse, recycling, and composting are material management options that conserve resources, and grow resilience while reducing environmental impacts and; and

WHEREAS, increased recycling saves energy, water, natural resources, reduces air and water pollution, reduces the damage caused by extracting resources from the environment, and reduces the need for landfill facilities; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that a resource recovery-based economy will sustain, on a person basis, up to ten times more jobs than landfilling, and these jobs will be more productive and meaningful; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that voluntary recycling goals have not, and in all probability, cannot achieve effective and efficient waste elimination; and

WHEREAS, a Zero Waste strategy presents our community with a great opportunity to protect the environment, save money for taxpayers, create new jobs and business opportunities, and advance the cause of creating a more sustainable community.

NOW THEREFORE, I, LOURDES AFLAGUE LEON GUERRERO, I Maga’hågan Guåhan, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, and the laws of Guam, do order as follows:

Creation of the Zero Waste Guam Working Group. The Zero Waste Guam Working Group is hereby created and tasked with the following mission, purposes, and operational parameters:

1. Mission Statement. It is the purpose and objective of the Zero Waste Working Group to have the responsibility for developing, making recommendations for the adoption of and then overseeing all aspects of implementation of the Guam Zero Waste Master Plan including developing the outreach and public education components required to raise public awareness, to share knowledge and transfer information to the community and to the broader pacific; and

2. The Zero Waste Guam Working Group shall be Chaired by Finé’ne na Asaguan Maga’hågan Guåhan, the First Gentleman, and shall include the following members:

   a. Administrator of the Guam Environmental Protection Authority;
   b. Director of Statistics and Plans;
   c. General Manager of the Port Authority of Guam;
   d. Director of Public Works; and
e. The Administrator of the Air and Land Division of the Guam Environmental Protection Agency who shall serve as Executive Director of the Working Group.

Signed and Promulgated at Hagåtña, Guam, this 23rd day of December, 2019.

LOURDES AFLAGUE LEON GUERRERO
Maga’hågan Guåhan
Governor of Guam

Attested by:

JOSHUA FRANQUEZ TENORIO
Sigundo Maga’låhen Guåhan
Lieutenant Governor of Guam