

Aline A. Yamashita, Ph.D.

Senator-Elect

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The Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo
427 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-5301

Dear Congresswoman Bordallo,

Thank you so much for your letter of congratulations! I am excited and honored to help our people in this capacity. I look forward to learning from you and working with you to make Guam the best she can be.

I am writing to respectfully request your assistance in seeking an extension to the timeframe Guam's Department of Education has been given relative to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds.

The \$75,742,784.00 awarded to Guam DOE is greatly needed and appreciated, and as there are many current, critical junctures facing our island community, the opportunities afforded our public school system by the ARRA shine brightly. There is, however, great ground to cover. The discussion points about who should be doing what is crucial, and as those decisions are carried out, the when must be addressed.

As you know, Guam DOE has been making progress in satisfying the U.S. Department of Education's requirements as third-party fiduciary agent Alvarez & Marsal implements the new financial system of the local education department. The grant period ends 30 September 2011. Guam Department of Education Superintendent Nerissa Bretania Underwood is requesting a December 2012 timeframe to obligate and liquidate the ARRA funds.

As an educator very aware of what can be done to improve public education, and as a taxpayer seeing an opportunity begin to flicker, again I respectfully ask for your assistance in requesting for an extension to allow us time to properly plan to ensure that we maximize on opportunities given us.

As a newly elected representative, I look forward to working with you, Dr. Underwood, and other public officials in heightening the urgency of such matters that prepare all students for life, promote excellence, and provide support.

Thank you for your time and kind attention to this matter.

Respectfully,



ALINE A. YAMASHITA, Ph.D.
SENATOR-ELECT

**CC: The Honorable Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D., Speaker and Chairwoman, Committee on Education,
30th Guam Legislature
The Honorable Rory Respicio, Majority Leader, 30th Guam Legislature
The Honorable Frank Blas, Jr., Minority Leader, 30th Guam Legislature
Mr. Jerry Crisostomo, Calvo-Tenorio Transition Team
Mr. Dan Tydingco, Calvo-Tenorio Transition Team**