



Guam Memorial Hospital Authority Aturidåt Espetåt Mimuriåt Guåhan



850 GOV. CARLOS CAMACHO ROAD
OKA, TAMUNING, GUAM 96913
TEL: 647-2444 or 647-2330
FAX: (671) 649-0145

Feb. 22, 2016

Dear Honorable Governor Eddie B. Calvo:

Buenas yan Hafa Adai.

The 32nd Guam Legislature, in October of 2014, proposed Bill No. 393-32 (COR), now PL 32-204, authorizing you to enter into a line of credit, direct loan, or other alternative financing to renovate the Guam Memorial Hospital Labor and Delivery Ward. It has been almost two years since the bill was unanimously passed and since you signed it into law. The hospital and our women and children can wait no longer. The ward must be completed immediately.

There were some concerns that GMH's plans for the maternity ward to exceed the \$7M borrowing authorization. However, we agreed to work within the approved budget so as to expeditiously complete the renovation with no further delays. Additional amendments to the law will only delay the renovation.

Our medical colleagues and nurses who directly care for patients in the labor and delivery wards all agree that we can work within the \$7M limit that has already been approved and for which financing has already been identified.

Our pregnant mothers are anxiously waiting. They cannot continue to be moved around multiple times while in labor. Additionally, the renovation of the labor and delivery ward will strengthen the Guam Memorial Hospital's antenatal and postpartum care services. Sadly, Guam has an extremely high infant mortality rate compared to the national average.

As our governor, you promised that this would be done in September of 2015. I urge you to stop this delay and ask you to expedite the process to finally get the maternity ward renovated. Attached is GMHA Board of Trustees Final Resolution in support of the \$7M. Please help us help our pregnant mothers and their babies now.

Sincerely,

Friedrich Bieling, MD

Jon Sidel, MD

President, GMHA Medical Staff

Chair, GMHA OB-GYN Department

Cc: GEDA, Speaker Judith Won Pat, PeterJohn Camacho

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