WHEREAS, the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), which causes the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) has had a dramatic impact on virtually every aspect of society today and has generated major social, political, economic, and legal questions; and

WHEREAS, every level of government, the educational system, the business community, the health care profession, the insurance industry and many other institutions on Guam will be confronted with the numerous issues associated with the disease; and

WHEREAS, since 1985, Guam has recorded 5 AIDS cases, 4 of whom have since died and 8 cases of residents infected with HIV; and

WHEREAS, in the U.S. alone, the number of reported cases of AIDS has reached epidemic proportions with over 90,000 reported; additionally, more than 2 million people have been infected with the AIDS virus; and

WHEREAS, Guam residents have indicated a high degree of concern about the problem; and

WHEREAS, people with AIDS/HIV infection on Guam have been challenged by such critical issues as health care, medical coverage, depression, support services, social isolation, and fear of discrimination; and

WHEREAS, knowing the facts about AIDS can help prevent the spread of the disease; this involves the development and implementation of programs to meet the needs of the total community as well as the specific target groups.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FRANK F. BLAS, Acting Governor of the Territory of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, do hereby create the GUAM AIDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE and order that:

1. The Guam AIDS Advisory Committee shall be appointed by and serve without compensation, and at the pleasure of the Governor;
2. The Committee shall:

a. Review the Surgeon General's Report on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, U.S. Centers for Disease Control reports and other relevant reports regarding AIDS/HIV.

b. Evaluate current local laws, public policies, and issues regarding surveillance, screening and testing confidentiality, contact tracing, discrimination, education, employment, insurance, special populations health care services and financing.

c. Solicit comments, opinions, and suggestions from interested and involved public officials, public agencies, private groups, affected populations and the general public.

d. Identify specific Territorial health care services, educational needs, insurance requirements and support services required by the impact of the disease.

e. Develop methods to encourage increased communication and cooperation among all public and private agencies concerned about the issue.

f. Develop a comprehensive Territorial strategic plan with proposed public policies for the Territory of Guam.

g. Consider any other issues, programs, or proposals that the Governor and the Chairperson believe are appropriately related to the responsibilities of the Committee.

h. Submit a final report containing findings, recommendations, and proposed legislation to the Governor within six months of the date of the establishment of the Committee.

3. Representatives from various government agencies, the private health care sector, and the community shall be appointed as Committee members.

4. The Guam AIDS Advisory Committee shall elect from among the membership a Chairperson.
5. The Guam AIDS Advisory Committee shall serve as an advisory body to the Guam AIDS Prevention Program of the Department of Public Health and Social Services.

6. The Guam AIDS Advisory Committee shall hold meetings at the call of the Chairperson.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Agana, Guam, this 3rd day of August, 1989.

FRANK F. BLAS
Governor of Guam, Acting

COUNTERSIGNED:

LED S. NELSON
Lieutenant Governor of Guam, Acting