RELATIVE TO FORMING A TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP ALTERNATE HOUSING SOLUTIONS FOR PERSONS WHO CANNOT BE ACCOMMODATED UNDER CURRENT FEDERALLY ASSISTED HOUSING PROGRAMS.

WHEREAS, there is a shortage of affordable housing and resources of assistance on Guam for persons of lower income; and

WHEREAS, the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has issued a recent ruling declaring that citizens from the Freely Associated States (FAS) must be considered ineligible noncitizens for purposes of HUD's multifamily programs, such as Guma Trankilidad; and

WHEREAS, the transmittal letter regarding the recent HUD ruling on multifamily programs stated that a similar ruling would soon be released for the Public Housing and Section 8 programs administered by the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority (GHURA); and

WHEREAS, there are presently 310 families on the waiting lists of GHURA, applying to participate in the Section 8 or Public Housing programs; there are also presently 339 families currently participating in either the Section 8 or Public Housing programs; and

WHEREAS, for families on the waiting lists, if a family consists entirely of FAS citizens, GHURA will be unable to assist them; if a family consists of FAS citizens and other members who are either U. S. citizens or eligible noncitizens, GHURA can assist the family on a prorated basis; and

WHEREAS, for families already participating in GHURA's programs, GHURA is able to offer prorated rates, or deferred assistance for a period from a minimum of 6 months to a maximum of 3 years at the fully subsidized rates as long as the family certifies every 6 months that they are unable to locate alternate housing that is affordable; and

WHEREAS, despite meetings that have been held with the Compact Impact Office and community leaders of the various Freely Associated States, as well as other community meetings held by GHURA, the problem of housing shortage will still place stress throughout families living on Guam and coordinated efforts are needed to alleviate this stress;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act do order:

1. The Alternative Housing Solutions Task Force is hereby established, consisting of representatives chosen by the Governor from the following:
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a) Homeless Assistance Task Force - BRAC '95;
b) Guam Housing Corporation;
c) Department of Administration Housing Management Division;
d) Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority;
e) Department of Public Health and Social Services;
f) Guam Homeless Providers Consortium (includes Catholic Social Services, Coral Life Foundation, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Guma Mami, Guam San Francisco, Habitat for Humanity, Guam Council on Senior Citizens, Sanctuary, Inc., and Victims Advocates Reaching Out (VARO));
g) Compact Impact Information and Education Program.

2. The Alternative Housing Solutions Task Force shall meet immediately and assess the housing problem and prepare a plan for providing more housing resources in the Guam community for those persons who will be ineligible for current programs; and

3. The Alternative Housing Solutions Task Force shall make whatever contacts that are deemed necessary to obtain relevant information and obtain assistance for preparing an alternative housing plan; and

4. The Alternative Housing Solutions Task Force shall work with the Governor to coordinate the plan's action within 120 days from the date of promulgation.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Agana, Guam this 14th day of August, 1996.

CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ
Governor of Guam

COUNTERSIGNED:
MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO
Lieutenant Governor of Guam