EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 98-19

RELATIVE TO REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO INCLUDE THE STUDENTS FROM THE DODEA SCHOOLS INTO THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, for many years, children of members of the military have attended public school on Guam arm-in-arm with all of Guam's public school students, and military children have been welcome participants in our educational system; and

WHEREAS, just this past year, the Department of Defense made the decision to build separate schools for the children of members of the military serving on Guam, and military children attended classes separate from the Guam Public School System during School Year 1997-98; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Defense schools, or DODEA schools on Guam, do not offer any summerschool programs; and

WHEREAS, children of the DODEA School System, while members of our community, are the only children on island who do not currently have access to summerschool programs, which was realized after a recent announcement that summerschool is available to students of the Guam Public School System and private schools, and the DODEA School System does not fall into either of these categories; and

WHEREAS, the children of military personnel are members of our community and their parents are welcome residents who contribute a great deal to Guam and its people; it is unequal and unfair to deny any of Guam's children the opportunity to attend summerschool on the basis of their attendance at a federally supported school; and

WHEREAS, Guam's culture is not about separating people and denying them opportunity, or extending unwelcoming attitudes; we are a people who are hospitable, generous, and include everyone in our island way of life; and

WHEREAS, Guam's people dearly love American democracy and the freedom from violence and tyranny which was brought to our shores in blood by American men and women in uniform; and

WHEREAS, Guam's appreciation of democracy and freedom results not only from America's World War II efforts, but is a constant presence and continually evolving goal, fed and inspired by the devotion to duty for these principles of many men and women now serving their country, many of them stationed on Guam and for that reason a special part of our community;
NOW, THEREFORE, I, CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ, I Maga'lahen Guåhan, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, do order:

1. All children attending DODEA schools for School Year 1997-98 are eligible for the summerschool program operated by the Guam Department of Education during summer 1998;

2. The eligibility of DODEA school students for summerschool shall not be limited or dependent upon any particular source of funding for summerschool programs; and

3. The government of Guam shall make resources available for inclusion of all Guam's children for eligibility in summerschool programs, regardless of their attendance at schools supported by the federal government.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagåtña, Guam this 15th day of June, 1998.

CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ
I Maga'lahen Guåhan
Governor of Guam

COUNTERSIGNED:

ANTONIO R. UNPINGCO
Aktu Segundo na Maga'lahen Guåhan
Acting Lieutenant Governor of Guam