WHEREAS, the physical fitness and wellness of the employees and the citizens are of paramount importance; and

WHEREAS, statistics show that the health status of Guam’s population continues to be affected each year due to lifestyle practices that result in increased stress levels; obesity; and medical conditions such as cardiovascular diseases and diabetes; and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Council on Physical Fitness and Sports aims to stimulate physical fitness and wellness programs and activities throughout the community, and has been tasked to raise the consciousness level concerning personal physical fitness; and

WHEREAS, the Council has implemented and completed the Physical Fitness and Wellness Pilot Program with the government of Guam employees and the results of the pilot program show that there are health benefits to be gained by participants of such a program; and

WHEREAS, the continuation of the Guam Physical Fitness and Wellness Program will benefit the government, its employees, and the community as a whole; and

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

1. That the agency head of all departments and agencies of the government of Guam, both line and autonomous, establish a Physical Fitness and Wellness Program for their employees and adhere to the guidelines prescribed in the Guam Physical Fitness and Wellness Plan, as published by the Governor’s Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, in support of the Vision 2001 objectives for health care.

2. Each agency head shall appoint a Wellness Coordinator for their respective agency, as stated in the Guam Physical Fitness and Wellness Plan, no later than August 15, 1998 and establish its program no later than September 15, 1998. Names of the Wellness Coordinators and established programs shall be submitted to the Division of Health Planning and Development of the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities.

3. That the Governor’s Council on Physical Fitness and Sports continue to work with the Department of Public Health and Social Services, the Department of Parks and Recreation, and private sector fitness and wellness organizations to promote fitness and wellness within the community by collaborating with the village mayors to establish a physical fitness and wellness program within each village, henceforth to be called the “The Healthy Villages Program.”
4. That the Division of Health Planning and Development of the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities serve as the liaison between the Department of Public Health and Social Services, the village mayors, and the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports in the implementation of The Healthy Villages Program, as well as in support of the government's Physical Fitness and Wellness Program.

5. That the Division of Health Planning and Development of the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities continue to monitor the physical fitness and wellness program with the government and serve as an information and resource center for departments and agencies in this endeavor.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagåtña, Guam this 29th day of July, 1998.

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

COUNTERSIGNED:

MADELEINEZ. BORDALLO
Segunda na Magå'lahen Guåhan
Lieutenant Governor of Guam