



GUAM LEGISLATURE PROPOSES PRORATED H2 WORKER REGISTRATION FEE

Guam Senator Rory Respicio, Majority Leader and Chairman, Committee on Rules, Natural Resources, and Federal, Foreign, & Micronesian Affairs, has introduced a Bill 313 that would adjust the current H2 worker registration fee and prorate the amount based on the number of months that a worker is employed in Guam.

The current fee charged by the Guam Department of Labor is \$1,091 per year, regardless of the worker's length of stay with the company. With the passage of Public Law 30-64 in December 2009, \$91 of the fee will go to the Department of Public Health and Social Services for the recruitment of additional health sanitation specialists who will be tasked to inspect workers housing quarters for health and safety standards. The \$1,000 base fee goes to the Department of Labor's Manpower Development Fund.

According to Senator Respicio, Bill 313 will maintain the yearly fee of \$1,091 but will be prorated to \$84 per month in case a worker works in Guam for less than a year or a little over a year. The prorated fee would be tied to the worker's visa so it will not be complicated to implement.

The number of workers expected to come to Guam for projects related to the military buildup varies from 17,000 to 25,000.