I Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan BILL STATUS

BILL NO.	SPONSOR	TITLE	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	FISCAL NOTES	NOTES
4-36 (COR)	V. Anthony Ada Christopher M. Duenas	AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 24103(c) TO CHAPTER 24, TITLE 11, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING THE ADDITIONAL REAL PROPERTY TAX LEVIED ON IMPROVEMENTS WITH A VALUE OF ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000) OR MORE.	11:05 a.m.						

I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2021 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 4-36 (COR)

Introduced by:

James C. Moylan V. Anthony Ada Christopher M. Duenas Frank F. Blas Jr.

AN ACT TO *ADD* A NEW § 24103(c) TO CHAPTER 24, TITLE 11, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING THE ADDITIONAL REAL PROPERTY TAX LEVIED ON IMPROVEMENTS WITH A VALUE OF ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000) OR MORE.

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that the Covid-19 pandemic has created an economic crisis on island which has severely impacted many island residents and businesses alike. The global epidemic has and is projected to continue to adversely affect our tourism industry, Guam's primary economic pillar, with experts estimating that pre COVID-19 arrival numbers *may not* be experienced until 2022. The hotel industry has unfortunately experienced a major setback, as thousands of employees have either been furloughed or have had their hours reduced.

In 2019, Public Law 1-35 was enacted to correct language from a previous mandate which levied an additional tax on those properties with improvements valued at one million dollars or more. Unfortunately, this Act directly affects many in the tourism industry, particularly hotels, and hence any opportunity to provide some financial relief to these entities may be positively shifted to employees in Simultaneously, as Guam's tourism market is impacted, a circular effect would resonate into many other industries who either directly or indirectly support the visitor industry. This would include island residents, whose jobs were adversely affected and are living in apartment units where PL 1-35 may have increased their rent, or even businesses in industrial zones whose overhead expenditures increased due to an increase in the tax levy.

7 The intent of this Act is to temporarily suspend the provisions of PL 1-35 for Fiscal Years 2021 and 2022 for those with improvements valued at \$1,000,000 or 8 more in all Zones, other than those on a R1-One Family Dwelling Zone, to provide 9 some tax relief, particularly to those in the tourism and other industries. If these 10 savings can be transferred to employees in terms of additional working hours, the 11 governments losses from the additional property tax levies may be off set through 12 withholding taxes as well as the disposable spending from benefitting individuals 13 and entities. 14

Section 2. A new § 24103(c) is hereby *added* to Chapter 24, Title 11, Guam
Code Annotated, to read as follows:

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§ 24103. Levy.

(a) There is hereby levied on all land property in Guam a yearly tax at
the rate of seven seventy-seconds percent (7/72%) of the value thereof and
seven eighteenths percent (7/18%) of the value of the improvements thereon.
Such tax shall be assessed and collected in the manner prescribed in this
Chapter. All proceeds derived by the government under any provision of this
Chapter shall be deposited in the Guam Educational Facilities Fund.

(b) In addition to the levy in Subsection (a), there is hereby levied on
improvements on all land property in Guam with a value of One Million
Dollars (\$1,000,000) or more a yearly tax at the rate of seven eighteenths
percent (7/18%) of the value thereon. Such tax shall be assessed and collected

in the manner prescribed in this Chapter. All proceeds derived by the
 government under any provision of this Chapter shall be deposited in the
 Guam Educational Facilities Fund.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provisions of the law, the levy pursuant to 4 § 24103(b) of this Chapter, shall be suspended for Fiscal Year 2021 and Fiscal 5 Year 2022 on improvements for all Zones pursuant to Article 2 of Chapter 61, 6 Title 21, Guam Code Annotated, *except* for the R1-One Family Dwelling Zone. 7 Severability. If any provision of this Act or its application to any Section 2. 8 person or circumstance is found to be invalid or contrary to law, such invalidity shall 9 not affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be given effect without 10 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are 11 severable. 12

Section 3. Effective Date. This Act *shall be* effective retroactively to
 January 1, 2021 and *shall* expire on December 31, 2022.