

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
171-36 (LS)	Frank Blas Jr. Joe S. San Agustin V. Anthony Ada	AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) FROM THE REVENUES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO 11 GCA CHAPTER 42 AVAILABLE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 TO THE VALLEY OF THE LATTE, LLC FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A CULTURAL CENTER THAT WILL PROVIDE A PLACE WHERE THE CHAMORRO CULTURE CAN BE CELEBRATED AND THE CULTURES OF OUR REGION APPRECIATED.	8/5/21 12:22 p.m.	8/9/21	Committee on General Government Operations, Appropriations, and Housing	9/14/21 1:30 p.m.	10/19/21 11:20 a.m.	Request: 8/10/21 8/17/21 Revised: 9/14/21	



SENATOR JOE S. SAN AGUSTIN

COMMITTEE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, APPROPRIATIONS & HOUSING
I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN

September 27, 2021

The Honorable Therese M. Terlaje
Speaker
I Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

VIA: The Honorable Amanda L. Shelton 
Acting Chairperson, Committee on Rules

RE: Committee Report on Bill No.171-36(LS) As Introduced

Dear Speaker Terlaje:

Transmitted herewith is the Committee Report on **BILL NO. 171-36 (LS)** As Introduced by Frank F. Blas Jr., Joe S. San Agustin, and V. Anthony Ada. **"AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) FROM THE REVENUES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO 11 GCA CHAPTER 42 AVAILABLE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 TO THE VALLEY OF THE LATTE, LLC FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A CULTURAL CENTER THAT WILL PROVIDE A PLACE WHERE THE CHAMORRO CULTURE CAN BE CELEBRATED AND THE CULTURES OF OUR REGION APPRECIATED."**

Committee votes are as follows:

3 TO DO PASS

~~0~~ TO NOT PASS

2 TO REPORT OUT ONLY

~~0~~ TO ABSTAIN

~~0~~ TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE

Respectfully,

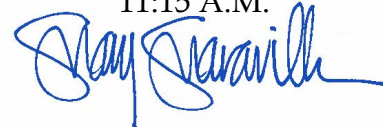

Joe. S. San Agustin
Chairperson, Committee on Appropriations

COMMITTEE ON RULES

RECEIVED:

September 27, 2021

11:15 A.M.



Revisions Received:

October 12, 2021 @ 11:45 A.M.



SENATOR JOE S. SANAGUSTIN

I Mina' trentai Singko na Liheslaturan Guåhan

CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, APPROPRIATIONS, AND HOUSING

COMMITTEE REPORT

BILL NO. 171-36 (LS)

As Introduced by Senators: Frank Blas Jr. / Joe S. San Agustin / V. Anthony Ada

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) FROM THE REVENUES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO 11 GCA CHAPTER 42 AVAILABLE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 TO THE VALLEY OF THE LATTE, LLC FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A CULTURAL CENTER THAT WILL PROVIDE A PLACE WHERE THE CHAMORRO CULTURE CAN BE CELEBRATED AND THE CULTURES OF OUR REGION APPRECIATED.

(VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING)

September 14, 2021



SENATOR JOE S. SAN AGUSTIN

COMMITTEE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, APPROPRIATIONS & HOUSING
I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN

September 24, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL MEMBERS

Committee on General Government Operations, Appropriations, and Housing

From: Senator Joe S. San Agustin

Committee Chairperson

Subject: Committee Report on Bill No. 171-36 (LS) As Introduced

Transmitted herewith is the Committee Report on **BILL NO. 171-36 (LS)** As Introduced by Frank F. Blas Jr., Joe S. San Agustin, and V. Anthony Ada. **"AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) FROM THE REVENUES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO 11 GCA CHAPTER 42 AVAILABLE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 TO THE VALLEY OF THE LATTE, LLC FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A CULTURAL CENTER THAT WILL PROVIDE A PLACE WHERE THE CHAMORRO CULTURE CAN BE CELEBRATED AND THE CULTURES OF OUR REGION APPRECIATED."**

This report includes the following:

- Copy of COR Referral of Bill No. 171-36 (LS)
- Notices of Public Hearing and Other Correspondence
- Copy of Public Hearing Agenda
- Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet
- Committee Report Digest
- Copy of Bill No. 171-36 (LS) As introduced
- Copy of Fiscal Note from Bureau of Budget and Management Research
- Committee Vote Sheet

Please take the appropriate action on the attached vote sheet, Your Attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase!



Vice Speaker

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES

CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON RULES

I Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

GUAM CONGRESS BUILDING
163 CHALAN SANTO PAPA
HAGĀTÑA, GUAM 96910
TEL 671-472-2461
COR@GUAMLEGISLATURE.ORG

August 9, 2021

MEMO

To: **Rennae Meno**
Clerk of the Legislature

Attorney Ana Won Pat-Borja
Legislative Legal Counsel

From: **Senator Amanda L. Shelton**
Acting Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Re: **Referral of Bill No. 171-36 (LS)**

Håfa Adai,

As per my authority as Acting Chairperson of the Committee on Rules and subject to §6.01(d)(1), Rule VI of our Standing Rules, I am forwarding the referral of Bill No. 171-36 (LS) - Frank Blas, Jr., Joe S. San Agustin, V. Anthony Ada - "AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) FROM THE REVENUES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO 11 GCA CHAPTER 42 AVAILABLE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 TO THE VALLEY OF THE LATTE, LLC FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A CULTURAL CENTER THAT WILL PROVIDE A PLACE WHERE THE CHAMORRO CULTURE CAN BE CELEBRATED AND THE CULTURES OF OUR REGION APPRECIATED."

Please ensure that the subject bill is referred to the **Committee on General Government Operations, Appropriations, and Housing**, chaired by Senator Joe S. San Agustin.

I also request that the same be forwarded to the prime sponsor of the subject bill.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Mary Maravilla, Committee on Rules Director at 472-2461.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Respectfully,

Senator Amanda L. Shelton
Acting Chairperson, Committee on Rules





Michaela Celorio <msacelorio.senatorsa@gmail.com>

First Notice of Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 14, 2021

1 message

Rose Mesa <rose.senatorsa@gmail.com>

Tue, Sep 7, 2021 at 11:18 AM

To: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

Cc: Management Information System <mis@guamlegislature.org>, Tom Unsiog <sgtarms@guamlegislature.org>, Joe San Agustin <protocol@guamlegislature.org>, ed pocaique <siedpocaique@gmail.com>

September 7, 2021

To: All Honorable Senators, Stakeholders and Media**From: Senator Joe S. San Agustin, Chairman****Subject: First Notice of Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 14, 2021***Buenas yan Håfa Adai!*

In accordance with the Open Government Law, relative to notices for public meetings, please be advised that the Committee on General Government Operations, Appropriations and Housing will convene a public hearing on **Tuesday, September 14, 2021 beginning at 1:30 p.m. in I Liheslaturan Guåhan's Public Hearing Room** (Guam Congress Building, Hagåtña).

The Committee will hear and accept testimony on the following:

1:30 p.m.

Bill No. 172-36 (LS) - Joe S. San Agustin / Clynton E. Ridgell / Tina Rose Muña Barnes / Frank Blas Jr. / Amanda L. Shelton / Jose "Pedo" Terlaje

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THREE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,500,000) FROM THE REVENUES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 42 OF TITLE 11 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, TO THE GUAM PRESERVATION TRUST FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE REVITALIZATION AND RENOVATION OF THE HISTORIC FORMER FRANCISCO Q. SANCHEZ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROPERTY UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE UMATAC MAYOR'S OFFICE.

Bill No. 171-36 (LS) - Frank Blas Jr. / Joe S. San Agustin / V. Anthony Ada

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) FROM THE REVENUES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO 11 GCA CHAPTER 42 AVAILABLE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 TO THE VALLEY OF THE LATTE, LLC FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A CULTURAL CENTER THAT WILL PROVIDE A PLACE WHERE THE CHAMORRO CULTURE CAN BE CELEBRATED AND THE CULTURES OF OUR REGION APPRECIATED

Bill No. 170-36 (LS) - Frank Blas Jr. / Joe S. San Agustin / V. Anthony Ada

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PURPOSE OF PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO INCUBATED BUSINESSES DEVELOPED WITH THEIR PROGRAM.

The hearing will be broadcast on local television, GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117/112.4 and streamed online via *I Liheslaturan Guåhan's* live feed. A recording of the hearing will be available online via Guam Legislature Media on YouTube after the hearing.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special accommodations or services should contact the Office of Senator Joe S. San Agustin at senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com.

We look forward to your participation!

Un Dàngkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'

Very Respectfully,

RoseMarie T. Mesa

Office Manager

I Mina'trentai saís Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

(Thirty-Sixth Guam Legislature)

Senator Joe S. San Agustin

Committee on General Government Operations, Appropriations, and Housing

Office: 671-989-5445

Email: rose.senatorsa@gmail.com

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Michaela Celorio <msacelorio.senatorsa@gmail.com>

CHANGE 1 - First Notice of Virtual Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 14, 2021

2 messages

Rose Mesa <rose.senatorsa@gmail.com>

Wed, Sep 8, 2021 at 9:35 AM

To: phnotice@guamlegislature.org, umatacmo@gmail.com

Cc: Management Information System <mis@guamlegislature.org>, Tom Unsioy <sgtarms@guamlegislature.org>, ed pocaique <siedpocaique@gmail.com>, Joe San Agustin <protocol@guamlegislature.org>

September 8, 2021

To: All Honorable Senators, Stakeholders and Media**From: Senator Joe S. San Agustin, Chairman****Subject: CHANGE 1 - First Notice of Virtual Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 14, 2021***Buenas yan Håfa Adai!*

In accordance with the Open Government Law, relative to notices for public meetings, please be advised that the Committee on General Government Operations, Appropriations and Housing will convene a virtual public hearing on **Tuesday, September 14, 2021 beginning at 1:30 p.m.** using the Legislature's virtual Zoom platform.

The Committee will hear and accept testimony on the following:

1:30 p.m.

Bill No. 172-36 (LS) - Joe S. San Agustin / Clynton E. Ridgell / Tina Rose Muña Barnes / Frank Blas Jr. / Amanda L. Shelton / Jose "Pedro" Terlaje

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THREE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,500,000) FROM THE REVENUES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 42 OF TITLE 11 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, TO THE GUAM PRESERVATION TRUST FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE REVITALIZATION AND RENOVATION OF THE HISTORIC FORMER FRANCISCO Q. SANCHEZ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROPERTY UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE UMATAC MAYOR'S OFFICE.

Bill No. 171-36 (LS) - Frank Blas Jr. / Joe S. San Agustin / V. Anthony Ada

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) FROM THE REVENUES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO 11 GCA CHAPTER 42 AVAILABLE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 TO THE VALLEY OF THE LATTE, LLC FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A CULTURAL CENTER THAT WILL PROVIDE A PLACE WHERE THE CHAMORRO CULTURE CAN BE CELEBRATED AND THE CULTURES OF OUR REGION APPRECIATED

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PURPOSE OF PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO INCUBATED BUSINESSES DEVELOPED WITH THEIR PROGRAM.

Written testimonies should be addressed to Sen. Joe S. San Agustin, Chairman and sent via email to: senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com or hand delivered to: Ran Care Bldg. Suite B3 761 S. Marine Corps Drive Tamuning, Guam 96931.

The hearing will be broadcast on local television, GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117/112.4 and streamed online via *I Liheslaturan Guåhan's* live feed. A recording of the hearing will be available online via Guam Legislature Media on YouTube after the hearing.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special accommodations or services should contact the Office of Senator Joe S. San Agustin at senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com.

We look forward to your participation!

Un Dangkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'

Very Respectfully,

RoseMarie T. Mesa

Office Manager

I Mina'trentai sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

(Thirty-Sixth Guam Legislature)

Senator Joe S. San Agustin

Committee on General Government Operations, Appropriations, and Housing

Office: 671-989-5445

Email: rose.senatorsa@gmail.com

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Rose Mesa <rose.senatorsa@gmail.com>

To: Michaela Celorio <msacelorio.senatorsa@gmail.com>

Thu, Sep 9, 2021 at 8:28 AM

Un Dangkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'

Very Respectfully,

RoseMarie T. Mesa

Office Manager

I Mina'trentai sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

(Thirty-Sixth Guam Legislature)

Senator Joe S. San Agustin

Committee on General Government Operations, Appropriations, and Housing

Office: 671-989-5445

Email: rose.senatorsa@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Ibarra Hernandez <ihernandez@guamlegislature.org>

Date: Wed, Sep 8, 2021 at 4:22 PM

Subject: Re: CHANGE 1 - First Notice of Virtual Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 14, 2021

To: Rose Mesa <rose.senatorsa@gmail.com>

Guam Legislature is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Virtual Public Hearing - Joe S. San Agustin

Time: Sep 14, 2021 01:30 PM Guam, Port Moresby



[Quoted text hidden]

Cheers,

Ibarra "Barry" Hernandez

MIS

I Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan - 36th Guam Legislature

671-472-3519

Disclaimer: This message is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information which is privileged, confidential, proprietary, or exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient or the individual responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient, you are strictly prohibited from disclosing, distributing, copying, or in any way using this message. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender and immediately delete any copies you may have received. Thank you.



Michaela Celorio <msacelorio.senatorsa@gmail.com>

Second Notice of Virtual Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 14, 2021

1 message

Rose Mesa <rose.senatorsa@gmail.com>

Fri, Sep 10, 2021 at 8:52 AM

To: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

Cc: Management Information System <mis@guamlegislature.org>, Tom Unsiog <sgtarms@guamlegislature.org>, Joe San Agustin <protocol@guamlegislature.org>, ed pocaigue <siedpocaigue@gmail.com>

September 10, 2021

To: All Honorable Senators, Stakeholders and Media**From: Senator Joe S. San Agustin, Chairman****Subject: Second Notice of Virtual Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 14, 2021***Buenas yan Håfa Adai!*

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The Committee will hear and accept testimony on the following:

1:30 p.m.

Bill No. 172-36 (LS) - Joe S. San Agustin / Clynton E. Ridgell / Tina Rose Muña Barnes / Frank Blas Jr. / Amanda L. Shelton / Jose "Pedro" Terlaje

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THREE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,500,000) FROM THE REVENUES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 42 OF TITLE 11 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, TO THE GUAM PRESERVATION TRUST FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE REVITALIZATION AND RENOVATION OF THE HISTORIC FORMER FRANCISCO Q. SANCHEZ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROPERTY UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE UMATAC MAYOR'S OFFICE.

Bill No. 171-36 (LS) - Frank Blas Jr. / Joe S. San Agustin / V. Anthony Ada

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We look forward to your participation!

Un Dangkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'

Very Respectfully,

RoseMarie T. Mesa

Office Manager

I Mina'trentai sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

(Thirty-Sixth Guam Legislature)

Senator Joe S. San Agustin

Committee on General Government Operations, Appropriations, and Housing

Office: 671-989-5445

Email: rose.senatorsa@gmail.com

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Office of

SENATOR Joe S. San Agustin

I Mina' trentai Sais na Liheslaturan Guahan Thirty-Sixth Guam Legislature

VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING
Tuesday, September 14, 2021
Legislature's Virtual Zoom Platform

AGENDA

1:30 p.m.

Bill No. 172-36 (LS) - Joe S. San Agustin / Clynton E. Ridgell / Tina Rose Muña Barnes / Frank Blas Jr. / Amanda L. Shelton / Jose "Pedro" Terlaje

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THREE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,500,000) FROM THE REVENUES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 42 OF TITLE 11 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, TO THE GUAM PRESERVATION TRUST FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE REVITALIZATION AND RENOVATION OF THE HISTORIC FORMER FRANCISCO Q. SANCHEZ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROPERTY UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE UMATAC MAYOR'S OFFICE.

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Committee Chairman: General Government Operations, Appropriations, & Housing

Ran - Care Commercial Building, CBU #230, 761 South Marine Corps Dr., Tamuning, Guam 96913
Tel: (671) 989-5445 * Fax: (671) 969-6737 * email: senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com



Office of
SENATOR Joe S. San Agustin

I Mina'trentai - Sais na Liheslaturan Guåhan, Thirty-Sixth Guam Legislature

Virtual Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet

September 14, 2021 • 1:30 p.m. • Legislature's Virtual Zoom Platform

Bill No. 171-36 (LS) - Frank Blas Jr. / Joe S. San Agustin / V. Anthony Ada AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) FROM THE REVENUES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO 11 GCA CHAPTER 42 AVAILABLE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 TO THE VALLEY OF THE LATTE, LLC FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A CULTURAL CENTER THAT WILL PROVIDE A PLACE WHERE THE CHAMORRO CULTURE CAN BE CELEBRATED AND THE CULTURES OF OUR REGION APPRECIATED

NAME	AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION (IF ANY)	SUPPORT? OPPOSE?	WRITTEN TESTIMONY	ORAL TESTIMONY	CONTACT NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
David Tydingco	Valley of the Latte	support	✓	✓		
Monica Guzman	GUMA	support		✓		
Zina S.N Ruiz	Pipit.INC	support		✓		
Vicente Taitague	Mayor of Talofofo	support		✓		
Anthony Charavalaf	Mayor of Inalahan	support		✓		
John Ray Aguon		support		✓		
Frank Cruz		support		✓		

Page 1 of 1

Committee Chairman: General Government Operations, Appropriations, & Housing

Ran - Care Commercial Building, CBU #230, 761 South Marine Corps Dr., Tamuning, Guam 96913

Tel: (671) 989-5445 * Fax: (671) 969-6737 * email: senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com



SENATOR JOE S. SAN AGUSTIN

COMMITTEE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, APPROPRIATIONS & HOUSING
I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN

COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

1. OVERVIEW

Bill No. 171-36 (LS) was introduced on **August 05, 2021** by **Frank Blas Jr. and Joe S. San Agustin and V. Anthony Ada** and was subsequently referred by the Committee on Rules to the Committee on **General Government Operations, Appropriations, and Housing** on **August 09, 2021**.

The **Committee on General Government Operations, Appropriations, and Housing** convened a public hearing on **Bill No. 171-36 (LS)** on **Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 1:30 P.M.** utilizing the Guam Legislature Virtual Zoom Platform.

Public Notice Requirements

Public Hearing notices were disseminated via **e-mail** to all senators and all main media broadcasting outlets on (First Notice) – **Tuesday, September 07, 2021- (Change 1)**

Wednesday, September 08, 2021 (5-Day Notice), (Second Notice) **Friday, September 10, 2021** (48-Hour Notice).

Senators Present:

Senator Joe S. San Agustin, Chairman
Senator Vice Chairperson, Amanda L. Shelton
Speaker Therese M. Terlaje, Member
Senator V. Anthony Ada, Member
Senator Frank B. Jr., Member
Senator Joanne Brown
Senator Telo Taitague

Appearing before the Committee:

Dave Tydingco, President, CEO, Valley of the Latte:
Vincente Taitague, Mayor, *Talo'fo'fo*
Anthony Chargualaf, Mayor, *Inalåhan*
Zina San Nicolas Ruiz, Executive Director, *para i pro betsanito taotaota*
Monica Guzman, Board Member, Pitpit
John Roy Aguon, Private Citizen
Frank Cruz, Private Citizen

Written Testimony Submitted:

None

II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY AND DISCUSSION

The public hearing was called to order at 2:35 P.M.

Chairman Joe S. San Agustin: We will now proceed and we give it a few minutes so we can allow the folks for **Bill 171** it will be testifying to come on board so we'll recess for about five minutes all right thank you. Dan thank you another day, The committee on General Government Operations, Appropriations, hello! are we good? Okay we're good, okay The Committee on General Government Operations, Appropriations and Housing is now called to order. today is **Tuesday ,September 14 2021** the time now is **@2:35**. Welcome to everyone connected by zoom and those tuning in via television or the YouTube channel thank you for your patience and for accommodating the zoom platform while we maintain social distancing those of this public hearing were disseminated via email to all centers and all main media broadcasting outlets on **Tuesday September 7, 2021** will be changed on **Change one on Thursday, December 9 2021** and second notice on **Friday, September 10, 2021** (48-Hour Notice).

Agenda - our next bill on the agenda is **Bill 171-36 (LS)** introduced by Senator Frank Blas, Jr. co-sponsored by myself, Senator V. Anthony Ada. **“AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) FROM THE REVENUES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO 11 GCA CHAPTER 42 AVAILABLE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 TO THE VALLEY OF THE LATTE, LLC FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A CULTURAL CENTER THAT WILL PROVIDE A PLACE WHERE THE CHAMORRO CULTURE CAN BE CELEBRATED AND THE CULTURES OF OUR REGION APPRECIATED”.**

Rules of conduct the zoom meeting is hosted by my staff and will meet all zoom participants until called upon members of the committee and or non-committee members wishing to speak may indicate the desire to me to the in-app chat feature but I know that all my colleagues that are joining here this on this hearing will be allowed to ask questions to an individual testifying. shall first be recognized by me and we'll just go down the order of we have Mr. Dave Tydingco, we have Zina then Monica and then Frank Cruz, all right.

I just asked that when you begin your testimony, please state your name for the record and then ensure that you're unmuted. Community members will be allowed to pose a question to an individual testifying as they come, when they all completed all their testimony questions and testimonies shall be confined to the substance or nature of the agenda. Personal inference as the character or motive any senator or an individual testifying is not permitted anybody's on the general rule of conduct will result in removal on the public hearing room or public hearing by the oath, please ensure that your video

remains on throughout the hearing. Participants must be visible at all times and not engage in any other activity during the hearing but you need to take a drink or eat a snack, I can understand that. Okay failure to maintain visibility may cause your move from the meeting live stream. I'd like to ask Senator Frank Blas to provide an opening statement sir, Senator Blas.

Senator Frank Blas, Jr.: Well, thank you very much, Mr. Chair and thank you to my colleagues for being here today in this public hearing. I also want to thank those individuals that are also here to testify on the bill whether before or against this bill. You know Mr. Chair, thank you as well for you along with my colleague Senator Tony Ada in co-sponsoring this piece of legislation that I have lied for those of you who don't know is situated actually between the Talafofo and in the in the Talafofo River between the villages of Talafofo and it has become basically a cultural site that has provided you know not only a number of different events to our visitors but to our island residents as well and for many years this attraction site has grown in its, I guess the importance of this site in being able to perpetuate and help to enhance and to show off our culture and the cultures of our island neighbors in Micronesia and what this bill basically would propose is to provide some funding so that you know improvements can be made to this attraction to this venue so that you know we can bring in more activities into this site so that our visitor as well as our own people can learn more of the history of Guam as can be told in this facility. I think that what I like to do is that's just the introduction I think that the value of this can be expressed even more by the people who are going to be testifying and I'd like to yield the rest of my time to those individuals thank you very much, Mr. Chair

Chairman Joe S. San Agustin: Thank you sir and we'll begin our first testimony from you see Mr. Dave David Tydingco, sir. I see you have folks around you so Dave, you can go ahead and start, unload yourself and please stay just say your name for the record and whoever you're with then you want to make sure they're included in the list, 'unmute'

Dave Tydingco, President, CEO, Valley of the Latte: I would like to thank the committee for allowing us to testify today. I have our Dali family here including the mayor of Talafofo, Mayor Vicente Taitague, and the Mayor of Inalåhan, Vicente Tony Chargualaf, presenting who would also like to testify with us today, if i may, I would like to I have a formal testimony that I will submit to the committee which is written but I would like to read it for the record.

Hafa adai Chairman, San Agustin, my name is **Chairman Joe S. San Agustin:** Opportunity to be here today to support **Bill 171-36** which we believe is vital to our community. Guam's authenticity is defined by our culture, our natural environment and our history for most that visit Guam, it would be easy to assume that our culture and history emerge from Polynesia and not Micronesia, as CHamoru's we stand with our brothers and sisters from the freely associated states as one Micronesia. A different identity part of the blue continent that has been presented to our visitors and is losing

recognition in our own community. A large and important part of the Pacific with rich cultures and traditions that will be lost unless it is nurtured the valley of the land has emerged as the place chosen by the people of Guam to celebrate and share our culture, history and the natural beauty of the island and our region with all that visit. There is a need locally and regionally to develop a place where residents and visitors can experience the CHamoru's culture and learn of the cultures of the islands of Micronesia, a place to learn the values and customs of the people of the blue continent, a place where festivals such a which we held at the end of July, can help promote preserve and nurture what defines and makes us unique. What makes us special as a people of the Pacific, **Bill 171-36** recognizes the need to find a permanent home for all cultural practitioners who share our vision and particularly here in the historic Talafofo and Inarajan Valley, from the day we opened and we rebranded Valley of the Latte led by e *taotaota*, Senot Frank and Vince San Nicholas have been an integral part of our fabric, it was through pipit that the seafaring organization found a place to call home here in the valley. The partnership with pipit continues to this day and they will be a guiding force to assure we fulfill our mission in creating our cultural center. The mayors of Inalahan and Talafofo have been with us every step of the way since we rebranded in 2016 and continue to provide support for our efforts.

The mayors and members of their communities will also serve as stewards in assuring we make our villages proud, the valley of the Latte through the festivals and special events that it has hosted has become a home for local crafts people and cultural practitioners. The animal care group giver from Talafofo has found a home in the valley to display his art and to pass on the knowledge needed to keep the art alive for generations to come. Our cultural practitioners who are part of the valley family share their weaving and cooking skills and craft through the workshops we host. Our local family from inaugural provides an authentic tomorrow feast with all for all our visitors that choose to spend time with us. These are private enterprises that have invested to create an experience that is unique.

Our request to the legislature is to provide the means to nurture the seeds that have been planted to create a sustainable place to congregate, teach and present what makes Micronesia a place to be treasured. Covet-19 has severely impacted the valley's ability to support these organizations to revenues that would normally be guarded to foreign visitors although supportive the local population simply is not able to sustain the creation of the cultural center. We humbly request the funding identified in the bill to provide the seed capital accomplish four things.

- 1.) Number one to install vitally needed infrastructure to make the valley safe for visitors to enjoy and to prepare repair our Guma Latte and expand the areas for cultural practices
- 2.) Number two to develop a master plan for the center that will be driven by those that manage perform and present in the valley. That plan will provide the

foundation to solicit private investment from people in Guam and the region to build preserve and maintain an authentic and expanded Micronesia cultural center.

- 3.) Number three provide the local match for additional grant funding that will be pursued from the economic development administration HUD USDA and other agencies and privately funded organizations to support the expansion of the center and enhance the experience.
- 4.) Number four establish an agricultural cooperative that utilizes 23 acres of farmland and has been improved by the valley of the latte to provide continuous production of local fruits and vegetables. We are now in partnership with local farmers from Talafofo and Inalåhan, working with them to plant fruits and vegetables that will be marketed through the valley.

We believe that the depiction of our culture and those of our Micronesian brothers and sisters will remind our people that our evolution as a society came from the ground, we sailed the Pacific we grew our own food, we wove our own roofs and we healed our people with the medicinal plants that we nurtured and harvested. The agricultural component of our cultural center provides context for our values and our priorities as a community the value also pursued the establishment of an educational platform in partnership with Pipit and other FAS organizations that will restore the teaching of illegal teaching, traditional seafaring and fishing techniques for younger members of our community and those interested in learning how Timor's and our other Micronesians fish for one of the main sources of protein in their diets.

Our objective is to provide a well-rounded understanding of the connection of our cultures to the land and the sea and how those values are realized today in the spirit of *pinafanmali*. I believe in hard work, respect for the environment and reverence for our elders and ancestors. The center is needed now before it is too late, what has been developed is, threatened by the uncertainty of our current situation and provide the spark to nurture the continuance of what we believe will be a means of preserving for their testimony.

The purpose of creating a cultural center that will provide a place where the turmoil culture can be celebrated and the culture of our business be appreciated. I extend my heartfelt thank you to the sponsors for recognizing the need to expand tourism, to the southern part of one status quo is not good enough to compete for tuition dollars Valley of the Latte has expanded its service to include cultural center, this investment will accommodate what the organization currently is providing our government is working hard for promoting tourism and making island and we have a lot of time to prepare for the influx. I encourage science and until 171 to pass view number 171-36 and uncovering that this magician will support the past year of you once say 171-36.

Anthony Chargualaf, Mayor, Inalåhan: My name is Anthony Chargualaf, our mayor of Inalåhan, the village is known, I am in support of **Bill 171-36** which in fact appropriates money to be given to the Valley of the Latte, to erect and create a cultural center. I

envisioned this cultural center as a place that not only as CHamorro's that we showcase our culture and tradition but our neighboring islands as well. I almost see this as an exact replica of what's going on in Hawaii with the Polynesian Cultural Center, where they are able to showcase different cultures from the Polynesian area, of course, with this not only am I supporting this because I love the fact that they perpetuate our culture, we want to showcase that to the entire world and our tourism market but more importantly I believe that this center can be a learning place for our young generations to understand despite the losses that are going on with regards to our culture. This place is intending to maintain that resurrected and prolonging for the rest of the generations to come, therefore with that being said I want to say that the whole entire village of *Inalåhan* does in fact and also the neighboring village as well and I have seen the employees and work here are very committed, very loyal and understand what this cultural center can bring so they stand ready, we stand ready and I'm hopeful that everyone in the 36th Guam Legislature will be in support of this. I also thank you, Chairman Joe San Agustin, Senator Frank Blas and Tony Ada, the Speaker, Therese, Senator Joanne Brown and Senator Telo Taitague for joining us here today.

I am very hopeful that with your presence here today you are able to share the kind of sentiments that we have down here in wanting to make sure that this culture center becomes a reality and I'm almost 100 percent sure it will be very vibrant and as Mayor Taitague mentioned, this will become the tourism destination in like all of us who have traveled the world. We don't want to do what everybody else does, we want to know what the locals do this is a perfect example of showcasing just that thank you very much and we look forward to your support to do a small season, *Si Yu'os ma'ase*.

Chairman Joe S. San Agustin: thank you Mr. Tydingco and Mayor Chargualaf, thank you for your testimony, now we'll have Ms Zina Ruiz, I hope I didn't murder your last name ma'am, just unmute right now and go for it.

Zina San Nicolas Ruiz, Executive Director, *para i pro betsanito taotaota*: Thank you, *måolek ha*, for the record my name Zina San Nicolas Ruiz and I represent *para i pro betsanito taotaota* and I am the Executive Director, *hafa adai, guahu si* Zina San Nicolas Ruiz, who represents *programma* then is a non-profit cultural organization whose mission is to support members and organizations who promote perpetuate and preserve CHamoru cult language and culture. Pitpit works directly with imafanague man biala CHamoru, the tribal council an I man magas guma sia, all our leaders of cultural dance houses and we call them iggy masiha on Guam. There are 11 guma each guma rages 30 plus in its membership and includes extended family members. Within these guma CHamoru language and CHamorro traditions are practiced CHamorro culture lives it is important that as Pipit supports its members several factors are taken into consideration.

One a safe place, two staging and techno technical support if there's any and three making a connection includes connecting environmentally, educationally and of course culturally. This pandemic has forced many people, many nations to re-evaluate their sense of place and to be responsible character takers of its resources many of our natural

resources and our environment have been altered to be of convenience and pleasure many times cultural practitioners have had to adjust in order to accommodate the audience while they express their love of their culture. This past July Pitpit was able to participate in Hahani menagof an event hosted by Valley of the Latte cultural practitioners' producers and performers were invited to come and just be.

We came with our love of culture and we left with a sense of pride and belonging all of us, our Micronesian region was represented and engaged in cultural protocol traditional protocol, *guaha* emfamauleg and respectu. On behalf of para e *brobecho e taotaota*. I am here to provide testimony for **Bill 171-36**, its purpose to create a cultural center that will provide a place where the CHamorro culture can be celebrated and the cultures of our region appreciate it. I testify The Valley of the Latte provides a home for cultural practitioners where there is transference of traditional knowledge in an open-air classroom. I testify that valley holds in high regard value of the cultural producers and cultural performers. I testify that Valley of the Latte enriches Guam's quality of life it connects the land and its people, it's a place that needs to be supported and is worthy of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00), *saina ma'ase'*. Guahu si Zina San Nicolas Ruiz.

Chairman Joe S. San Agustin: Thank you very much, Zina, Ms Monica Guzman, ma'am

Monica Guzman, Board Member of Pitpit: Everybody thank you for the opportunity to justify this bill as a board member of Pitpit, Umi stand behind everything that Zina has said earlier and I just want to talk about two things in on July 31st, when Valley of the Latte had the Ha ani menagof, it was very refreshing to be down at a cultural center where there was a gathering of all the people of Guam, not only were our local residents there but we had visitors from off island and we had the opening of the Micronesian village at that day and you know not only is that Valley of the Latte, a CHamoru cultural center but it's also a culture of inclusion and it was very, see the different houses and the different huts from our Micronesian villages, Micronesian neighbors' many years ago when in the early 90s my first involvement with the Guam Visitors Bureau, when Dr Judy Flores who is present with us today was the chairman of the cultural heritage committee, she really pushed back then inclusion of the southern portion of Guam as a tourism destination, she want, she saw back then how important it was to have tourism outside of Tumon and what the Valley of the Latte has done is provided a venue as the gateway to the southern portion of our island, to our visitors to examine and experience the culture of Guam, the beauty of Guam and the uniqueness of our culture and so with her vision way back then with the hard work and support of the family at the valley of the latte with Dave Tydingco and you know all of the mayors were seeing that vision way back when um come alive so I just want to thank the senator, Senator Frank Blas, Senator Tony Ada, Senator Joe San Agustin, Speaker Terlaje, Senator Taitague, Senator Brown for being here today and we hope that I testify in support of this bill thank you very much.

Chairman Joe S. San Agustin: Thank you very much Monica and we have Mr. Frank Cruz, sir. Your up, sir. If you're unmute sir, I'd appreciate it, there you go you're strong.

Frank Cruz: Thank you for allowing me to put in a little testimony. I don't represent any cultural group or I just represent myself as a CHamoru, I still consider Talafofo my home Village and I just wanted to testify on behalf of **Bill 171-31** now since COVID, I've visited the Valley of the Latte three times in less than you know the it's been 18 months. The first time I took my managers down there.

Most of the people up north don't go as far as Yona to see what's around the island so I had a paid day for all of them to follow me and Dave and the staff, we reserved the whole day and we had, we were limited by how many people we can bring and he opened up the valley and for my managers and staff and they had a wonderful time and not only did we learn more about our culture and some of the folks have come back since I've brought my family back there again, just us, the second time and then the last time I brought my aunt who was visiting from the states when Dave had a big event down there and she had a wonderful time. We need Valley of the Latte, we need a cultural center like this, we need to showcase our culture. I see Zina on here she was there the last time I was there actually she was there two or three times. I was there entertaining and I always enjoy catching up with her and you know I'm so proud of her and what she does for **Pitpit** and how she you know just continues to grow more culture so I just wanted to testify on behalf of Valley and the Latte and myself and I wish more I'm thankful for you senators for coming up and finding funds to help support them. We cannot have these guys shut down due to COVID, if they shut down, it'll be very difficult to start back up again, we need to keep them and support them through this until tourism returns.

There are all these businesses have you know, I'm a business owner and I know we all have assistance and trying to stay open and keep our employees, employed and Valley of the Latte doesn't have that. They don't have a restaurant revitalization fund, they don't have certain funds that they can reach out to keep supporting their employees and we need their employees to stay working to show the culture, to express what Guam is about. It's all about our people so I'm fully in favor of this and any more money that you can help with not just a valley but anybody that's really trying to push our culture because Guam needs this, our tourism will return and when we do, we just need to make sure that Valley of the Latte and others like this will still be here to welcome them in open arms all right that's all I wanted to say thank you.

Chairman Joe S. San Agustin: All right thank you very much Mr. Cruz, I'd like to also I would ask Senator Frank if he wants to begin any questions, you would like to say for the end right before us closing that's up to you Senator Franklin, you're all there after you.

Senator Frank Blas, Jr.: Well actually I think that at the valley, there is an individual there's somebody that would like to be able to testify Mr. Chair so I go ahead and yield to that.

Chairman Joe S. San Agustin: All right, let's see so, we can get the young man next to you there to speak, I think he's the young man referring to the one with the cardboard all right.

John Roy Aguon: Puede po ma sable ta ayuda I taotao tano, magai sia ne taotao sanhegong, ayuda, lao ti magai na taotao tano ne ta aguda put este na **Bill 171-36** *para hu ayuda e taotao tano ya gaige si Dave quini gi kanton chalan gaige na ma gigi manmahudi carabao gi Surf side. Hu fafasen si Parks and Rec's (\$900.00) a year ya ta fatai I kuturata.* Ilegna mala John, ya by nai hao compu guini, ya echu na ta fata, ge minagahit nai, hagas ha mohun guaha yota cultural center. La gada guaha para e CHamoru, ma hunu,

Chairman Joe S. San Agustin: Thank you Mr. Aguon, Senator Blas, you are now up, you have any questions, you would like to post to the folks that have testified or you might give comments or you would like to save until you do your closing.

Senator Frank Blas, Jr: Reserve into my closing, I'll reserve it to my closing, Mr. Chair.

Chairman Joe S. San Agustin: All right and I will now ask the other co-sponsor Senator Ada, would you like to give any comments and then you'll be followed by the speaker.

Senator V. Anthony Ada: Well, thank you Mr. Chairman. I just like to thank all those who came to testify today and support of this legislation, you know it's one of these things that we need to continue to do in protecting our heritage and our culture down south and I think giving them the opportunity to have that leg up, would do a great number of things for our southern villages and I hope that we will be able to get this bill on to our next session and be able to vote on it thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman Joe S. San Agustin: Thank you very much madam Speaker, Speaker Terlaje, ma'am, thank you, Mr. Chair and to all of those representatives from the Valley of the Latte and from **Pitpit** and especially the two mayors *Si Yu'os ma'ase'* for your testimony today.

Speaker Therese M. Terlaje: I just wanted to just ask a couple questions that's all right one is I agree with the uses that you have planned and you know relatively it's not that much money and I'm hoping that you will have success in with your plans from this small amount of money and so I support that especially as a local match for Hud grant funding and relative to funding I'm wondering so if you were able to receive any of the GEDA grants for example for the COVID, they had some pandemic related grants or other COVID related grants.

Chairman Joe S. San Agustin: Okay, we'll leave that question open to I'm looking for a wave of hands so that, Dave.

we as valid all the programs that were made available well some of the programs made available at GEDA. We were able to take advantage of the grant, we were also fortunate to apply for PPP and get that the challenge we, there was a rental program that GEDA put out but they said we didn't qualify so we didn't get that and we also were not

David Tydingco, President, CEO, Valley of the Latte: Qualified either for the restaurant revitalization fund or this shutter venue operators grant although we do operate a cultural center and we try to justify it because we do not have lighting like light rigging or stages Or I guess people that they call dancers. Our people here are performers they basically denied our grant application and so when you added it all up the stuff that was the grants that we were able to get from between **Pitpit**, I mean I'm sorry **Pitpit** as well as the GEDA graph probably provided about four months four and a half, five months of operational income, we have been shuttered since March 2020. We actually reopened officially January of this year to our local and military markets but that really hasn't been adequate to sustain our fixed costs and stuff but we continued we work with some non-profit organizations particularly like with the FSM community and that's what allowed us to get some grants to build the Micronesia village that is by the animal sanctuary now but that again that came partly to GEDA but that again that only funded like 20 of the total cost and we had to come up with the rest of the funds so there have been some grants were available to everybody but we qualified only for the PPP as well as the gear grant program the GEDA also supported us with what they call a team loan, that was able to allow us to invest in our some of our infrastructure so we fixed our parking lot, we bought new engines and basically that's it allowed us to continue operating for a bit so those are the programs that we did qualify for.

Speaker Therese M. Terlaje: I appreciate that Mr. Tydingco, especially all your efforts during this time to utilize the programs that were available so i very much appreciate that and all your work in that regard. I know you've been working very hard on many levels to ensure that the people you know. I love your program down there I prefer that program over many of the other programs that we've got going on in Tumon right now so I always advocate you know people to go there to show culture of Guam especially visitors. I like you know all the employer that you've hired. We've seen them over the years so they've stayed on right and even the vendors so it's I very much appreciate your support of the local economy. The local vendors, the local artists, the local you know and even those from the south especially I've seen a lot of that too so I want to thank all of you for that it's also a great place. I think for students to go and I was just wondering if you could consider and I'm not going to put, make it as a requirement or anything but continue to consider which I'm sure you have in the past, you know allowing field trips, you know so the field trips unfortunately, they're having a hard time because bussing fare is so expensive so to get anywhere, it's an impediment but once they get there, I know they like to go to your place madam speaker.

David Tydingco, President, CEO, Valley of the Latte: We have a special program just for the school students which is about actually less than 40 of what our local rate is and then we also work with our partner of turtle tours that provides busing relatively inexpensive. It's almost like five or seven dollars for student to come round trip from where you're at, it's really important for us to really work with all the schools because when they come here. They get to learn truly who we are and we beam with pride when these kids leave and go home and tell their parents where they came from. We have a really successful summer camp which we call and we had people that joined us and the parents just continue to give us accolades for the kids who came back every day to tell them the new things they learned about Guam that they never knew about and so you know our entire family here who represent all of Micronesia. We got people from Yap and Ponape and Chuuk as well as CHamoru and Filipinos.

We even have a guy who was born in Whittier, California but his dad was the one that established the river Cruise 32 years ago and he's actually Ponapian by marriage that's going to say another word but and his family is pulling apparent and so really, it's exciting for me as an individual to be given an opportunity to work with all these folks who've been with us many years and I'm just hoping, I can keep the family together here because what we share you can read it in trip advisor and face book and google about the experiences people live with and it's not about the beautiful river or the nice trees or the latte but it's their interaction with the people that teach them the history and the culture and make it fun for them so we really thank you for the opportunity to allow us to do this.

Speaker Therese M. Terlaje: I very much agree with that assessment and I agree very much so I support this I have questions again Mr. Chair just regarding you know the funding sources according to the fiscal notes you know they're just some questions with those that we can take up with the department of Adm. and Department of Revenue and Taxation but to all of you okay, *Si Yu'os ma'ase'* take care.

Chairman Joe S. San Agustin: Thank you, ma'am Speaker, Senator Telo Taitague, ma'am do you have any questions for the folks that have testified?

Senator Telo T. Taitague: Thank you, Mr. Chair for the opportunity and goodness Dave and everyone who's there my primo Ben and John Duenas and *hafa Adai* thank you too also I'd like to acknowledge the mayor from *Inalåhan* as well that was there earlier to testify you know and since we're talking about the fiscal note Mr. Chair the fiscal note that we received in our packet was actually talking about the Guam unique merchandise. If you look at your fiscal note it did not talk about the funding for this particular legislation but yet the physical note says it's for **Bill 171-36** so we might need an updated version of the fiscal note since he was talking about a totally different bill. I think he was talking about **Bill 170** and not this one so just to bring it to your attention you know, I too support you know the intent of what this legislation is going to do and bring an awareness a cultural center. I've many times been to one in Hawaii and seeing the educational perspective of it which is excellent and you know just hearing the speaker talk about field

trips you know this is a great opportunity however you know there have been people coming up to me regarding this legislation with regards that the Latte is a LLC, it's a private company for profit and that the Government of Guam is you know giving funding that should be going it all taxpayer money that where this money is coming from you know the ethics but have you ever received any funding from the Government of Guam before for the Latte freedom. Dave, I think you're on mute it's on mute right now.

David Tydingco, President, CEO, Valley of the Latte: As we mentioned earlier, we did through speaker to live, we have received funding from GEDA for the pandemic relief and r realistically what we're looking at I mean if the legislature so was able to pass as well we were working, looking to work through the mayor's council on inside the mayors of inaudible along with as the advisory group if you will on how we can properly expand the funds but we have received direct funding grants from the government, yes.

Senator Telo T. Taitague: Is there any property that you occupy right now on The Valley of Latte that belongs to Government of Guam?

David Tydingco, President, CEO, Valley of the Latte: No.

Senator Telo T. Taitague: Okay.

David Tydingco, President, CEO, Valley of the Latte: The river is the only thing that the government is access but everything is private here, you know we had a public hearing on a bill prior to this one regarding of the Sanchez Elementary School in *Humåtak* and the concern we had is, we didn't have a plan in front of us trying to tell us where this funding is going to go to. Do you have a plan of any sort to other than you know we're building a culture I mean step by step how you're going to proceed using this 250 since it is public funds, we will be glad to present that to the committee so you have nothing at this point actually, so you have to when the bill was introduced our group got together, we took a look at it we know how these funds can be expanded we alluded to the four points in my testimony including repairing some of the infrastructure here to make sure that it is safe and accessible. The second thing was developing the master plan. The third thing, item that we identified was using as matching funds for other grants that we can qualify for and then the fourth item was basically to be used in our agricultural co-op that we've established here with the 23 acres of farmland that we have, okay and if you want specific numbers to for each of these programs, we can provide that for you

Senator Telo T. Taitague: Well, I think it's you know something that's important that we're all going to need, I mean here this is very unusual that the government of Guam provide funding to a private company an LLC for-profit company. I mean it's not like it hasn't been done in the past way past but right now to do something like this, I think it's important Dave, that you provide us with every incentive of or every inch of what you're going to do

the plan on this funding and what in it in return is this 250 going to you know provide for the community. Are you going to provide free field trips to school children or provide you know certain things that would basically justify us giving you the 250,000. I know it's a small amount but still you know we're in right now, it might be raining 600 million on the governor's side but it's not getting to our people who are really needing it at this point. Those who don't have a job and so I think it's really important to have that kind of plan I mean I totally support everything you're doing down there you know, especially a lot of my relatives work at your facility and appreciate how you're trying so hard to maintain this business and stay afloat you know that provides you know for our economy but as well we are responsible for the people's money and we have to be accountable to them some people might not agree giving this funding to a profit organization and it might open the door for every other company that makes profit to provide this funding so the justification is so important at this point and then also the reality Dave on this funding where it's coming from there are other bills that total way beyond the 55,000 I mean 55 million that the earned income tax reimbursement is coming forward. I mean some of these bills come up to 50 if you add them all up it's like 588 million plus so I don't want to discourage you at all at all and hope that maybe there are other options through GEDA or even through the mayor's council that you brought about the two mayors and their ability to seek grant funding through HUD, that's a great opportunity you know to go through them. I know there might be some matching funds but the mayors, I'm sure they're willing to help in this endeavor so I'm looking forward to that plan day before anything moves forward, I mean we have to be accountable for the people's money so I thank you again And thank you to everyone who testified thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman Joe S. San Agustin: Thank you Senator Telo, Senator Joanne Brown, do you have any comments or questions you'd like to post to the folks that have testified?

Senator Joanne M. Brown: Thank you very much, you know I certainly appreciate support the desire of what's intended by this bill but I do have to share some of the concerns that was raised by Senators Telo with regards to accounting of public funds. I don't doubt the mission that has been laid out and the work that has been laid out with the Valley of the Latte in the works certainly I had the opportunity to work with Mr. Tydingco a number of years ago so and just knowing him and his agenda and what he wants to do I certainly support all that but because we are dealing with public funds, I just think this bill needs to be expanded a bit further to outline exactly what the intent of the funds are being used for and also what is the process of accountability or audibility of the fund public funding that's being provided. I mean we do provide funding to a number of non-profit organizations on an annual basis that you know, support different interests within the community that we think are important so I don't argue at all. I think the agenda of what's being laid out is a very good one and one that we would like to see expanded in our community but at the same time because this is public funds being given to a for-profit company. I think we need to have at least a clear outline of exactly what the intended use of the funds are and how we can verify that you have funds are used for that purpose that should be standard for anyone whether we know them or not.

I think we need to have a sense of accountability with regards to public funds and how they're going to be expended very much support the mission it's been many years since I've been talented this portion of telephone, I've certainly not seen in recent years all the work that's been invested in the expansion of The Valley of the Latte project but again I just wanted to ask maybe Mr. Tydingco, can elaborate and I think I would recommend for this bill that more specifics be placed into this bill with regards to how this how these funds and what are what's the public benefit to be gained by this so that we can actually account for how we're using public funds if I could ask Mr. Tydingco that question Mr. Chairman

David Tydingco, President, CEO, Valley of the Latte: Yes, Senator Brown, I agree with you, I have no problem with that, I would love to work with the committee to specifically outline the intended uses as well as the public benefit as a result of it so again glad to work with the committee to make that happen, glad to work with your office to make it happen.

Senator Joanne M. Brown: No and I appreciate that I mean I think it's important that we do that because certainly any company now as Senator Telo mentioned can come forth and be expecting the same you know benefit. Why don't you appropriate money to my company and again our responsibility is also to ensure you know the tax dollars are being appropriately spent and right now we are in challenging times and I know you know that as more than many especially being involved directly in the tourism industry.

I know you guys are making every effort to keep things afloat in spite of what we're going through and expanding with our local community and our military community to come down and experience Valley of the Latte but again I think just to ensure that sense of public accountability and how the funds are going to be spent so that when we do see this bill on the floor at the legislature, we're well aware of what the intended funds are to be used for and how they're accountable, what's the direct public benefit that's going to be gained by this investment so I think doing that will at least in guarantee a lot more success of the bill rather than you know disagreement and controversy on the floor of what otherwise could be a very good thing so I just think it needs to the bill needs to be strengthened with that additional language so that there's a greater sense as I mentioned of public accountability of public funds so with that thank you, thank you Mr. Tydingco and certainly thank you Mr. Chairman for the opportunity to ask questions and comment on this bill.

Chairman Joe S. San Agustin: And thank you, Senator Brown, Senator Frank, the author of the bill, sir.

Senator Frank Blas, Jr: Now thank you very much Mr. Chair and thank you to my colleagues and to the again the people that testified in this thing and you know to you know my colleagues who have expressed some concern with regards to the utilization of

public money for private purposes because you're right first off this is not a unique circumstance, this has happened before and yes, I agree that you know we can work towards making sure that there are those measures necessary so that we can first of measure the value of what is providing. I'm very confident which is why I authored this bill. I'm very confident that this funding will be utilized not just to improve a facility but to improve an image to improve our ability to be able to continue to provide a center that showcases our culture. You know showcases who we are showcases the people of Guam's sake is more especially, specifically you're the people of the southern village if you're looking at the people that are represented that sat there before us to testify you had the mayor of Talafofo, you had the mayor of Inalåhan, had Mr. John Aguon. Okay in the background over there and you know you've got Mr. Andy Fairfoot, you know who's been around for the longest times. You have the people of Guam. You know you had miss Ruiz, you know in representation of the cultural groups that were there, you had people who want to be able to help to perpetuate and to our culture wanted to showcase who we are, wanted to provide employment wanted to provide a place to be able to learn a place to be able to experience and a lot of times what has happened before and this gives us that this opportunity with this legislation is government has gotten away a lot of times of being able to provide that okay whether it be in the way of regulations or what not and granted we can put together that language that is necessary to ensure that every penny of this first off is accounted for but then also that every penny has value to it in this and we're just talking and yes while we're just talking 250,000 you know it could have been more but it's just a seed as Mr. Aguon has said. *E semiya este. This is just the seed to start* how it grows okay is dependent upon the communities that not only work there but live there and this is our opportunity as a government to be able to provide that seed money so that we can do it, we do it a lot with other GEDA loans and grants in the form of giving.

They don't go to the legislature for that, they go through GEDA, it's the same process but I can see and as far as necessary to be able to put those measures in place so that we can we can measure the value, there is accountability, I'm sure that there's nobody that's going to go against that. I sure is not going to go against it and we can help to build that and Mr. Chair, I look to you and I work with you and the committee and Mr. Tydingco as well as the other members, other people who find the value in this thing to be able to build a bill so that it does become. It is something that we can provide not just to the value of the Latte LLC but to the people of Guam, the people of Inarahån, the people of Talafofo the people of God and people of Micronesia so with that Mr. Chair, I want to thank you very much for allowing this testimony. I got us to have this testimony, I look forward to being able to work with you and the committee to be able to provide that language to be able to satisfy some of the concerns and then to put it on the floor for consideration by the body. thank you very much.

Chairman Joe S. San Agustin: Thank you Senator Blas and thank you for the folks that have testified today on **Bill 171** there being no additional individuals to present further testimony on this bill the committee will continue to receive testimony for the next few

days for the acceptance of any additional information or public testimony on the agenda on this **Bill 171**. You may submit testimony to the mailroom of the Guam station the Guam congress building or through email at senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com. I'd like to thank everybody for being here and that the virtual public hearing for **Bill 171-36 (LS)** is now adjourned the time now is 3:36. *Si Yu'os ma'ase'* stay safe, wear your mask, wash your hands and practice social distinct we'll take a five-minute recess while we get ready for the next **Bill 170-36**, Thank you.

This Virtual Public Hearing was adjourned @3:36P.M.

III. FINDINGS ANE RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee on General Government Operations, Appropriations, and Housing hereby reports out Virtual Public Hearing for **Bill Number 171-36 (LS)** *As Introduced by Senators: Frank Blas, Jr and Joe S. San Agustin and V. Anthony Ada* **"AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) FROM THE REVENUES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO 11 GCA CHAPTER 42 AVAILABLE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 TO THE VALLEY OF THE LATTE, LLC FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A CULTURAL CENTER THAT WILL PROVIDE A PLACE WHERE THE CHAMORRO CULTURE CAN BE CELEBRATED AND THE CULTURES OF OUR REGION APPRECIATED"**. With the recommendation: TO REPORT OUT ONLY.

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

Bill No. 171-36 (LS)

Introduced by:

Frank Blas Jr. *fb*
Joe S. San Agustin *JS*
V. Anthony Ada *VA*

**AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF TWO
HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000)
FROM THE REVENUES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO 11
GCA CHAPTER 42 AVAILABLE FOR FISCAL YEAR
2021 TO THE VALLEY OF THE LATTE, LLC FOR THE
PURPOSE OF CREATING A CULTURAL CENTER
THAT WILL PROVIDE A PLACE WHERE THE
CHAMORRO CULTURE CAN BE CELEBRATED AND
THE CULTURES OF OUR REGION APPRECIATED.**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

2 Section 1. Legislative Intent

**3 The Legislature finds that the Valley of the Latte was created as a place to
4 celebrate our culture and share the beauty of our island with visitors of all ages. The
5 success of Ha'anen Minagof and previous river festivals are evidence that the vision
6 is real. The Legislature also finds that there is a need both locally and regionally to
7 develop a venue where residents and visitors can experience the Chamorro culture
8 and learn of the cultures of all the islands of Micronesia and immerse themselves in
9 the values and customs of the people of the blue continent. The Talo'fo'fo' River
10 Valley, bordered by the villages of *Inalåhan* and *Talo'fo'fo'*, where our ancestors**

1 traded with our brothers and sisters from Micronesia hundreds of years ago, is the
2 most logical setting to share this experience.

3 The Valley of the Latte is creating a cultural center that will provide a place
4 where the Chamorro culture can be celebrated, and the cultures of our region
5 appreciated.

6 The attraction will be the focal point where the cultural organizations of Guam
7 and the communities of the Feely Associated States can come together to share their
8 languages, arts and crafts with residents and visitors. It will continue to be a place
9 where cultural practices can be taught through workshops offered to the public,
10 where performances can be held, and a place where arts and crafts as well as the
11 skills of those crafts can be displayed and shared with those that visit.

12 The Legislature finds that the Valley of the Latte is a place where the children
13 of the island can go to learn about their heritage and the values of our community,
14 but most importantly, it will be a place where such things can be done so that they
15 are not forgotten, and the languages and values, the roots of our community will be
16 nurtured.

17 The Legislature further finds that the success of the Valley of the Latte has
18 grown organically and matured to the point that it is ready to grow in ways that can
19 secure its proper role in the experience of visitors to Guam as well as those that live
20 here. With help, it can increase its offering and improve even more the experience
21 it delivers to all who visit. At the same time, it can help provide for the needs of
22 cultural groups by providing a location for them to congregate, attract more in the
23 community to engage with them while at the same time providing the financial
24 support needed for them to become a permanent part of Guam's visitor industry. It
25 can provide a place where generations to come can learn and appreciate what makes
26 Guam and the islands of this region so special and unique.

1 It is therefore the intent of the Legislature to provide seed capital to build on
2 the vision of the Valley of the Latte and to provide a tangible demonstration of
3 Guam's commitment to the preservation of the cultures of Micronesia.

4 **Section 2. Appropriation to The Valley of the Latte, LLC**

5 The sum of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) from the revenues
6 received pursuant to 11 GCA Chapter 42, Earned Income Tax Credit available for
7 Fiscal Year 2021 is hereby appropriated to the Valley of the Latte, LLC for the
8 purpose of creating a cultural center that will provide a place where the Chamorro
9 culture can be celebrated, and the cultures of our region appreciated. The
10 appropriation in this Section shall not lapse and shall continue until fully expended.
11 Said appropriation shall not preclude The Valley of the Latte, LLC from receiving
12 other aid or grants to pursue the aims of this Act.

13 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Act shall be effective immediately upon
14 enactment.



Vice Speaker

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES

CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON RULES

I Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

GUAM CONGRESS BUILDING

163 CHALAN SANTO PAPA

HAGÁTÑA, GUAM 96910

TEL 671-472-2461

COR@GUAMLEGISLATURE.ORG

September 14, 2021

MEMO

To: Rennae Meno
Clerk of the Legislature

From: Senator Amanda L. Shelton
Acting Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Re: Revised Fiscal Notes on Bill Nos. 171-36 (LS) and 172-36 (LS)

Håfa adai,

Attached, please find the revised fiscal notes for the following bills:

Bill No. 171-36 (LS)
Bill No. 172-36 (LS)

Please forward the same to Management Information Services (MIS) for posting on our website.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Mary Maravilla, Committee on Rules Director at 472-2461.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.



**Bureau of Budget & Management Research
Fiscal Note of Bill No. 171-36 (LS) - REVISED**

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) FROM THE REVENUES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO 11 GCA CHAPTER 42 AVAILABLE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 TO THE VALLEY OF THE LATTE, LLC FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING CULTURAL CENTER THAT WILL PROVIDE A PLACE WHERE THE CHAMORRO CULTURE CAN BE CELEBRATED AND THE CULTURES OF OUR REGION APPRECIATED.

Department/Agency Appropriation Information

Dept./Agency Affected: Department of Revenue and Taxation (DRT)	Dept./Agency Head: Dafne Mansapit-Shimizu, Director
Department's General Fund (GF) appropriation(s) to date:	\$8,945,336
Department's Other Fund appropriation(s) to date: Banking and Insurance Enforcement Fund (\$479,765); Better Public Service Fund (\$1,410,919); Tax Collection Enhancement Fund (\$919,948)	\$2,810,632
Total Department/Agency Appropriation(s) to date:	\$11,755,968

Fund Source Information of Proposed Appropriation

	General Fund:	Special Fund:	Total:
FY 2020 Unreserved Fund Balance	\$0	\$0	\$0
FY 2021 Adopted Revenues	\$0	0	0
FY 2021 Appropriations (P.L. 35-99)	\$0	0	0
Sub-total:	\$0	0	0
Less appropriation in Bill	\$0	0	0
Total:	\$0	0	0

Estimated Fiscal Impact of Bill

	One Full Fiscal Year	For Remainder of FY 2021 (if applicable)	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
FY2021 Earned Income Tax Credit Reimbursement 1/	\$0	\$250,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$0	\$250,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

- Does the bill contain "revenue generating" provisions?
If Yes, see attachment / / Yes /X/ No
- Is amount appropriated adequate to fund the intent of the appropriation?
If no, what is the additional amount required? \$ / / N/A /X/ Yes / / No
- Does the Bill establish a new program/agency?
If yes, will the program duplicate existing programs/agencies? / / Yes /X/ No
Is there a federal mandate to establish the program/agency? /X/ N/A / / Yes / / No
- Will the enactment of this Bill require new physical facilities? / / Yes /X/ No
- Was Fiscal Note coordinated with the affected dept/agency? If no, indicate reason: / / Yes /X/ No
/ / Requested agency comments not received by due date: / / Other:

Analyst: <u>Arthur R. Mariano, B&MA Supervisor</u>	Date: <u>9/14/21</u>	Director: <u>Lester L. Carlson, Jr., Director</u>	Date: <u>SEP 14 2021</u>
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Footnotes:

1/: In its current form, the subject Bill appropriates \$250,000 to the Guam Unique Merchandise and Art (GUMA) Valley of the Latte, LLC, from FY2021 revenues received via Title 11 GCA, Chapter 42 relative to Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) reimbursements. These funds would be used to help incubate graduates of GUMA's business program with start-up support for the participating businesses create a cultural center that would provide a place where the Chamorro culture can be celebrated and the cultures of our region appreciated. The appropriated funds shall not lapse and shall continue to be available until fully expended. It should be noted that per the Department of Revenue and Taxation, the average EITC payments to taxpayers since 2017 is approximately \$53M. However, the final amount to be reimbursed for FY2021 has yet to be determined as well as the timeframe in which the funds will be availed to the Government of Guam. Lastly, should the Internal Revenue Service and the U.S. Treasury avail EITC reimbursements via a trust account, those funds would not be subject to legislative appropriation.

OFFICE OF FINANCE AND BUDGET

STEPHEN J. GUERRERO, DIRECTOR

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721 Marine Corps. Dr., Tamuning Guam 96913



COMMITTEE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,

APPROPRIATIONS AND HOUSING

I Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guahan

SENATOR JOE S. SAN AGUSTIN

Tel: (671) 989-5445 / Fax: (671) 969-6737

Email: senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com

September 9, 2021

MEMORANDUM

To: Senator Joe S. San Agustin
Chairman, Committee on General Government Operations, Appropriations and Housing

From: Stephen J. Guerrero
Director, Office of Finance and Budget

Re: Funding Availability Note: Bill No. 171-36 (LS)

Hafa Adai Senator San Agustin!

Pursuant to the Standing Rules of the 36th Guam Legislature, the Committee on Appropriations and/or the Office of Finance and Budget (OFB) shall determine in writing if the funding source cited in Appropriation or Authorization for Appropriations bills are sufficient.

The Office has received Bill No 171-36 (LS) AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) FROM THE REVENUES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO 11 GCA CHAPTER 42 AVAILABLE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 TO THE VALLEY OF THE LATTE, LLC FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A CULTURAL CENTER THAT WILL PROVIDE A PLACE WHERE THE CHAMORRO CULTURE CAN BE CELEBRATED AND THE CULTURES OF OUR REGION APPRECIATED.

Bill No. 171-36 seeks to appropriate to the sum of \$250,000.00 to The Valley of the Latte, LLC a nonprofit organization. This organization creates a cultural center that will provide a place where the Chamorro culture can be experienced by our residents and visitors.

According to the Department of Revenue and Taxation, the average EITC from Tax Year 2014 – 2019 amounts to \$55.8M. Historically, this will be the first time the Government of Guam will be reimbursed for EITC and therefore, the timeframe and the final amount has yet to be determined. If EITC is received in advance, it will proceed to be deposited into the Trust Fund and used strictly for tax refunds—thus not subject to legislative appropriation. However, if EITC is received as a reimbursement instead, then will a funding source be available for the appropriation in this Bill.

Priorities will need to be determined as there are other proposed legislations appropriating funds from the FY 2022 EITC reimbursements. In addition, the current decline in Guam's economy from the impacts of the pandemic must be heavily considered as the EITC reimbursements may already have been considered to supplement tax refunds.

Respectfully

Stephen J. Guerrero



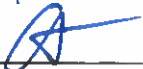




Office of
SENATOR Joe S. San Agustin

I Mina' trentai Sais na Liheslaturan Guåhan Thirty-Sixth Guam Legislature

COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

BILL NO. 171-36 (LS) As Introduced by Frank F. Blas Jr., Joe S. San Agustin, and V. Anthony Ada. **“AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) FROM THE REVENUES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO 11 GCA CHAPTER 42 AVAILABLE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 TO THE VALLEY OF THE LATTE, LLC FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A CULTURAL CENTER THAT WILL PROVIDE A PLACE WHERE THE CHAMORRO CULTURE CAN BE CELEBRATED AND THE CULTURES OF OUR REGION APPRECIATED.”**

Committee Members	Signature	TO DO PASS	TO NOT PASS	TO REPORT OUT ONLY	TO ABSTAIN	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE
Senator Joe S. San Agustin <i>Chairman</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Amanda L. Shelton <i>Vice Chairperson (Gen Govt Operations, Appr & Housing)</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Clynton E. Ridgell <i>Vice Chairman (Appropriations) Member</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Speaker Therese M. Terlaje <i>Member</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice-Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes <i>Member</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator V. Anthony Ada <i>Member</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Frank F. Blas Jr. <i>Member</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Jose “Pedro” Terlaje <i>Member</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Mary Camacho Torres <i>Member</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Committee Chairman: General Government Operations, Appropriations, and Housing

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