

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
41-36 (COR)	Therese M. Terlaje	AN ACT TO AMEND §4210 OF CHAPTER 4, TITLE 19, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXPEDITING SOCIAL STUDIES AND REPORTS FOR ADOPTIONS.	1/25/21 4:28 p.m.	1/27/21	Committee on Health, Land, Justice, and Culture			Request: 1/29/21 2/10/21	



Vice Speaker

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES

CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON RULES

I Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

GUAM CONGRESS BUILDING
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February 10, 2021

MEMO

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

From: **Vice Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes**
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Re: **Fiscal Notes**

Buenas yan Håfa adai.

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

Bill No. 41-36 (COR)
Bill No. 42-36 (COR)
Bill No. 44-36 (COR)
Bill No. 47-36 (COR)
Bill No. 57-36 (COR)

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. 41-36 (COR)**

AN ACT TO AMEND §4210 OF CHAPTER 4, TITLE 19, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXPEDITING SOCIAL STUDIES AND REPORTS FOR ADOPTIONS.

Department/Agency Appropriation Information

Dept./Agency Affected: Unified Judiciary of Guam	Dept./Agency Head: Kristina L. Baird, Administrator of the Courts
Department's General Fund (GF) appropriation(s) to date:	\$29,444,760
Department's Other Fund appropriation(s) to date: Safe Streets Fund (\$100,837)	<u>\$100,837</u>
Total Department/Agency Appropriation(s) to date:	\$29,545,597

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 Appro. (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	1/	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Special Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	1/	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

- Does the bill contain "revenue generating" provisions? / / Yes / X / No
If Yes, see attachment
- Is amount appropriated adequate to fund the intent of the appropriation? /X/ N/A / / Yes / / No
If no, what is the additional amount required? \$ _____ /X/ N/A
- Does the Bill establish a new program/agency? / / Yes / X / No
If yes, will the program duplicate existing programs/agencies? /X/ N/A / / Yes / / No
Is there a federal mandate to establish the program/agency? / / Yes / X / 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: /X/ Yes / / No
/X/ Requested agency comments not received by due date: Unified Judiciary of Guam / / Other:

Analyst: <u>Raymond Rieta, BMA II</u>	Date: <u>2/5/2021</u>	Director: <u>Lester L. Carlson, Jr., Director</u>	Date: <u>FEB 09 2021</u>
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Notes:
1/: See attached Comments.

Bureau of Budget & Management Research
Comments on Bill No. 41-36 (COR)

The intent of Bill No. 41-36 is to expedite the submission of social studies and reports made by the Division of Social Services (Division) as required by the court upon the filing of an adoption petition and prior to the adoption court hearing. The social study shall include the social history, the present condition of the child, the child's placement in the home of the petitioners and his or her adjustment therein, the suitability of such home and such other information as may be pertinent to the adoption proceeding, and the report submitted shall include a recommendation and the reasons therefore as to whether or not the petition for adoption should be granted and shall be accompanied by a verified transcript of the child's birth certificate.

The Bill adds a new part (b) to §4210 authorizing the Division to allow private contractors, personnel from other Divisions or agencies, or qualified retired personnel of the Division to complete said social studies and reports. The Bill also allows the Division to conduct or authorize social studies, for a specified fee, to aid courts in other jurisdictions in the court's consideration of adoption of children outside of Guam by a Guam resident.

Based on information obtained from the American Adoptions website, the adoption home study cost can vary widely, but typically ranges from \$900 to \$3,000. The unique details of each circumstance, such as residency of adoption and type of adoption being pursued, will determine where the home study costs will fall in that range. However, absent additional information regarding previous social studies and reports relative to adoptions on Guam and the quantity of reports prepared and submitted historically, a more specific financial impact cannot be determined at this time.