

I Mina'Trentai Kuáttro Na Liheslaturan
BILL STATUS

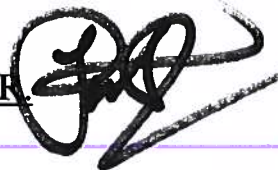
BILL NO.	SPONSOR	TITLE	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	FISCAL NOTES	NOTES
334-34 (COR)	FRANK B. AGUON, JR.	AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 122317 AND 122318 OF ARTICLE 23, CHAPTER 12, PART 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE TIMELINE FOR OBTAINING EXEMPTIONS AND EXCEPTIONS FOR SOCIAL WORKER LICENSURE UPON THE PROMULGATION AND ENACTMENT OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS.	8/17/18 11:19 a.m.						

I MINA'TRENTAI KUATTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2018 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 334-34 (COE)

Introduced by:

FRANK B. AGUON, JR.



**AN ACT TO *AMEND* §§ 122317 AND 122318 OF
ARTICLE 23, CHAPTER 12, PART 2, TITLE 10, GUAM
CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING
THE TIMELINE FOR OBTAINING EXEMPTIONS
AND EXCEPTIONS FOR SOCIAL WORKER
LICENSURE UPON THE PROMULGATION AND
ENACTMENT OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS.**

2018 AUG 17 AM 11:19 KC

1 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:**

2 **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.**

3 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that the enactment of and the amendment to the
4 Social Work Practice Act (SWPA) did not account for the period of time needed to
5 apply for a Certificate of Exemption or meet the conditions for an exception under the
6 provision of law.

7 As a result, the period to apply for a Certificate of Exemption has expired and the
8 conditions to be granted an exception under the provision of law requires all
9 applications be received by the date of the promulgation and enactment of the rules and
10 regulations.

11 *I Liheslatura* further finds that by extending the sunset provision of the SWPA to
12 six (6) months of the promulgation of the rules and regulations, individuals seeking to
13 obtain a Certificate of Exemption or meet the conditions for an exception from licensure
14 will be afforded an acceptable period of time.

15 Therefore, it is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to extend the sunset provision
16 of the SWPA to six (6) months of the promulgation of the rules and regulations to

1 provide an acceptable time period to individuals seeking to obtain a Certificate of
2 Exemption or meet the conditions for an exception from licensure.

3 **Section 2.** The first paragraph of § 122317 of Article 23, Chapter 12,
4 Part 2, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, is *amended* to read:

5 **“§ 122317. Exemptions.**

6 Exemptions may be granted to non-social work degree holders who are
7 employed with the job title “social worker” or any derivative thereof. Those
8 granted a Certificate of Exemption by the Board would be allowed to remain in
9 their social work positions without a social work license. Persons may apply for
10 a Certificate of Exemption within six (6) months of the promulgation~~upon the~~
11 ~~promulgation and enactment~~ of the rules and regulations. ~~No person shall be~~
12 ~~granted a Certificate of Exemption after eighteen (18) months after the enactment~~
13 ~~of this Act.~~ The Certificate of Exemption *shall* be effective indefinitely
14 throughout the course of the person’s professional career.”

15 **Section 3.** § 122318 of Article 23, Chapter 12, Part 2, Title 10, Guam
16 Code Annotated, is *amended* to read:

17 **“§ 122318. Exceptions.**

18 An exception is granted to any person meeting the following conditions:

19 (a) a person who is employed or has retired with the job title
20 “social worker” or any derivative thereof and possesses a Bachelor’s,
21 Master’s, or Ph.D. degree in the field of social work from an accredited or
22 unaccredited social work degree program as of the date of passage of this
23 law. Those granted exceptions must obtain a social work license within six
24 (6) months of ~~upon the promulgation of the rules and regulations and~~
25 ~~enactment of the rules and regulations, or within eighteen (18) months of~~
26 ~~the date of the enactment of this Act, whichever is later;~~

1 (b) a person who self-identifies as a social worker and possesses
2 a Bachelor's, Master's, or Ph.D. degree in the field of social work from an
3 accredited or unaccredited social work degree program upon enactment of
4 this Act. Those granted exceptions must obtain a social work license within
5 six (6) months of upon the promulgation of the rules and regulations, or
6 within eighteen (18) months of the date of the enactment of this Act,
7 whichever is later; and

8 (c) a person who possesses a non-social work degree, but
9 possesses a degree in a related social science, to include degrees such as
10 psychology, sociology, counseling, human relations and human services,
11 political science, criminal justice, and any other degrees as approved by
12 the Board; and who self-identifies as a social worker may apply for an
13 exception to obtain social work licensure meeting the following
14 requirements:

15 (1) provide a written request for exception from licensure
16 requirements to the Board;

17 (2) provide a written declaration that they are individuals
18 in good standing based on satisfactory employment performance
19 evaluations and with no ethical complaints in the course of their
20 employment with the job title "social worker";

21 (3) sign a declaration statement that they will abide by the
22 National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics;

23 (4) submit three (3) letters of verification; one (1) from
24 their current employer acknowledging that he/she is an individual in
25 good standing, and is highly recommended for employment with the
26 job title, "social worker"; and

1 (5) obtain fifty (50) continuing education units (CEU) or
2 certified training contact hours approved by the Social Work Board
3 in the field of social work to include the following: the application
4 of social work theory, knowledge, methods, ethics, and the
5 professional use of self to restore or enhance social, psychosocial,
6 or bio-psychosocial functioning of individuals, couples, families,
7 groups, organizations, and communities; and training in the social
8 work Generalist Practice Model that includes assessment, planning,
9 intervention, evaluation, case management, information and
10 referral, counseling, supervision, consultation, education, advocacy,
11 community organization, and the development, implementation, and
12 administration of policies, programs, and activities. The fifty (50)
13 CEUs or certified training contact hours shall have no time or date
14 limitations.

15 (d) All persons qualified for exceptions do not need to take
16 the appropriate licensure examination, but must conform to all other
17 requirements consistent with the appropriate level of licensure as
18 prescribed in the law. Exceptions may only be granted by the Board
19 up until six (6) months of the promulgation and enactment of the
20 rules and regulations ~~as provided pursuant to this Article.~~”

21 **Section 4. Effective Date.** This Act *shall* become effective upon enactment.