

*I Mina Trentai Kuattro Na Liheslaturan*  
**BILL STATUS**

BILL NO.	SPONSOR	TITLE	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	FISCAL NOTES	NOTES
113-34 (COR) As corrected by the Prime Sponsor.	Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Joe S. San Agustin	AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 121801 (DEFINITIONS), 121802 (QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSURE), 121803 (EXCEPTIONS TO LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS), AND 121804 (SCOPE OF PRACTICE); AND TO ADD A NEW § 121805 (LICENSURE RENEWAL), ALL OF ARTICLE 18, CHAPTER 12, PART 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY.	6/9/17 2:45 p.m.  AS CORRECTED 6/16/17 4:14 p.m.	6/22/17	Committee on Health, Tourism, Military Affairs and Senior Citizens	7/6/17 1:00 p.m.	9/1/17 9:45 a.m.	Fiscal Note Request 6/26/17  Fiscal Note Waiver 7/12/17	
	SESSION DATE	TITLE	DATE PASSED	DATE AND TIME TRANSMITTED	DUE DATE	PUBLIC LAW	DATE SIGNED	NOTES	
	9/25/2017	AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 121801 (DEFINITIONS), 121802 (QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSURE), 121803 (EXCEPTIONS TO LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS), AND 121804 (SCOPE OF PRACTICE); AND TO ADD A NEW § 121805 (LICENSURE RENEWAL), ALL OF ARTICLE 18, CHAPTER 12, PART 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY.	09/30/17	10/02/17 4:40 p.m.	10/13/17			10/13/17	Received: 10/18/17 Mess and Comm. Doc. No. 34GL-17-1101



**EDDIE BAZA CALVO**  
Governor  
**RAY TENORIO**  
Lieutenant Governor

*Office of the Governor Of Guam.*

**OCT 18 2017**

Honorable Benjamin J.F. Cruz  
Speaker  
*I Mina'trentai Kuåttro Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*  
Guam Congress Building  
163 Chalan Santo Papa  
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

*GN#34-17-1161*  
Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz

OCT 18 2017

Time: 3:40 [ ] AM [ ] PM File No. 34-1045  
Received By: [Signature]

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Transmitted herewith is Bill No. 113-34 (COR), "AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 121801 (DEFINITIONS), 121802 (QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSURE), 121803 (EXCEPTIONS TO LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS), AND 121804 (SCOPE OF PRACTICE); AND TO ADD A NEW § 121805 (LICENSURE RENEWAL), ALL OF ARTICLE 18, CHAPTER 12, PART 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY" which was signed into law on October 13, 2017, as **Public Law 34-48**.

*Senseramente,*

  
EDDIE BAZA CALVO

2017 OCT 18 PM 4:28 LG



***I MINA'TRENTAI KUÁTTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN***  
**2017 (FIRST) Regular Session**

**Bill No. 113-34 (COR)**

As corrected by the Prime Sponsor.

Introduced by:

Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.  
Joe S. San Agustin  
Thomas C. Ada  
FRANK B. AGUON, JR.  
William M. Castro  
B. J.F. Cruz  
James V. Espaldon  
Fernando Barcinas Esteves  
Régine Biscoe Lee  
Tommy Morrison  
Louise B. Muña  
Telena Cruz Nelson  
Michael F.Q. San Nicolas  
Therese M. Terlaje  
Mary Camacho Torres

**AN ACT TO *AMEND* §§ 121801 (DEFINITIONS), 121802 (QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSURE), 121803 (EXCEPTIONS TO LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS), AND 121804 (SCOPE OF PRACTICE); AND TO *ADD* A NEW § 121805 (LICENSURE RENEWAL), ALL OF ARTICLE 18, CHAPTER 12, PART 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY.**

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

2        **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds  
3        that Article 18 was added by Public Law 24-329:11 (August 14, 1998). It is the intent  
4        of this Act to enact the following amendments, revisions, and additions developed

1 by the Marianas Alliance of Speech Language/Hearing Professionals to update and  
2 better assist the children and adults of Guam with speech, language, and hearing  
3 difficulties.

4 **Section 2.** § 121801 of Article 18, Chapter 12, Part 2, Title 10, Guam Code  
5 Annotated, is *amended* to read:

6 **“§ 121801. Definitions.**

7 For the purposes of this Article, the following words and phrases have  
8 been defined to mean:

9 (a) American Speech, Language, Hearing Association  
10 (ASHA) means the recognized national association which sets ethical  
11 and practice standards for the field of Speech-Language Pathology.

12 (b) Speech-language Pathology-Assistant (Bachelor’s level),  
13 (SLPA-B), means any individual who meets the minimum  
14 qualifications which the Board may establish for speech-language  
15 assistants, whose qualifications shall be less than those established by  
16 this Article for licensure as a speech-language pathologist, and who is  
17 licensed and works under the direct, then indirect supervision (as  
18 defined by ASHA Guidelines for Supervision) of a licensed speech-  
19 language pathologist.

20 (c) Licensed Speech-language Pathology-Assistant (Master’s  
21 level), (SLPA-M), means any individual who meets the minimum  
22 qualifications which the Board may establish for speech-language  
23 assistants, whose qualifications shall be less than those established by  
24 this Article for licensure as a speech-language pathologist, and who is  
25 licensed and works under the indirect supervision of a licensed speech-  
26 language pathologist.

1 (d) Speech-language Pathologist (SLP) means any individual  
2 who is duly licensed by the Board to practice in the field of speech-  
3 language pathology.

4 (e) Speech-language Pathology means the application of  
5 principles, methods and procedures for the measurement, testing,  
6 evaluation, prediction, counseling, instruction, habilitation or  
7 rehabilitation related to the development and disorders of speech, voice,  
8 fluency, language, augmentative alternative communication,  
9 neurological disorders, or swallowing disorders, for the purpose of  
10 evaluating, identifying, treating, preventing, ameliorating, or  
11 modifying such disorders and conditions in children or adults.

12 (f) Supervision.

13 (1) Direct (initial) supervision shall mean supervision  
14 whereby a licensed Speech-language Pathologist diagnoses the  
15 condition to be treated, disseminates the therapy information to  
16 the SLPA-B, and remains on the premises while the procedures  
17 are being performed by an SLPA-B. The supervising SLP will  
18 also follow the ASHA guidelines for training. The SLPA-B must  
19 demonstrate proficiency in order to allow for indirect  
20 supervision.

21 (2) Indirect supervision shall mean supervision  
22 whereby a licensed SLP authorizes the procedures that are being  
23 carried out, but need not be present on the premises when the  
24 authorized procedures are being performed by a SLPA-M. The  
25 licensee must be available on island by telecommunications.

26 (3) The supervising licensed speech-language  
27 pathologist of a SLPA-B or SLPA-M *shall not* supervise more

1 than five (5) individuals at one (1) time. The licensed SLP  
2 sponsor will assume all responsibilities and will meet all  
3 sponsorship requirements for such individuals as set forth by the  
4 Board.”

5 **Section 3.** § 121802 of Article 18, Chapter 12, Part 2, Title 10, Guam Code  
6 Annotated, is *amended* to read:

7 **“§ 121802. Qualifications for Licensure.**

8 (a) Speech-Language Pathologist. To be eligible for licensure by the  
9 Board as a speech-language pathologist, an applicant must possess a current  
10 Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC) in Speech-Language Pathology  
11 issued by ASHA as evidence of professional training and experience.  
12 Applicants shall arrange for an official statement from ASHA to be sent  
13 directly to the GBAHE reporting present ASHA certification.

14 (b) A Speech-language Pathology-Assistant (SLPA-B) shall possess  
15 at least a Bachelor’s degree in speech and language or communication  
16 disorders, and *shall* work under the direct or indirect supervision of a licensed  
17 Speech-Language Pathologist. The SLPA-B and supervisor will complete and  
18 submit the Supervisor Form provided by the Board upon application, renewal,  
19 and no later than three (3) working days upon any supervisory changes within  
20 a license renewal year. If any changes occur within the renewal year that  
21 affects both supervisor requirement (primary and secondary), the Supervisor  
22 Form must be revised and submitted before the SLPA-B can practice.

23 (c) A Speech-Language Assistant (SLPA-M) shall possess at least a  
24 Master’s degree in speech-language pathology or communication disorders,  
25 and may work under the indirect supervision of a licensed Speech-Language  
26 Pathologist, respective to the individual’s understanding and assessed  
27 performance of speech-language disorders. The SLPA-M and supervisor will

1 complete and submit the Supervisor Form provided by the Board upon  
2 application, renewal, and no later than three (3) working days upon any  
3 supervisory changes within a license renewal year. If any changes occur  
4 within the renewal year that affects both supervisor requirement (primary and  
5 secondary), the Supervisor Form must be revised and submitted before the  
6 SLPA-M can practice.”

7 **Section 4.** § 121803 of Article 18, Chapter 12, Part 2, Title 10, Guam Code  
8 Annotated, is *amended* to read:

9 **“§ 121803. Exceptions to Licensure Requirements.**

10 These rules and regulations shall not be construed as preventing or restricting:

11 (a) any person licensed on Guam under any other law, from  
12 engaging in the profession or occupation for which he or she is licensed;

13 (b) the activities and services of persons pursuing a course of study  
14 leading to a degree in Speech-Language Pathology at a college or university,  
15 if such activities and services constitute a part of an approved supervised  
16 course of study, and such person is designated as a speech-language intern or  
17 trainee; or

18 (c) the activities and services of persons presently working on their  
19 Clinical Fellowship Year (“CFY”), and such person is registered as a “CFY-  
20 Speech-Language Pathologist” by ASHA, working under a licensed SLP on  
21 Guam.”

22 **Section 5.** § 121804 of Article 18, Chapter 12, Part 2, Title 10, Guam Code  
23 Annotated, is *amended* to read:

24 **“§ 121804. Scope of Practice.**

25 (a) **Speech-Language Pathologist.** The scope of practice for speech-  
26 language pathology includes:

1 (1) screening, identifying, assessing and interpreting,  
2 diagnosing, rehabilitating and preventing disorders of speech (e.g.  
3 articulation, fluency, voice,) and language;

4 (2) screening, identifying, assessing and interpreting,  
5 diagnosing, rehabilitating and preventing disorders of dysphagia  
6 (swallowing), and related disorders;

7 (3) screening, identifying, assessing and interpreting,  
8 diagnosing, and rehabilitating cognitive and communication disorders  
9 (e.g. individuals who have been diagnosed with mental deficiency,  
10 traumatic brain injury, aphasia, stroke or other neurological disorders);

11 (4) assessing, selecting and developing augmentative and  
12 alternative communication systems, and providing training in their use;

13 (5) providing aural rehabilitation and related counseling  
14 services to hearing impaired individuals and their families;

15 (6) enhancing speech-language proficiency and  
16 communication effectiveness (e.g. accent reduction); and

17 (7) screening of hearing and other factors for the purpose of  
18 speech-language evaluation or the initial identification of individuals  
19 with other communication disorders.

20 (b) A licensed Speech-Language Pathologist is professionally and  
21 legally responsible for patient/client care given by SLPA-B and SLPA-M  
22 under the Speech-Language Pathologist's supervision. If a Speech-Language  
23 Pathologist fails to adequately supervise the patient/client care by supportive  
24 personnel, as strictly provided and authorized pursuant to this Article, the  
25 Board may take disciplinary action against the licensee. Supervision of  
26 supportive personnel requires that the Licensed Speech-Language Pathologist  
27 perform the following activities:



1 (1) assess the competence of supportive personnel to perform  
2 assigned tasks; and

3 (2) document sufficient in-service training and periodic  
4 evaluation of performance to assure safe performance of the tasks  
5 assigned to supportive personnel.

6 (c) A Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (Bachelor's level)  
7 (SLPA-B) must work under the direct or indirect supervision of the  
8 supervising licensed SLP, and may only implement the therapeutic plan  
9 designed by the supervising licensed SLP in conjunction with treatment goals,  
10 and be responsible for all documentation of treatment which is co-signed by  
11 the supervising speech-language pathologist.

12 (d) A Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (Master level) (SLPA-  
13 M) (without the CCC) must work under the indirect supervision of the  
14 supervising licensed SLP, and *shall* confer with and have all reports co-signed  
15 by the supervising licensed SLP. The Master level speech-language assistant  
16 *shall* perform all of the following duties: diagnostic testing, interpreting  
17 evaluation results, documenting all evaluation results, developing written  
18 goals and objectives based upon evaluation results, teacher/parent reports,  
19 attending all informal/formal student meetings, maintaining a therapeutic and  
20 consultative case load, performing and documenting all therapeutic  
21 intervention, designing or selecting appropriate therapy materials or  
22 augmentative or alternative communication systems or devices.”

23 **Section 6.** A new § 121805 is *added* to Article 18, Chapter 12, Part 2, Title  
24 10, Guam Code Annotated, to read:

25 “§ 121805. **Licensure Renewal.**

26 (a) The licensed Speech-Language Pathologist, SLPA-B, and  
27 SLPA-M will follow license renewal requirements as provided pursuant to §

1 12824 of Article 8, Chapter 12, Part 1, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated. In  
2 addition:

3 (1) registration with the Board is required for both SLPA-B  
4 and SLPA-M within the renewal period every two (2) years. This  
5 includes filling out the Board form naming two (2) licensed Speech-  
6 Language Pathology Supervisors; and

7 (2) submission of proof of continuing education hours during  
8 the renewal period every two (2) years (§ 12809, Article 8, Part 1 of  
9 this Chapter 12):

10 (A) for an SLPA-B, fifteen (15) approved continuing  
11 education hours directly related to speech-language pathology,  
12 as approved by the Board; and

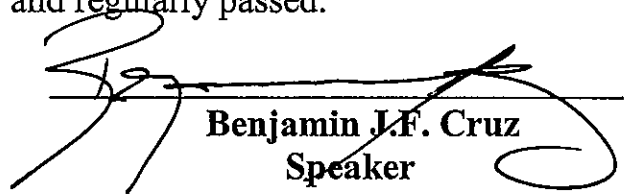
13 (B) for an SLPA-M, twenty (20) approved continuing  
14 education hours, fifteen (15) direct hours and five (5) indirect  
15 hours related to speech-language pathology, as approved by the  
16 Board.”

17 **Section 7. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or its application to  
18 any person or circumstance is found to be invalid, or contrary to law, such invalidity  
19 *shall not* affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be given effect  
20 without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
21 Act are severable.

***I MINA'TRENTAI KUÁTTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN***  
**2017 (FIRST) Regular Session**

**CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO *I MAGA'LÁHEN GUÁHAN***

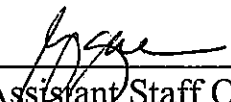
This is to certify that **Bill No. 113-34 (COR), "AN ACT TO *AMEND* §§ 121801 (*DEFINITIONS*), 121802 (*QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSURE*), 121803 (*EXCEPTIONS TO LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS*), AND 121804 (*SCOPE OF PRACTICE*); AND TO *ADD* A NEW § 121805 (*LICENSURE RENEWAL*), ALL OF ARTICLE 18, CHAPTER 12, PART 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY,"** was on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of September 2017, duly and regularly passed.

  
Benjamin J.F. Cruz  
Speaker

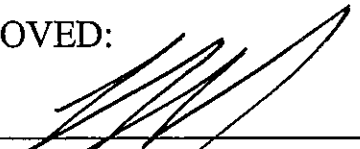
Attested:

  
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.  
Acting Legislative Secretary

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This Act was received by *I Maga'láhen Guáhan* this and day of Oct,  
2017, at 4:40 o'clock P.M.

  
Assistant Staff Officer  
*Maga'láhi's Office*

APPROVED:

  
EDWARD J.B. CALVO  
*I Maga'láhen Guáhan*

Date: OCT 13 2017

Public Law No. 34-48