

I Mina'trentai Singko 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
417-35 (COR) As amended by the Committee on Economic Development, Agriculture, Maritime Transportation, Power and Energy Utilities, and Emergency Response; and further amended on the Floor	Kelly Marsh (Taitano), PhD Tina Rose Muña Barnes William M. Castro Joe S. San Agustin	ÁKTON MANHIHITA YAN MANAFA'MAMAOLEK, AN ACT ADD A NEW ARTICLE 5 TO CHAPTER 50, TITLE 12, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING THE GUAM INTRAREGIONAL COMMERCE COMMISSION.	10/8/20 9:41 a.m.	10/21/20	Committee on Economic Development, Agriculture, Maritime Transportation, Power and Energy Utilities, and Emergency Response	11/10/20 9:00 a.m.	12/9/20 7:07 p.m. As amended by the Committee on Economic Development, Agriculture, Maritime Transportation, Power and Energy Utilities, and Emergency Response	10/19/20	
	SESSION DATE	TITLE	DATE PASSED	TRANSMITTED	DUE DATE	PUBLIC LAW NO.	DATE SIGNED	NOTES	
	12/7/20	ÁKTON MANHIHITA YAN MANAFA'MAMAOLEK, AN ACT TO ADD A NEW ARTICLE 5 TO CHAPTER 50 OF TITLE 12, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING THE GUAM INTRAREGIONAL COMMERCE COMMISSION.	12/17/20	12/17/20	12/29/20	35-131	12/29/20	Received: 12/29/20 Mess and Comm. Doc. No. 35GL-20-2558	

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HĀGAN GUĀHAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

December 29, 2020

HONORABLE TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES

Speaker

I Mina'trentai Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

35th Guam Legislature

Guam Congress Building

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

35GL-20-2558

Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes

DEC 29 2020

Time 6:11 (AM) PM
Received By: Matt

Re: Bill No. 417-35 (COR) – Atkon Manhihita Yan Manafa'Mamaolek , An Act to Add a New Article 5 to Chapter 50 of Title 12, Guam Code Annotated, Relative to Establishing the Guam Intraregional Commerce Commission

Dear Madame Speaker:

Bill No. 417-35, now known as *Public Law No. 35-131*, establishes within the Guam Economic Development Authority (GEDA) the Guam Intraregional Commerce Commission, to study and develop avenues for reciprocal intraregional economic relationships and initiatives between Guam and other island communities in the region. This public law formalizes and provides additional support to GEDA for its existing robust intraregional economic programs by establishing a dedicated body within GEDA to advance these interests. This is a laudable effort that I hope will strengthen the ties between these communities and help build our resources as individual islands and as part of a larger regional community.

Senseramente,

Handwritten signature of Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero in black ink.

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO

I Maga'hāgan Guåhan

Governor of Guam

Enclosure: Bill No. 417-35 (COR) *nka P.L. 35-131*

cc via email: *Sigundo Maga'lāhen Guåhan*
Compiler of Laws

I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2020 (SECOND) Regular Session

CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN

This is to certify that **Bill No. 417-35 (COR)**, “**ÅKTON MANHIHITA YAN MANAFA'MAMAOLEK, AN ACT TO ADD A NEW ARTICLE 5 TO CHAPTER 50 OF TITLE 12, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING THE GUAM INTRAREGIONAL COMMERCE COMMISSION,**” was on the 17th day of December 2020, duly and regularly passed.

Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Speaker

Attested:

Amanda L. Shelton
Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* this 17th day of Dec,
2020, at 10:26 o'clock P.M.

Assistant Staff Officer
Maga'håga's Office

APPROVED:

Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero
I Maga'hågan Guåhan

Date: 12/29/2020

Public Law No. 35-131

I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
2020 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 417-35 (COR)

As amended by the Committee on Economic Development, Agriculture, Maritime Transportation, Power and Energy Utilities, and Emergency Response; and further amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

Kelly Marsh (Taitano), PhD
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
William M. Castro
Joe S. San Agustin
Régine Biscoe Lee
James C. Moylan
Louise B. Muña
Telena Cruz Nelson
Sabina Flores Perez
Clynton E. Ridgell
Amanda L. Shelton
Telo T. Taitague
Jose “Pedo” Terlaje
Therese M. Terlaje
Mary Camacho Torres

***ÁKTON MANHIHITA YAN MANAFA'MAMAOLEK, AN
ACT TO ADD A NEW ARTICLE 5 TO CHAPTER 50 OF
TITLE 12, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO
ESTABLISHING THE GUAM INTRAREGIONAL
COMMERCE COMMISSION.***

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

2 **Section 1.** A new Article 5 is hereby *added* to Chapter 50 of Title 12, Guam

3 Code Annotated, to read:

1 "ARTICLE 5

2 *ĀKTON MANHIHITA YAN MANAFA 'MAMAOLEK*

3 **GUAM INTRAREGIONAL COMMERCE COMMISSION ACT**

4 § 50501. Title.

5 § 50502. Legislative Findings and Intent.

6 § 50503. Establishment of the Guam Intraregional Commerce
7 Commission.

8 § 50504. Composition.

9 § 50505. Advisory, Non-Voting Members.

10 § 50506. Governance.

11 § 50507. Duties and Purposes.

12 § 50508. Support Services.

13 § 50509. Expert Assistance.

14 § 50510. Quarterly Report.

15 **§ 50501. Title.**

16 This Article shall be cited as the *Ākton Manhihita Yan Manafa'mamaolek*, also
17 known as the *Guam Intraregional Commerce Commission Act*.

18 **§ 50502. Legislative Findings and Intent.**

19 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that Guam has a lengthy history of reciprocal
20 intraregional relationships. These relationships have been part of the traditional
21 methodology for surviving and thriving for peoples within the Mariana Islands,
22 Southeast Asia, and Micronesia. These relationships have expanded access to
23 resources; built up traditional economies; disseminated knowledge, skills, and
24 traditions; and ensured survival in the face of a range of natural and other challenges
25 that are a part of living within our region.

26 Though our regional ties have changed over the centuries, they are still with
27 us. At different times we have been part of the same colonial administration or

1 national families, marine and terrestrial species migrate between our borders, food
2 and goods are exchanged, expertise is shared, and we lend helping hands when
3 confronted with typhoons and other challenges that sweep through our region.

4 There are many examples of intraregional activities that currently exist. Guam
5 serves as an economic hub and storehouse for the region in many ways. Various
6 types of agricultural products are imported from *Luta* (Rota), as are fish from Palau,
7 pepper and sakau powder from Pohnpei, and other foodstuffs from throughout the
8 region. Environmentally-friendly crafted products are brought here from Yap,
9 Kosrae, the Marshall Islands, and elsewhere in the region. Each area and its
10 population have specific dynamics and characteristics that potentially serve as both
11 resources and markets for goods.

12 It is, therefore, the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to establish the Guam
13 Intraregional Commerce Commission to build on this lengthy, beneficial tradition
14 and the region's wide range of resources and needs as a means to strengthen regional
15 resiliency and rebuild and re-envision our economy in the face of the current global
16 pandemic era. Such efforts would also have the potential for additional benefits such
17 as uplifting the entire region's economies, strengthening our food security,
18 enhancing zero-waste efforts, and improving aspects of our health care.
19 Additionally, there are the beginnings of a manufacturing base in the outer islands
20 based on environmentally-friendly products while here on Guam, similar initiatives
21 to create a green economy are likewise developing.

22 **§ 50503. Establishment of the Guam Intraregional Commerce**
23 **Commission.**

24 There is hereby established within the Guam Economic Development
25 Authority (GEDA) the *Guam Intraregional Commerce Commission* (Commission),
26 which shall be comprised of seven (7) members, not subject to the consent of the
27 Legislature, whose membership shall be selected pursuant to § 50504 of this Article.

1 **§ 50504. Composition.**

2 The composition of the Commission shall be as follows:

3 (a) the Director of the Guam Economic Development Authority, or
4 his or her designee, shall serve as the Chairperson of the Commission;

5 (b) the Governor’s Chief Advisor for Economic Development, or his
6 or her designee, shall serve as Vice Chairperson of the Commission;

7 (c) the General Manager of the Port Authority of Guam, or his or her
8 designee, shall serve as a member;

9 (d) one (1) member shall be an economist or someone within a
10 similarly relevant field of expertise from the School of Business and Public
11 Administration at the University of Guam (UOG) recommended by the
12 President of UOG and appointed by *I Maga'håga*;

13 (e) one (1) member shall be recommended by the Chairperson of the
14 Legislative Committee with oversight of Regional Affairs, or its successor,
15 from a regional community non-profit or non-governmental organization and
16 appointed by *I Maga'håga*;

17 (f) one (1) member shall be appointed by *I Maga'håga* from the
18 community at large; and

19 (g) one (1) member shall be recommended by the Speaker of *I*
20 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* from the community at large and appointed by *I*
21 *Maga'håga*.

22 **§ 50505. Advisory, Non-Voting Members.**

23 The Commission, by majority vote of its members, may invite additional
24 public and private sector members to serve on a voluntary basis without
25 compensation as advisers in the Commission’s subcommittees, and may prescribe
26 special procedures for their participation; provided, that no such advisory members
27 may vote at any meetings of the Commission.

1 **§ 50506. Governance.**

2 (a) Appointed members of the Commission shall serve a term of three (3)
3 years, commencing with the date of appointment and until successors are appointed
4 and qualified. The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings. The Vice Chairperson
5 shall succeed to the duties of the Chairperson in the absence or inability of the
6 Chairperson. From among its members, the Commission may select a secretary and
7 any other officers, which it may deem necessary, to serve on an annual basis.

8 (b) Members shall meet regularly, at least once a month, on a day and time
9 that the Commission determines. The Chairperson shall be counted for a quorum and
10 shall vote in all instances, except for those in which a conflict of interest may exist.
11 Four (4) members shall constitute a quorum, and four (4) affirmative votes shall be
12 required for the transaction of business.

13 (c) The Commission may form subcommittees from among its
14 membership as it deems necessary in order to carry out projects, research, and other
15 activities outside of the Commission's meetings.

16 **§ 50507. Duties and Purposes.**

17 (a) The Commission shall work collaboratively to advance or develop
18 regional economic initiatives and opportunities that benefit Guam with an emphasis
19 on developing economic initiatives tied to a green economy, zero-waste, food
20 security and sovereignty, and the expansion of healthcare in the region, and collect
21 relevant data to provide for informed decision-making, including, but not limited to:

22 (1) serving as a think-tank for Guam to research, analyze, and
23 promote mutually-beneficial regional economic initiatives;

24 (2) collecting relevant data on Guam and throughout the region as
25 needed for informed decision-making regarding regional economic
26 development;

1 (3) identifying and recommending types of data for the government
2 of Guam to collect to better inform and guide regional economic development
3 for Guam (e.g., agricultural import data for products intended for resale that
4 enter Guam from the region by country, territory, and subdivision therein);

5 (4) assessing available resources throughout the region;

6 (5) identifying various economic and other relevant private and
7 governmental initiatives throughout the region;

8 (6) developing relationships that have the potential to foster
9 mutually-beneficial regional economic and commerce initiatives;

10 (7) identifying challenges to the establishment of mutually-
11 beneficial regional economic and commerce initiatives; and

12 (8) recommending policies and programs to *I Liheslatura* and *I*
13 *Maga'håga* which address the potential of and challenges to intraregional
14 commerce meant to strengthen regional resiliency by, but not limited to,
15 providing an oral presentation to *I Liheslatura* and *I Maga'håga* on the
16 progress of the Commission and its recommendations on a quarterly basis.

17 **§ 50508. Support Services.**

18 The Guam Economic Development Authority shall support the administrative
19 needs of the Commission. The Commission is hereby authorized to use, and the
20 Authority is hereby directed to make available, personnel and logistical assistance
21 as the Commission may require in carrying out its functions.

22 **§ 50509. Expert Assistance.**

23 The Bureau of Statistics and Plans, the Guam Customs and Quarantine
24 Agency, and the Guam Department of Labor shall provide expert assistance to the
25 Commission, as is feasible, relative to public planning, and import, export, wage,
26 and employment trends and data.

1 The Guam Department of Agriculture shall provide expert assistance to the
2 Commission, as is feasible, relative to invasive species concerns.

3 **§ 50510. Quarterly Report.**

4 The Commission shall provide a quarterly report to *I Liheslatura* and *I*
5 *Maga'håga* on new policies or initiatives being developed by the Commission for
6 such information to be shared with pertinent intraregional councils, including, but
7 not limited to, the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures and the Micronesian
8 Chief Executives Summit.”

9 **Section 2. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or its application to any
10 person or circumstance is found to be invalid or contrary to law, such invalidity shall
11 not affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be given effect without
12 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are
13 severable.