

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
249-36 (COR)	Telo T. Taitague Therese M. Terlaje Sabina Flores Perez Joanne Brown	AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 1(d) OF CHAPTER V, PUBLIC LAW 36-54, RELATIVE TO PRIORITIZING VETERANS' SERVICES BY EXEMPTING THE GUAM OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (OVA) FROM THE BUREAU OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT RESEARCH'S ALLOTMENT RELEASE CONTROL AND APPROPRIATIONS RESERVE AUTHORITY, AND BY AUTHORIZING THE GUAM OVA TO UTILIZE THE UNEXPENDED BALANCE OF FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE AGENCY PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 35-99.	2/3/22 1:19 p.m.						

I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2022 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 249-36 (COR)

Introduced by:

Telo T. Taitague
Therese M. Terlaje Tmt
Sabina Flores Perez SFP
Joanne Brown

AN ACT TO *AMEND* SECTION 1(d) OF CHAPTER V, PUBLIC LAW 36-54, RELATIVE TO PRIORITIZING VETERANS' SERVICES BY EXEMPTING THE GUAM OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (OVA) FROM THE BUREAU OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT RESEARCH'S ALLOTMENT RELEASE CONTROL AND APPROPRIATIONS RESERVE AUTHORITY, AND BY AUTHORIZING THE GUAM OVA TO UTILIZE THE UNEXPENDED BALANCE OF FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE AGENCY PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 35-99.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that on January 28, 2022, the Guam Office of Veterans Affairs (OVA) notified the 36th Guam Legislature of a payment to the Guam Power Authority for a prior years' obligation. The report was submitted pursuant to Section 20 of Chapter XIII, Public Law 36-54, which authorizes the expenditure of Fiscal Year 2022 appropriations for prior years' obligations, provided such payments do not negatively impact the current operational needs of government of Guam departments and agencies.

I Liheslatura further finds that according to information the Bureau of Budget and Management Research provided in the *Appropriation Reserve Report*

1 *for the Quarter Ending December 31, 2021*, which was submitted to the 36th Guam
2 Legislature on January 31, 2022, \$207,251 of \$968,605 that was appropriated to
3 Guam Office of Veterans Affairs for Fiscal Year 2022 has been set aside as an
4 appropriation reserve. The Bureau of Budget and Management Research
5 previously reported as of September 30, 2021, that \$98,446 of \$731,692 (inclusive
6 of \$150,000 transferred from the Office of the Governor), which was appropriated
7 to the Guam Office of Veterans Affairs during Fiscal Year 2021 had been set aside
8 as an appropriation reserve.

9 It is, therefore, the intent of *I Liheslatura* to prioritize veterans' services by
10 ensuring the Guam Office of Veterans Affairs has full access to its Fiscal Year
11 2022 budget appropriation and to the unexpended balance of the agency's Fiscal
12 Year 2021 budget appropriation. Through this Act, *I Liheslatura* exempts the
13 Guam OVA from the Bureau of Budget and Management Research's allotment
14 release control and appropriations reserve authority and further authorizes the
15 Guam OVA to utilize the unexpended balance of funds appropriated to the agency
16 pursuant to Public Law 35-99.

17
18 **Section 2.** Section 1(d) of Chapter V, Public Law 36-54, is *amended* to
19 read:

20 **“(d) GUAM OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (OVA)”**

21 (1) Appropriation. The sum of Nine Hundred Sixty-eight Thousand
22 Six Hundred Five Dollars (**\$968,605**) is appropriated from the General Fund
23 to the Guam Office of Veterans Affairs (OVA) for its operations for Fiscal
24 Year 2022.

25 **SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATION FUNDING SOURCE**

26	GENERAL FUND	\$968,605
27	TOTAL	\$968,605

1 For information purposes only:

2 FEDERAL MATCHING GRANTS-IN-AID \$0

3 (2) Exemption from BBMR Allotment Release Control and
4 Appropriation Reserves. Pursuant to § 1303.1 of Article 3, Chapter 1, Title 5
5 GCA, the management of allotments by the Bureau of Budget and
6 Management Research (BBMR) shall not apply to the Guam Office of
7 Veterans Affairs. Allotments to the Guam OVA shall be based on the FY
8 2022 drawdown schedule established by BBMR and the Guam OVA.
9 BBMR shall not be authorized to hold any appropriation reserves on funds
10 appropriated to the Guam OVA. The Department of Administration shall
11 provide cash disbursements to the Guam OVA for the General Fund
12 appropriation made to the Guam OVA in this Act.

13 (3) Continuing Appropriation Authorization. Notwithstanding any
14 other provision of law, the unexpended balance of funds appropriated to the
15 Guam Office of Veterans Affairs in Public Law 35-99 shall not lapse and
16 shall continue to be available until fully expended and is not subject to
17 transfer or use for any other purpose.”

18
19 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Act shall be effective upon enactment.