

I Mina'trentai Sais Na Lihelaturan 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.						

I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2021 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 41-36 (COR)

Introduced by:

Therese M. Terlaje *Tmt*

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

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

2 **Section 1.** §4210 of Chapter 4, Title 19, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby
3 *amended* to read:

4 “ § 4210. Social Study.

5 (a) Upon the filing of a petition, the court shall direct that a social study be
6 made by the Division and that a report in writing of such study be submitted to the
7 court prior to the hearing, except that where the child's guardian or the person
8 whose consent to adoption is required is an officer of the Division, it shall file with
9 the court prior to the hearing a report of its social study. The court may order
10 additional social studies if it deems necessary. The social study shall include the
11 social history, the present condition of the child, the child's placement in the home of
12 the petitioners and his adjustment therein, the suitability of such home and such
13 other information as may be pertinent to the adoption proceeding, and the report
14 submitted shall include a recommendation and the reasons therefore as to whether
15 or not the petition for adoption should be granted and shall be accompanied by a
16 verified transcript of the child's birth certificate. The purpose of the social study is

1 to aid the court in making disposition of the petition and shall be considered by
2 the court prior thereto.

3 (b) In order to ensure timely social studies and reports are made to the court,
4 the Division may authorize the social studies and reports to be done by qualified
5 private contractors, personnel from other Divisions or agencies, or qualified retired
6 personnel of the Division; provided that social studies and reports be submitted to
7 the Division for review and approval prior to submission to the court. The Division,
8 for a specified fee, may conduct or authorize social studies to aid courts in other
9 jurisdictions in the courts' consideration of adoption of children outside of Guam
10 by a Guam resident.

11 i. Minimum Qualifications. Private contractors, personnel from other
12 Divisions or agencies or retired personnel shall have minimum qualifications as
13 determined by the Division.”

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