#### I Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan BILL STATUS

BILL NO.	SPONSOR	тпе	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	FISCAL NOTES	NOTES
300-36 (LS) As amended by the Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor,	Telo T. Taitague Tina Rose Muña Barnes Joanne Brown Frank Blas Jr. V. Anthony Ada Christopher M. Dueñas James C. Moylan	AN ACT TO <i>REPEAL</i> AND <i>REENACT</i> § 5213 OF SUBARTICLE B, ARTICLE 3, CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO STRENGTHENING THE REQUIREMENTS OF SMALL PURCHASES.	4/28/22 2:44 p.m.	4/29/22	Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning		5/17/22 4:21 p.m. As amended by the Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning.	Request: 4/29/22 Waiver: 5/6/22	
	SESSION DATE	TITLE	DATE PASSED	TRANSMITTED	DUE DATE	PUBLIC LAW NO.	DATE SIGNED	NOTES	
	5/27/22	AN ACT TO <i>REPEAL</i> AND <i>REENACT</i> § 5213 OF SUBARTICLE B, ARTICLE 3, CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO STRENGTHENING THE REQUIREMENTS OF SMALL PURCHASES.	6/2/22	6/3/22	6/15/22	36-103	6/15/22	Received: 6/15/22 Mess and Comm. Doc. No. 36GL-22-2143	

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

June 15, 2022

Doc Type:

HONORABLE THERESE M. TERLAJE Speaker I Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan 36<sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature Guam Congress Building 163 Chalan Santo Papa Hagåtña, Guam 96910

5 2022

### Re: <u>BILL NO. 300-36 (LS)</u> – AN ACT TO *REPEAL* AND *REENACT* § 5213 OF SUBARTICLE B, ARTICLE 3, CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO STRENGTHENING THE REQUIREMENTS OF SMALL PURCHASES

Hafa Adai Madame Speaker,

I recognize the work that was put into this effort modifying the small purchase requirements to increase the competitive nature of small purchases, and I thank the sponsors of the bill for acting quickly to address concerns raised by the General Services Agency of the Department of Administration regarding a defect in a previous version of the bill, that would have inadvertently affected the ability of agencies to properly utilize this important procurement method. Bill No. 300-36 addresses GSA's concerns, ensuring that affected agencies may proceed with their small purchase procurements even if the required number of positive written quotations cannot be obtained. As passed, this Bill will enhance the transparency in small purchase procurements, without hindering their use. I hereby sign Bill No. 300-36 (LS) into law as *Public Law No. 36-103*.

Senseremente,

**LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO** *Maga'hågan Guåhan* Governor of Guam

Enclosure: Bill No. 300-36 (LS) nka P.L. No. 36-103

cc via email: *Honorable* Joshua F. Tenorio, *Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan* Compiler of Laws



RICARDO J. BORDALLO GOVERNOR'S COMPLEX 513 W. Marine Corps Drive Hagåtña, Guam 96910 governor.guam.gov | (671) 472-8931 Doc. No. 36GL-22-2143.

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

a digta di ta

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

This is to certify that Bill No. 300-36 (LS), "AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT § 5213 OF SUBARTICLE B, ARTICLE 3, CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO STRENGTHENING THE REQUIREMENTS OF SMALL PURCHASES," was on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June 2022, duly and regularly passed.

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Therese M. Terlaje Speaker

Attested:

Gmandagheld

Amanda L. Shelton Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by I Maga'hågan Guåhan this 3rd day of June,

2022, at <u>3:18</u> o'clock <u>P</u>.M.

Assistant Statt Officer Maga'håga's Office

**APPROVED:** 

Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero I Maga'hågan Guåhan

Date:

Public Law No. 36-103

2022-16709 RCVD AT CENTRAL FILES JLIN 3'22 PM3:18

Elaine Tajalle

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

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Bill No. 300-36 (LS)

As amended by the Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning; and further amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

Sabina Flores Perez Therese M. Terlaje Telo T. Taitague Tina Rose Muña Barnes Joanne Brown Frank Blas Jr. V. Anthony Ada Christopher M. Dueñas James C. Moylan Telena Cruz Nelson Clynton E. Ridgell Joe S. San Agustin Amanda L. Shelton Jose "Pedo" Terlaje Mary Camacho Torres

AN ACT TO *REPEAL* AND *REENACT* § 5213 OF SUBARTICLE B, ARTICLE 3, CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO STRENGTHENING THE REQUIREMENTS OF SMALL PURCHASES.

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

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds
that 5 GCA § 5213, as first enacted in Public Law 16-124, allowed the Policy Office
to establish, by regulation, the threshold amount and "small purchase procedures."
Currently, that statute specifies that "any procurement not exceeding Twenty-five

1 Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) for supplies or services, and not exceeding One 2 Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) for construction, may be made in accordance 3 with small purchase procedures promulgated by the Policy Office." Regulations 4 adopted by the Executive Branch have provided for two (2) specific competitive 5 source selection procedures: (1) solicitation of goods and services and construction 6 by informal (not advertised) Requests for Quotations (RFQs) (2 GAR § 3111); and, 7 (2) Blanket Purchase Agreements (BPAs) (2 GAR § 3112.1). 2 GAR §3111 8 emphasizes that small purchases of goods and services must have competitive 9 features [see, § 3111(c) through (f)]. But if "the supply, service, or construction item 10 is available from only one business, the sole source procurement method set forth in 11 § 3112 (Sole Source Procurement) of these regulations shall be used even if the procurement is a small purchase...." [2 GAR § 3111(b)(4)]. 12

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13 I Liheslatura further finds that the fundamental purposes and policies 14 underlying the Procurement Act, as expressed in 5 GCA § 5001(b), include 15 underlying principles which "(3) provide for increased public confidence in the 16 procedures followed in public procurement; (4) ensure the fair and equitable 17 treatment of all persons who deal with the procurement system of this Territory; (5) 18 provide increased economy in territorial activities and to maximize to the fullest 19 extent practicable the purchasing value of public funds; and, (6) foster effective 20 broad-based competition." § 5001(a) expresses the command that the entirety of the 21 procurement law "shall be construed and applied [to the facts and circumstances] to 22 promote its underlying purposes and policies." The government is obliged to 23 promote its underlying purposes and policies generally, and to foster competition in 24 particular.

*I Liheslatura* finds that procurement without public competition by informal Requests for Quotations (RFQs) of small purchases may be abused by the acquirement of a vague "no quote quotation" requirement in regulation 2 GAR §

1 3111(c)(1), and by a purchasing agency's obligation to obtain "no less than three 2 positive written quotations from businesses", and due to failure of purchasing 3 agencies to keep procurement records that create an audit trail which would reveal, 4 among other matters: how many and which vendors were actually solicited by an 5 RFQ; how were the chosen recipients selected; and which recipients of an RFQ 6 returned a price quote. I Liheslatura has not noticed any evidence that small 7 purchases by the sole source method have received any of the treatment required by 8 5 GCA § 5214 or 2 GAR § 3112 to provide competition, frugality, transparency, and 9 accountability under the formal sole source method of procurement.

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10 Inasmuch as they are meant to share the same monetary thresholds, I 11 Liheslaturan Guåhan intends to clarify that the small purchase method of source 12 selection is intended to apply to the regulations applicable to Requests for Quotations (RFQs) as contemplated in 2 GAR § 3111, as well as to Blanket Purchase 13 14 Agreements (BPAs) which the Executive Branch has adopted as 2 GAR § 3112.1, 15 which is found within the context of 2 GAR § 3112 (Sole Source Procurement), a 16 non-competitive procedure. I Liheslatura further intends to increase transparency and foster competition in the use of small purchases with more thorough and 17 18 transparent reporting by all agencies of cumulative purchases of similar goods and 19 services to give teeth to the mandate of the procurement law that "procurement 20 requirements shall not be artificially divided so as to constitute a small purchase" (5 21 GCA § 5213). By bringing both small purchase procedures under the umbrella of 5 22 GCA § 5213, and out from under the company of sole source purchases, it is intended 23 that the Procurement Policy Office will take note of the more demanding 24 transparency and accounting attention given to BPAs and apply those standards to 25 RFQs.

Section 2. § 5213 of Subarticle B, Article 3, Chapter 5, Title 5, Guam Code
Annotated, is hereby *repealed* and *reenacted* to read:

#### Doc. No. 36GL-22-2143.

"§ 5213. Small Purchases.

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Any procurement not exceeding Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) for supplies or services, and not exceeding One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) for construction, may be made in accordance with small purchase regulations promulgated by the Policy Office, which shall include the requirements, in a Request for Quotes (RFQ) small purchase solicitation, to solicit and obtain, to the maximum extent practicable, no less than three (3) positive written quotations from qualified sources that shall be part of the procurement record. A "no quote" response will not be considered a positive quotation but shall be part of the procurement record, which shall further include a written record or memorandum of all solicitations and responses thereto, negative or positive, orally or in writing. In the event the agency obtains less than three (3) positive quotations and provides the attestation required by this Section, the agency may proceed with the small purchase procurement. The purchasing agency shall include in the procurement record of a small purchase solicitation made by RFQ, regardless of whether it was concluded, an attestation containing the following:

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(a) a record of those particular businesses that were contacted,
 and those who, contacted or not, submitted a "no quote," or did not
 respond to the solicitation, as well as those that submitted positive
 written quotations;

(b) a statement documenting the solicitation efforts to obtain quotations from qualified sources other than those which responded; and

(c) GSA's list of all qualified vendors for the item(s) or service(s) being procured.

1 Small purchase requirements shall not be artificially divided so as to 2 constitute a small purchase under this Section. The Chief Procurement 3 Officer, the Director of the Department of Public Works, the head of an 4 agency, or designee at or above the level of the Procurement Officer utilizing 5 this Section for procurement, shall submit a quarterly report of all small 6 purchases to the Speaker of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*."

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Section 3. Promulgation of Rules and Regulations for Small Purchases.
The Procurement Policy Office, pursuant to 5 GCA § 5130(a), shall promulgate rules
and regulations for small purchases consistent with 5 GCA § 5213, no later than
ninety (90) calendar days after the enactment of this Act.

Section <u>4</u>. Effective Date. This Act shall be effective upon enactment.
Section <u>5</u>. Severability. If any provision of this Act or its application to
any person or circumstance is found to be invalid or contrary to law, such invalidity
shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be given effect
without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
Act are severable.