

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2024 (SECOND) REGULAR SESSION

Bill No. 244-37 (COR)

Introduced By:

Therese M. Terlaje *TMT*
Sabina Flores Perez *SFP*
Chris Barnett *CB*

AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 57109 TO CHAPTER 57, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING A GUAM IDENTIFICATION CARD AND GUAM REAL ID FEE WAIVER FOR SENIORS IN HIGH SCHOOL, FOSTER CHILDREN, AND UPON ORDER BY THE COURT.

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

2 **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.**

3 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that persons who lack a valid identification
4 (ID) card can find themselves marginalized and excluded from employment
5 opportunities, essential services, and assistance, to include access to health care,
6 housing, and public benefits. In addition, a valid identification card is also
7 required to open a bank account, cash a check, pick up a prescription, travel,
8 and enter certain government buildings.

9 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that a good ID system includes strategies to
10 ensure access to identification for all, with particular attention to groups at high
11 risk of exclusion such as the elderly, veterans, the forcibly displaced, ethnic,
12 and linguistic minorities, people with disabilities, and economically
13 disadvantaged individuals.

1 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that minors entering adulthood,
2 especially those who fall into an at-risk group or do not have access to reliable
3 support systems and transportation, are also at a disadvantage to acquiring valid
4 identification that is necessary for employment, essential services and
5 assistance, and enrolling into higher education, or training programs. It is
6 therefore the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to improve access to a valid
7 identification card for minors entering adulthood, by requiring that all
8 applicable fees for a Guam Identification Card be waived for any Guam resident
9 who is eighteen years of age, or who will be turning eighteen years of age in
10 the next twelve months, who does not already possess a valid driver’s license
11 or United States passport.

12 **Section 2.** A new § 57109 is hereby added to Chapter 57, Title 10, Guam
13 Code Annotated, to read:

14 **“§ 57109. Guam Identification Card and Guam Real ID Fee**
15 **Waiver for Seniors in High School, Foster Children, and Upon Order**
16 **by the Court.**

17 (a) All applicable fees for a Guam Identification Card shall be
18 waived for any Guam resident who does not already possess a valid driver’s
19 license or United States passport that does not expire on or before their
20 eighteenth birthday and is enrolled as a senior in high school, a foster child
21 or a child under the custody of CPS, or a juvenile required to obtain an
22 identification card upon order by the Superior Court of Guam.

23 (b) GDOE and DRT shall work to implement a system convenient
24 to high school seniors and parents to minimize time away from school and
25 away from work to obtain an ID.

26 (c) Village Mayors shall expedite their responses to requests for
27 Verification of Residency as requested by GDOE, the Superior Court or the

1 Department of Public Health and Social Services for those covered under
2 this Section and may send said responses via email directly to the
3 Department of Revenue and Taxation and to the Department of Public
4 Health and Social Services as requested.

5 **Section 3. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or its application to any
6 person or circumstance is found to be invalid or inorganic, such invalidity shall not
7 affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be given effect without
8 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are
9 severable.

10 **Section 4. Effective Date.** This Act shall be effective upon enactment.