

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
BILL STATUS

BILL NO.	SPONSOR	TITLE	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	FISCAL NOTES	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	NOTES
367-37 (LS)	Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas Joe S. San Agustin	AN ACT TO AMEND § 4B104 AND § 4B105(b) OF ARTICLE 1B, CHAPTER 4, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REMOVING THE LIMITS ON BENEFITS EXTENDED TO SURVIVING SPOUSES AND LEGAL GUARDIANS OF VETERANS.	10/22/24 11:37 a.m.	10/25/24	Committee on General Government Operations and Appropriations	Request: 10/25/24 11/4/24			



COMMITTEE ON RULES

Senator Chris Barnett, Chairperson
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
37th Guam Legislature

November 4, 2024

To: **Joaquin P. Taitague**
Clerk of the Legislature

From: **Senator Chris Barnett** 
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Subject: **Fiscal Note for Bill No. 367-37 (LS)**

Håfa Adai yan Biba Guåhan!

Find the attached, Fiscal Note for the following bill:

Bill No. 367-37 (LS).

I also request that the same be sent to the respective Chairperson of the Standing Committee, to which this bill has been referred. Kindly forward the same to Management Information Services (MIS) for posting on our website.



**Bureau of Budget & Management Research
Fiscal Note of Bill No. 367-37 (LS)**

AN ACT TO AMEND § 4B104 AND § 4B105(b) OF ARTICLE 1B, CHAPTER 4, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REMOVING THE LIMITS ON BENEFITS EXTENDED TO SURVIVING SPOUSES AND LEGAL GUARDIANS OF VETERANS.

Department/Agency Appropriation Information

Dept./Agency Affected: Office of Veterans Affairs		Dept./Agency Head: Jose San Agustin, Director	
Department's General Fund (GF) appropriation(s) to date:		\$1,224,345	
Department's Other Fund (Specify) appropriation(s) to date:		\$0	
Total Department/Agency Appropriation(s) to date:		\$1,224,345	

Fund Source Information of Proposed Appropriation

	General Fund:	Special Fund:	Total:
FY 2024 Unreserved Fund Balance	\$0	\$0	\$0
FY 2025 Adopted Revenues	\$0	0	0
FY 2025 Appro. (P.L. 37-125)	\$0	0	0
Sub-total:	\$0	0	0
Less appropriation in Bill	\$0	0	0
Total:	\$0	0	0

Estimated Fiscal Impact of Bill

	One Full Fiscal Year	For Remainder of FY 2025 (if applicable)	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
General Fund	\$0	\$0	1/	1/	1/	1/
Special Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$0	\$0	1/	1/	1/	1/

- | | | | |
|---|---------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Does the bill contain "revenue generating" provisions?
If Yes, see attachment | // N/A | // Yes | /X/ No |
| 2. Is amount appropriated adequate to fund the intent of the appropriation?
If no, what is the additional amount required? \$ _____ | /X/ N/A | // Yes | // No |
| 3. Does the Bill establish a new program/agency?
If yes, will the program duplicate existing programs/agencies?
Is there a federal mandate to establish the program/agency? | /X/ N/A | // Yes
// Yes
// Yes | // No
// No
// No |
| 4. Will the enactment of this Bill require new physical facilities? | | // Yes | // No |
| 5. Was Fiscal Note coordinated with the affected dept/agency? If no, indicate reason:
// Requested agency comments not received by due date | | /X/ Yes | // No |

Analyst:  Tyler Bautista, BMA II	Date: 10/30/2024	Director:  Lester L. Crivison, Jr., Director	Date: NOV 04 2024
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Notes:
1/ See attached comments.

BUREAU OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT RESEARCH
COMMENTS ON BILL NO. 367-37 (LS)

The proposed legislation seeks to amend §4B104 and §4B105(b) of Article 1B, Chapter 4, Title 4 of the Guam Code Annotated to remove the limitations on derived benefits provided to surviving spouses and legal guardians of veterans. These benefits include the waiver of drivers' license fees, vehicle registration fees, preference points for Government of Guam employment application(s), and exemption from residential property taxes. Currently, the statute provides a period of ten (10) years for surviving spouses and after the passing of the veteran for legal guardians. This bill will amend the current Guam law so that surviving spouses may receive the extended benefits until remarried or cohabitating with another person. For legal guardians of veterans who have passed, the extended benefits will continue permanently.

Per correspondence from the OVA, the OVA is in full support of this proposed legislation. Per the OVA, the waiver of these fees would represent a small but significant way to ease financial burdens for eligible persons. The OVA is unable to determine a fiscal impact to the Government of Guam as the OVA does not charge for the certification letters for those eligible for state benefits. Without pertinent information regarding the number of eligible dependants, inclusive of the amount of vehicles to be registered, licenses to be renewed, and property owners, the Bureau is unable to determine a cost impact to the Government of Guam.