

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN

2024 (SECOND) Regular Session

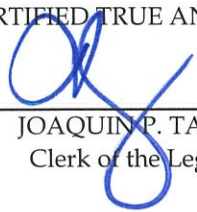
VOTING RECORD

Bill No. 211-37 (COR) As amended by the Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts; and further amended on the Floor.	Speaker Antonio R. Unpingco Legislative Session Hall Guam Congress Building April 26, 2024
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NAME	Aye	Nay	Not Voting/ Abstained	Out During Roll Call	Absent	Excused
Senator Chris Barnett	✓					
Senator Frank Blas, Jr.	✓					
Senator Joanne Brown	✓					
Senator Christopher M. Dueñas	✓					
Senator Thomas J. Fisher	✓					
Senator Jesse A. Lujan	✓					
Vice Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes	✓					
Senator William A. Parkinson	✓					
Senator Sabina Flores Perez	✓					
Senator Roy A. B. Quinata	✓					
Senator Joe S. San Agustin	✓					
Senator Dwayne T. D. San Nicolas	✓					
Senator Amanda L. Shelton	✓					
Senator Telo T. Taitague	✓					
Speaker Therese M. Terlaje	✓					

TOTAL	15	0			0	0
	Aye	Nay	Not Voting/ Abstained	Out During Roll Call	Absent	Excused

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:



JOAQUIN P. TAITAGUE
Clerk of the Legislature

I = Pass

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2023 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 211-37 (COR)

As amended by the Committee on
Education, Public Safety and the Arts;
and further amended on the Floor.

*

Introduced by:

Amanda L. Shelton
Roy A. B. Quinata
Jesse A. Lujan
William A. Parkinson
Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas
Joe S. San Agustin
Christopher M. Dueñas
Thomas J. Fisher

**AN ACT TO *ADD* A NEW § 3223 TO ARTICLE 2 OF
CHAPTER 3, TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED,
RELATIVE TO PRIORITIZING ACCESS TO FEDERAL
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE
COMPLETION OF THE FREE APPLICATION FOR
FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA) BY GUAM
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION HIGH SCHOOL AND
ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL SENIORS.**

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

2 **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds
3 that a post-secondary education provides individuals with opportunities to develop
4 or enhance professional skills which are essential to their career of choice. The value
5 of a post-secondary education goes beyond the higher financial earnings potential, it
6 prepares individuals to develop the leadership and temperament to successfully
7 contribute to society as a member of their respective organization.

1 *I Liheslatura* finds that post-secondary education costs are not immune to
2 inflationary impacts. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, the
3 average tuition and fees were higher in academic year 2020-2021 than in academic
4 year 2010-2011 for first-time, full-time undergraduate students at public, private
5 nonprofit, and private for-profit four (4)-year institutions. At two (2)-year
6 institutions, the average tuition and fees were higher in 2020-2021 than in 2010-
7 2011 for public and private nonprofit institutions, but lower for private for-profit
8 institutions. At public four (4)-year institutions, the average tuition and fees were
9 Nine Thousand Four Hundred Dollars (\$9,400) in 2020-2021, about ten percent
10 (10%) higher than they were in 2010-2011 (\$8,500). At private nonprofit four (4)-
11 year institutions, the average tuition and fees were Thirty-seven Thousand Six
12 Hundred Dollars (\$37,600) in 2020-2021, about nineteen percent (19%) higher than
13 they were in 2010-2011 (\$31,700). At private for-profit four (4)-year institutions,
14 the average tuition and fees were Eighteen Thousand Two Hundred Dollars
15 (\$18,200) in 2020-2021, about one percent (1%) higher than they were in 2010-2011
16 (\$18,100). The average tuition and fees were eighteen percent (18%) higher in
17 academic year 2020-2021 than in academic year 2010-2011 at public two (2)-year
18 institutions (\$3,900 vs. \$3,300) and nine percent (9%) higher in 2020-2021 than in
19 2010-2011 at private nonprofit two (2)-year institutions (\$18,000 vs. \$16,500). In
20 contrast, the average tuition and fees were five percent (5%) lower in 2020-2021
21 than in 2010-2011 at private for-profit two (2)-year institutions (\$15,800 vs.
22 \$16,600).

23 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that additional efforts must be
24 implemented to encourage high school/academy charter school students to apply for
25 federal student financial aid. Without confirming whether they qualify for federal
26 financial assistance, students may be discouraged from pursuing a post-secondary
27 education despite the availability of federal student aid. Based on information

1 provided by the National College Attainment Network, the high school/academy
2 charter school class of 2022 left approximately \$3.6 Billion Dollars in Pell Grants
3 on the table by not completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.
4 National data suggests that states that have adopted FAFSA completion
5 requirements have seen impressive results for their students completing the process.

6 Through this Act, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* therefore intends to prioritize access
7 to federal financial assistance by requiring Guam Department of Education high
8 school and academy charter school seniors to complete the Free Application for
9 Federal Student Aid; and the passage of this Act is critical to ensuring that Guam’s
10 students are in a stronger position to maximize federal student aid benefits.

11 **Section 2.** A new § 3223 is *added* to Article 2 of Chapter 3, Title 17, Guam
12 Code Annotated, to read:

13 **“§ 3223. Free Application for Federal Student Aid.**

14 (a) Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, and in addition to any
15 other requirements established by law and the Guam Education Board, as a
16 prerequisite to receiving a high school/academy charter school diploma from
17 the Guam Department of Education (GDOE) or academy charter high school,
18 the parent or legal guardian of each student or student if the student is at least
19 eighteen (18) years of age, must complete and submit a Free Application for
20 Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

21 (b) A copy of the FAFSA form receipt shall be submitted to GDOE
22 or academy charter school and the agency shall in no way require or retain
23 any copies of the FAFSA form or confidential information disclosed on the
24 application.

25 (c) Upon the request of a parent or legal guardian, GDOE or
26 academy charter school must provide the student and their parent or legal
27 guardian with any support or assistance necessary to complete the FAFSA

1 form and shall ensure none of the confidential information shared by the
2 parent or legal guardian is to be retained in any GDOE high school/academy
3 charter school student records.

4 (d) GDOE or academy charter high school must award a high
5 school/academy charter school diploma to a student who otherwise qualifies
6 for a diploma but would rather opt out of the requirements of this Section if
7 the parent or legal guardian, or student, if the student is at least eighteen (18)
8 years of age, certifies through a declaration, signed under penalty of perjury,
9 that he or she opts out of completing the FAFSA form.

10 (e) Any person who assists with the completion of the FAFSA form
11 and who discloses confidential information to anyone other than a GDOE
12 student and their parent or legal guardian, commits a misdemeanor.

13 (f) The Guam Education Board may adopt rules to implement the
14 requirements of this Section.”

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

16 **Section 4. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or its application to any
17 person or circumstance is found to be invalid or inorganic, such invalidity shall not
18 affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be given effect without
19 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are
20 severable.