

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN

2023 (FIRST) Regular Session

VOTING RECORD

	Speaker Antonio R. Unpingco Legislative Session Hall Guam Congress Building November 30, 2023					
NAME	Aye	Nay	Not Voting/ Abstained	Out During Roll Call	Absent	Excused
Bill No. 2-37 (COR) <small>As amended by the Committee on General Government Operations and Appropriations.</small>						
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	✓	I				
Senator Sabina Flores Perez	✓					
Senator Roy A. B. Quinata	✓	I				
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

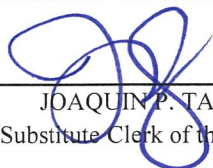
Not
Voting/
Abstained

Out
During
Roll Call

Absent

Excused

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:



JOAQUIN P. TAITAGUE
Substitute Clerk of the Legislature

I = Pass

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2023 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 2-37 (COR)

As amended by the Committee on General
Government Operations and Appropriations.

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Introduced by:

Telo T. Taitague
Therese M. Terlaje
Frank Blas, Jr.
Sabina Flores Perez
Joanne Brown
Chris Barnett
Thomas J. Fisher
Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas

**AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 13108A TO CHAPTER 13 OF
TITLE 2, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO
CREATING A SPECIAL COST OF LIVING ECONOMIC
TASK FORCE.**

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

2 **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds
3 that many retirees have limited financial resources and live on a fixed income.
4 Retirees are solely or almost entirely dependent on their pensions and are challenged
5 with little to no flexibility in managing their limited financial resources. Retirees
6 living on a tight budget also find it challenging to afford unexpected expenses, and
7 care must be taken to manage disposable income.

8 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that after years of rising inflation, many
9 retirees are concerned more than ever about rising prices. Transportation costs, food,
10 and gasoline have increased mainly due to the economic spike after the worst of the

1 COVID-19 pandemic, especially with a seven percent (7%) rise in the Consumer
2 Price Index (CPI), the most significant twelve (12)-month increase since June 1982,
3 outpacing the value of cost of living allowances (COLA) that have been in effect
4 since Fiscal Year 2015.

5 Therefore, through this Act, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* intends to create a Special
6 Cost of Living Economic Task Force within the Office of Finance and Budget to
7 develop recommendations for the establishment of a cost-of-living adjustment
8 system for current and future government of Guam retirees.

9 **Section 2.** A new § 13108A is *added* to Chapter 13 of Title 2, Guam Code
10 Annotated, to read:

11 **“§ 13108A. Special Cost of Living Economic Task Force.**

12 (a) There shall be created a Special Cost of Living Economic Task
13 Force (Task Force) within the Office of Finance and Budget. The Task Force
14 shall be comprised of the Chairman of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*’s Committee
15 on General Government Operations and Appropriations and/or Vice
16 Chairperson or equivalent Standing Committee, who shall serve as the
17 Chairperson; the Director of the Office of Finance and Budget; the Director
18 of the Bureau of Budget and Management Research; the Director of the
19 Government of Guam Retirement Fund; the Chief Economist of the
20 Department of Labor; the Chief Economist of the Bureau of Statistics and
21 Plans; an Economist from the University of Guam; and a representative from
22 the Guam Chamber of Commerce. The Chairperson may invite others to
23 participate in the work of the Task Force.

24 (b) The Task Force shall meet initially at the call of the Chairperson
25 and shall set a schedule for further meetings. The Task Force shall develop
26 recommendations that will be sent to *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and *I*
27 *Maga'hågan Guåhan* for the development and implementation of a system to

1 provide a cost-of-living allowance to government of Guam retirees based on
2 inflationary increases in Guam's cost of living.”

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

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