

*I Mina'trentai Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*  
**BILL STATUS**

BILL NO.	SPONSOR	TITLE	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	FISCAL NOTES	NOTES
136-35 (COR)	Joe S. San Agustin Régine Biscoe Lee Jose "Pedo" Terlaje Clynton E. Ridgell Kelly Marsh (Taitano), PhD Telena Cruz Nelson Tina Rose Muña Barnes Sabina Flores Perez Therese M. Terlaje Amanda L. Shelton	AN ACT TO AMEND § 3105 OF ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 22, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO RESPONSIBLY RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE.	5/13/19 3:30 p.m.	5/30/19	Committee on Federal and Foreign Affairs, Telecommunications, Technology, and Labor	6/28/19 2:00 p.m.  6:00 p.m.	9/5/19 2:03 p.m.	Request: 5/30/19  6/26/19	
	<b>SESSION DATE</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>DATE PASSED</b>	<b>TRANSMITTED</b>	<b>DUE DATE</b>	<b>PUBLIC LAW NO.</b>	<b>DATE SIGNED</b>	<b>NOTES</b>	
	9/30/19	AN ACT TO AMEND § 3105 OF ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 22, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO RESPONSIBLY RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE.	10/4/19	10/7/19	10/18/19	35-38	10/14/19	Received: 10/14/19 Mess and Comm. Doc. No. 35GL-19-1110.	

UFISINAN I MAGA'HAGA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO  
MAGA'HAGA • GOVERNOR

JOSHUA F. TENORIO  
SIGUNDO MAGA'LÁHI • LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

356L-19-1110  
Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes

October 14, 2019

**HONORABLE TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES**

Speaker

*I Mina'trentai Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

Guam Congress Building

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96932

OCT 14 2019  
Time 4:21 ( ) AM (X) PM  
Received By [Signature]

2019 OCT 14 PM 5:00

**Re: Bill No. 136-35 (COR) – An Act to Amend § 3105 of Article 1, Chapter 3, Title 22, Guam Code Annotated, Relative to Responsibly Raising the Minimum Wage**

**Bill No. 128-35 (LS) – An Act to Amend Article 1 of Chapter 10, Title 22, Guam Code Annotated, Relative to Supporting the Administration of the Guam Registered Apprenticeship Program and Extending the Tax Credit Sunset Provision of Said Program for an Additional Period of Five (5) Years**

Dear Madame Speaker:

I am proud to sign Bill 136-35, *An Act to Amend § 3105 of Article 1, Chapter 3, Title 22, Guam Code Annotated, Relative to Responsibly Raising the Minimum Wage*, which is now **Public Law 35-38**. As a companion measure, I have also signed Bill 128-35, *An Act to Amend Article 1 of Chapter 10, Title 22, Guam Code Annotated, Relative to Supporting the Administration of the Guam Registered Apprenticeship Program and Extending the Tax Credit Sunset Provision of Said Program for an Additional Period of Five (5) Years*, which is now **Public Law 35-39**.

Though we lead separate, co-equal branches of government, the Legislature and I are united in the belief that work should be rewarded with the dignity of a decent wage, that everyone willing to work for it should be able to learn skills that help them climb the economic ladder, and that no one who works a full time job should have to live in poverty. This is why I have signed measures that would responsibly raise the minimum wage to \$9.25 over a two-year period and extend the full life of the Guam Registered Apprenticeship Program.

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October 14, 2019  
To: Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes  
Fr: *Maga'hâgan Guðhan*  
Re: Bill No. 136-35 and Bill No. 128-35

### **Bills Signed as Companion Measures**

I sign these bills as companion measures because I believe they are essential components of a unified economic plan - a plan that values work and gives people the opportunity they need to learn new skills and earn even higher wages.

At a time when too many important issues can be ensnared by partisan politics, these acts, and the legislature's unanimous support for them, demonstrate that we can help working people and partner with businesses to support skilled labor and incentivize its expansion.

### **Skilled Labor is Vital**

Since the start of this administration just ten months ago, approximately 1,000 people have been placed in apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship programs. The vast majority of these apprenticeships are paid at rates higher than the minimum wage.

Therefore, I am not surprised by the overwhelming support this program received from management and labor alike. Without the legislature's decisive action, the tax credits driving this program, would have ended in weeks - leaving 422 participants and as many as 122 employer sponsors in the cold.

### **Responsibly Raising the Minimum Wage**

And while partnering with businesses to help our neighbors learn a skilled trade is vital, all work deserves the dignity of a decent wage. This is especially true of the lowest wage permissible by law.

I accept that this measure was the subject of passionate debate in this community. But, contrary to popular belief, the minimum wage is earned by not only teens and college students. Many minimum wage workers are single parents who are heads of their households. They are our servers, our hotel housekeepers, our maintenance crews, retail associates, store clerks, kitchen helpers, and much more.

How much should children struggle just because they were born to a single parent making the minimum wage? No parent should have to go through the chronic stress of trying to make ends meet for their family. They should not have to struggle to ensure that their children do not feel disadvantaged.

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October 14, 2019  
To: Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes  
Fr: *Maga'hågan Guåhan*  
Re: Bill No. 136-35 and Bill No. 128-35

### **There Will Always Be Critics**

For years now, I have heard a small sector of the business community oppose any upward adjustment in the minimum wage. Their reasons are always the same: massive inflation, job losses, and a reduction in hours worked. But none of these claims were supported by what actually happened after the last increase to the minimum wage, or the Guam-based empirical analysis used to study it.

To be clear, our people believe that everyone has a right to reap the benefits of their success. But the bottom-line can turn a profit *and* be fair to working people. I know this because I spent years of my life helping entrepreneurs start small businesses, create jobs, and chase their dreams. Like most Americans, our people do not despise the successful because they want their children to succeed.

I signed these bills into law because I believe that work must be rewarded by a decent and fair wage. I also know that skilled labor is a passport to economic security - giving all who hold it the means to support their families.

As proud as we might be of today's successes, our work is not done. It is not done until everyone has the opportunity to win the economic future of their choice, working people can climb their way into the middle class, and those already in the middle class feel safe there.

I look forward to advancing this important work with you and the members of the 35<sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature.

*Senseremente,*



**LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO**

*Maga'hågan Guåhan*

Governor of Guam

Enclosure(s): Bill No. 136-35 *nka* Public Law 35-38  
Bill No. 128-35 *nka* Public Law 35-39

cc via email: *Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan*  
Compiler of Laws

2019.6265  
Tina Sanchez

RCVD AT CENTRAL FILES  
OCT 7 '19 PM 12:44

**I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN**  
**2019 (FIRST) Regular Session**

**CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO I MAGA'HÁGAN GUÁHAN**

This is to certify that **Bill No. 136-35 (COR)**, “AN ACT TO *AMEND* § 3105 OF **ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 22, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO RESPONSIBLY RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE,**” was on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of October 2019, duly and regularly passed.

**Tina Rose Muña Barnes**  
**Speaker**

Attested:

**Amanda L. Shelton**  
**Legislative Secretary**

This Act was received by *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* this 7<sup>th</sup> day of Oct, 2019, at 12:42 o'clock P.M.

Tina Sanchez

Assistant Staff Officer  
*Maga'håga's Office*

APPROVED:

Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero  
*I Maga'hågan Guåhan*

Date: 10/14/2019

Public Law No. 35-38

***I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN***  
**2019 (FIRST) Regular Session**

**Bill No. 136-35 (COR)**

Introduced by:

Joe S. San Agustin  
Régine Biscoe Lee  
Jose “Pedo” Terlaje  
Clynton E. Ridgell  
Kelly Marsh (Taitano), PhD  
Telena Cruz Nelson  
Tina Rose Muña Barnes  
Sabina Flores Perez  
Therese M. Terlaje  
Amanda L. Shelton  
William M. Castro  
James C. Moylan  
Louise B. Muña  
Telo T. Taitague  
Mary Camacho Torres

**AN ACT TO *AMEND* § 3105 OF ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 3,  
TITLE 22, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO  
RESPONSIBLY RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE.**

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

2        **Section 1.**    § 3105 of Article 1, Chapter 3, Title 22, Guam Code Annotated,  
3 is hereby *amended* to read:

4                **“§ 3105.    Minimum Wages.**

5                Every employer *shall* pay each person employed by him wages at a rate  
6 not less than Eight Dollars and Twenty-Five Cents (\$8.25) per hour, effective  
7 January 1, 2015; *not less than* Eight Dollars and Seventy-Five Cents (\$8.75)

1 per hour, effective March 1, 2020; and *not less than* Nine Dollars and Twenty-  
2 Five Cents (\$9.25) per hour, effective March 1, 2021.”