

*I Mina'trentai Ocho 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
<b>214-38 (COR)</b> As amended by the Committee on Finance and Government Operations; and further amended on the Floor.	Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao Joe S. San Agustin Tina Rose Muña-Barnes	AN ACT TO <i>AMEND</i> ARTICLE 3, § 15401(a)(6), § 15401(b), § 15401(d), § 15401(e), AND § 15403, ALL OF CHAPTER 15, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO STRENGTHENING THE INDEPENDENCE AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE GUAM ETHICS COMMISSION.	10/28/25 1:37 p.m.  ^11/6/25 4:52 p.m.	11/7/25	Committee on Finance and Government Operations.	Request: 11/7/25  11/12/25	2/12/26 9:00 a.m.	3/12/26 As Amended.	
	<b>SESSION DATE</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>DATE PASSED</b>	<b>TRANSMITTED</b>	<b>DUE DATE</b>	<b>NOTES</b>			
	3/23/26	AN ACT TO <i>AMEND</i> §§ 15401(a)(6), 15401(b), 15401(d), 15401(e), AND 15403, ALL OF ARTICLE 3, CHAPTER 15, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO STRENGTHENING THE INDEPENDENCE AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE GUAM ETHICS COMMISSION.	3/27/26	3/27/26	4/8/26				

**COPY**



*I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN*  
Thirty-Eighth Guam Legislature

March 27, 2026

The Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero  
*I Maga'hågan Guáhan*  
*Ufisinan I Maga'håga*  
*Hagåtña, Guam 96910*

Dear *Maga'håga* Leon Guerrero:

Transmitted herewith are Bill Nos. 65-38 (COR), 131-38 (COR), 141-38 (COR), 142-38 (COR), 205-38 (COR), 214-38 (COR), 218-38 (COR), 228-38 (COR), 231-38 (COR), 233-38 (COR), 234-38 (COR), 237-38 (COR), 245-38 (COR), 254-38 (COR), 262-38 (LS), 263-38 (LS), and 279-38 (COR), and Substitute Bill Nos. 206-38 (COR) and 246-38 (COR) which were passed by *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guahan* on March 27, 2026.

Sincerely,

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane  
Legislative Secretary

*POTU Jesse J. Cruz*

*8:24pm, 3.27.26*

Enclosure (19)



*I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*  
2026 (SECOND) Regular Session

**CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN**

This is to certify that Bill No. 214-38 (COR), "AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 15401(a)(6), 15401(b), 15401(d), 15401(e), AND 15403, ALL OF ARTICLE 3, CHAPTER 15, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO STRENGTHENING THE INDEPENDENCE AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE GUAM ETHICS COMMISSION," was on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of March 2026, duly and regularly passed.



Frank F. Blas, Jr  
Speaker

Attested:



Sabrina Salas Matanane  
Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* this 27 day of March, 2026, at 8:24 o'clock P.M.



Assistant Staff Officer  
*Maga'håga's Office*

APPROVED:

*POTU Jusee V. Castro*  
*Executive Security*

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Public Law No. \_\_\_\_\_

***I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN***  
**2025 (FIRST) Regular Session**

**Bill No. 214-38 (COR)**

As amended by the Committee on Finance and  
Government Operations; and further amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao  
Joe S. San Agustin  
Tina Rose Muña-Barnes  
V. Anthony Ada  
Chris Barnett  
Frank F. Blas, Jr.  
Vincent A.V. Borja  
Shelly V. Calvo  
Christopher M. Dueñas  
Jesse A. Lujan  
William A. Parkinson  
Sabina Flores Perez  
Sabrina Salas Matanane  
Telo T. Taitague  
Therese M. Terlaje

**AN ACT TO *AMEND* §§ 15401(a)(6), 15401(b), 15401(d),  
15401(e), AND 15403, ALL OF ARTICLE 3, CHAPTER 15,  
TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO  
STRENGTHENING THE INDEPENDENCE AND  
EFFECTIVENESS OF THE GUAM ETHICS  
COMMISSION.**

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

2           **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds  
3 that the Guam Ethics Commission (Commission) is comprised of seven (7) members  
4 appointed by the Governor of Guam who are subject to confirmation by *I*

1 *Liheslatura*. Recognizing the Commission’s responsibility to adjudicate complaints  
2 alleging Standard of Conduct violations by Government officials and employees, *I*  
3 *Liheslatura* proposes to modernize the Commission’s membership through broader  
4 community representation. *I Liheslatura* further intends to strengthen the  
5 independence and effectiveness of the Guam Ethics Commission by responding to  
6 the Commission’s request for the establishment of timely, proportionate, and  
7 enforceable consequences based on rules and regulations which shall be developed  
8 by the Commission in accordance with the Administrative Adjudication Law.

9 **Section 2.** Article 3 of Chapter 15, Title 4, Guam Code Annotated, is  
10 *amended*, to read:

11 **“§ 15301. Guam Ethics Commission Established; Composition.**

12 (a) There shall be within the Government of Guam, an autonomous  
13 and independent commission to be known as the ‘Guam Ethics Commission.’  
14 The Guam Ethics Commission (Commission) shall consist of seven (7)  
15 members to be appointed by *I Maga’hågan/Maga’låhen Guåhan* with the  
16 consent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*. *I Maga’hågan/Maga’låhen Guåhan* shall  
17 seek and consider recommendations for his or her appointments to the  
18 Commission from community organizations including, but not limited to, the  
19 Guam Bar Association, Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM)  
20 Guam Chapter, Association of Government Accountants Guam Chapter, and  
21 the Guam Chamber of Commerce.

22 Each appointee shall be a United States citizen and a bona fide resident  
23 of Guam. No person who has ever been convicted of a felony shall be eligible  
24 to serve on the Guam Ethics Commission. Members of the Guam Ethics  
25 Commission shall not be an employee, as defined herein, or have any member  
26 of their immediate family employed by the Government of Guam.

1           (b) The Chairperson of the Guam Ethics Commission shall be  
2 elected by the affirmative vote of at least four (4) members of the  
3 Commission. The term of office of each member shall be for four (4) years.  
4 No person shall hold any elected office or be a candidate for elected office  
5 during his or her tenure on the Guam Ethics Commission, nor shall they be  
6 appointed consecutively to more than two (2) terms as a member of the  
7 Commission.

8           (c) A quorum for the conduct of official business by the Commission  
9 is established when at least four (4) members are physically present or  
10 participating remotely via videoconference or similar technological means  
11 permitted by the Commission's rules and regulations. An action of the  
12 Commission is valid if approved by at least four (4) members. Members shall  
13 receive a stipend of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) per meeting not to exceed four (4)  
14 meetings per calendar month, and shall be compensated for all normal  
15 expenses of travel, and for the cost of meals while in session.

16           (d) Vacancies shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term  
17 in the same manner as the original appointments. Any member of the  
18 Commission may be removed for cause, upon the filing by at least four (4)  
19 members of the Commission of a written finding with the Commission and  
20 upon service of a copy of the written findings on the member removed.

21           (e) The Commission's rules and regulations shall protect its  
22 operations against political influence and other external interference.

23           (f) The Commission shall develop and maintain a public-facing  
24 website to provide information on its processes, findings, and educational  
25 resources regarding ethics in government. Except as provided by this Chapter,  
26 all proceedings including hearings of the Commission shall be open to the

1 public, and records shall be available for public review, pursuant to provisions  
2 of the Sunshine Reform Act of 1999, 5 GCA Chapter 10.”

3 **Section 3.** § 15401(a)(6) of Article 4, Chapter 15, Title 4, Guam Code  
4 Annotated, is *amended* to read:

5 “(6) It shall have jurisdiction for purposes of investigation and taking  
6 appropriate action on alleged violations of this Chapter in all proceedings  
7 commenced within three (3) years of an alleged violation of this Chapter by  
8 an employee, or a former employee. Nothing herein shall bar proceedings  
9 against a person who by fraud or other device, prevents discovery of a  
10 violation of this Chapter. A proceeding shall be deemed commenced by the  
11 signing of a charge by four (4) or more members of the Commission.”

12 **Section 4.** § 15401(b) of Article 4, Chapter 15, Title 4, Guam Code  
13 Annotated, is *amended* to read:

14 “(b) Charges concerning the violation of this Chapter shall be in  
15 writing, signed by the person making the charge under oath, except that any  
16 charge initiated by the Commission must be signed by four (4) or more  
17 members of the Commission. The Commission shall notify in writing every  
18 person against whom a charge is received and afford him or her an opportunity  
19 to explain the conduct alleged to be in violation of this Chapter. The  
20 Commission may investigate, after compliance with this Section, such charges  
21 and render an informal advisory opinion to the alleged violator. The  
22 Commission shall investigate all charges on a confidential basis, having  
23 available all the powers herein provided, and proceedings at this stage shall  
24 not be public. If the informal advisory opinion indicates a probable violation,  
25 the person charged shall request a formal opinion or within a reasonable time  
26 comply with the informal advisory opinion. If the person charged fails to  
27 comply with such informal advisory opinion or if a majority of the members

1 of the Commission determine that there is a probable cause for belief that a  
2 violation of this Chapter might have occurred, a copy of the charge and a  
3 further statement of the alleged violation shall be personally served upon the  
4 alleged violator in accordance with the rules for personal service found in  
5 Guam Rules of Civil Procedure. The person so charged shall have twenty (20)  
6 days after service thereof to respond in writing to the charge and statement.”

7 **Section 5.** § 15401(d) of Article 4, Chapter 15, Title 4, Guam Code  
8 Annotated, is *amended* to read:

9 “(d) If after twenty (20) days following personal service, a majority  
10 of the members of the Commission conclude that there is reason to believe  
11 that a violation of this Chapter has been committed, then the Commission shall  
12 set a time and place for a hearing, giving notice to the complainant and the  
13 alleged violator. All parties shall have an opportunity (1) to be heard, (2) to  
14 subpoena witnesses and require the production of any books, papers, records,  
15 or electronic recordings relative to the proceedings, (3) to be represented by  
16 counsel, and (4) to have the right of cross-examination. All witnesses shall  
17 testify under oath and the hearings shall be closed to the public unless the  
18 party complained against requests an open hearing. The Commission shall not  
19 be bound by the strict rules of evidence but the Commission’s findings must  
20 be based upon competent and substantial evidence. All testimony and other  
21 evidence taken at the hearing shall be recorded.”

22 **Section 6.** § 15401(e) of Article 4, Chapter 15, Title 4, Guam Code  
23 Annotated, is *amended* to read:

24 “(e) The Commission shall make its findings and render its decision  
25 based on a preponderance of the evidence. A decision of the Commission  
26 pertaining to the conduct of any employee shall be in writing and signed by

1 four (4) or more of the members of the Commission. Deliberations of the  
2 Commission shall be closed to the public and to all parties.”

3 **Section 7.** § 15403 of Article 4, Chapter 15, Title 4, Guam Code Annotated,  
4 *is amended* to read:

5 **“§ 15403. Procedure.**

6 (a) When the Commission, after due hearings, believes that there is  
7 cause for the possible filing of criminal charges, it shall refer the complaint to  
8 the Attorney General’s Office or appropriate authority for its disposition.

9 (b) With respect to former employees, the Commission may, with  
10 the consent of four (4) or more members of the Commission, issue a public  
11 statement of its findings and conclusions, and the Attorney General may  
12 exercise whatever legal or equitable remedies are available to Guam.

13 (c) When after due hearing, the Commission finds that the violation  
14 committed by an employee is non-criminal in nature:

15 (1) the Commission will remand the case to the agency where  
16 the employee is employed with the recommendation that the agency  
17 impose the corresponding punishment in accordance with the agency’s  
18 personnel rules and regulations; and

19 (2) the employee shall be subject to an administrative fine as  
20 outlined in the rules and regulations developed by the Commission in  
21 accordance with the Administrative Adjudication Law, 5 GCA Chapter  
22 9, of up to \$5,000 for each violation of the code of ethics. All fines  
23 collected under this section shall be deposited in the General Fund; and

24 (3) No fine shall be assessed under this section unless the  
25 Guam Ethics Commission convenes a hearing in accordance with §  
26 15401 of this Chapter, and a decision has been rendered by the  
27 Commission. The Commission and respondent shall agree to resolve

1           any charge of an alleged violation prior to completion of the contested  
2           case process, and the resolution includes payment of an administrative  
3           fine or restitution, or both.”

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