

*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>10-38 (COR)</b> As amended by the Committee on Finance and Government Operations; and further amended on the Floor.	Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao Jesse A. Lujan Christopher M. Dueñas Tina Rose Muña Barnes William A. Parkinson Shelly V. Calvo Joe S. San Agustin V. Anthony Ada Telo T. Taitague Frank F. Blas, Jr.	AN ACT TO <i>ADD</i> A NEW § 4131 AND § 4131.1, BOTH TO ARTICLE 1 OF CHAPTER 4, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' LINE OF DUTY DEATH BENEFIT, AND TO REQUIRE THE DEVELOPMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS.	1/13/25 9:06 a.m.	1/17/25	Committee on Finance and Government Operations.	Request: 1/17/25  1/30/25	2/21/25 9:00 a.m.	3/6/25 As Amended.	
	<b>SESSION DATE</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>DATE PASSED</b>	<b>TRANSMITTED</b>	<b>DUE DATE</b>	<b>NOTES</b>			
3/24/25	AN ACT TO <i>ADD</i> NEW §§ 4131 AND 4131.1 TO ARTICLE 1 OF CHAPTER 4, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' LINE OF DUTY DEATH BENEFIT, AND TO REQUIRE THE DEVELOPMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS.	3/31/25	4/1/25	4/12/25					

**COPY**

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

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

This is to certify that **Bill No. 10-38 (COR)**, "AN ACT TO ADD NEW §§ 4131 AND 4131.1 TO ARTICLE 1 OF CHAPTER 4, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' LINE OF DUTY DEATH BENEFIT, AND TO REQUIRE THE DEVELOPMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS," was on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March 2025, 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 1st day of April, 2025, at 4:08 o'clock P.M.



Assistant Staff Officer  
*Maga'håga's Office*

APPROVED:

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

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

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

**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
CENTRAL FILES OFFICE  
Rec'd By: Elaine Tajalle  
Date: 4/1/25 Time: 4:08pm

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

**Bill No. 10-38 (COR)**

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

Introduced by:

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

**AN ACT TO *ADD* NEW §§ 4131 AND 4131.1 TO ARTICLE 1 OF CHAPTER 4, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' LINE OF DUTY DEATH BENEFIT, AND TO REQUIRE THE DEVELOPMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS.**

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

2        **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds  
3        that public safety and law enforcement officers of the government of Guam work

1 hard every day to protect life and property and preserve law and order; and these  
2 employees are critical to the timely, proper, and effective enforcement of the U.S.  
3 Constitution, the Organic Act of Guam, and all federal and local statutes and  
4 regulations applicable to the safety and health of island residents.

5 *I Liheslatura* further finds that because of the physical and mental health  
6 demands that are placed on public safety and law enforcement officers, policymakers  
7 have taken major steps in recent years to incentivize retention and recruitment,  
8 particularly in the face of competitive job opportunities offered by the private sector  
9 and federal public safety and law enforcement agencies. In addition to funding  
10 compensation adjustments for employees across Guam's public safety and law  
11 enforcement entities, *I Liheslatura* authorized employees to retire on a service  
12 retirement annuity once they reach fifty-five (55) years of age and complete twenty-  
13 five (25) years of service, or attain at least fifty-seven (57) years of age and complete  
14 five (5) years of service; and eligible public safety and law enforcement employees  
15 are no longer subject to early retirement penalties established for non-public safety  
16 and law enforcement personnel.

17 Consistent with the spirit of the foregoing policies, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*  
18 intends through this Act to recognize the dangerous work that is unique to our public  
19 safety and law enforcement officers, and the support our government must provide  
20 to families who lose their loved ones in the line of duty.

21 *I Liheslatura* is cognizant of death benefit policies that have been established  
22 in other U.S. jurisdictions including, but not limited to, the Commonwealth of the  
23 Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Rhode Island, and Vermont, which are available  
24 for public safety and law enforcement officers who are killed in the line of duty. The  
25 CNMI allows for a payment of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be made to  
26 specified survivors of a law enforcement officer who has died as the direct and  
27 proximate result of a personal injury sustained in the line of duty regardless of

1 employment status. The state of Rhode Island provides a law enforcement officer's  
2 surviving spouse and children with a one (1)-time death benefit equal to forty percent  
3 (40%) of the current federal death benefit for law enforcement killed in the line of  
4 duty. The state of Vermont authorizes a one (1)-time line-of-duty death benefit in  
5 the amount of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to the beneficiaries of all sworn law  
6 enforcement personnel from the Vermont Department of Public Safety.

7 Accordingly, it is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to establish the Public  
8 Safety and Law Enforcement Officers' Line of Duty Benefit and the Public Safety  
9 and Law Enforcement Officers' Line of Duty Benefit Fund.

10 **Section 2.** A new § 4131 is *added* to Article 1 of Chapter 4, Title 4, Guam  
11 Code Annotated, to read as follows:

12 **“§ 4131. Public Safety and Law Enforcement Officers' Line of**  
13 **Duty Death Benefit.**

14 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, rule, or  
15 regulation, if the death of a public safety or law enforcement officer in  
16 the line of duty qualifies for death benefits pursuant to the U.S.  
17 Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance's Public Safety  
18 Officers' Benefits Program or its successor program, the public safety  
19 or law enforcement officer's survivor shall be entitled to a one (1)-time  
20 death benefit of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) from the  
21 government of Guam payable through the Public Safety and Law  
22 Enforcement Officers' Line of Duty Death Benefit Fund.

23 (b) The one (1)-time death benefit provided in this Section  
24 shall not reduce any other benefit that a public safety or law  
25 enforcement officer may be entitled to pursuant to Guam law or  
26 regulation.

1 (c) A death benefit issued pursuant to this Section shall not be  
2 subject to reduction or offsets for debts owed by a public safety or law  
3 enforcement officer to the government of Guam.”

4 **Section 3.** A new § 4131.1 is *added* to Article 1 of Chapter 4, Title 4, Guam  
5 Code Annotated, to read as follows:

6 “§ 4131.1. **Public Safety and Law Enforcement Officers’ Line of**  
7 **Duty Death Benefit Fund.**

8 (a) There is hereby created, separate and apart from other  
9 funds of the government of Guam, a reserve fund known as the Public  
10 Safety and Law Enforcement Officers’ Line of Duty Death Benefit  
11 Fund (Fund). The Fund shall not be commingled with the General Fund  
12 or any other fund of the government of Guam. The Fund shall be  
13 administered by the Department of Administration and maintained in a  
14 separate bank account.

15 (b) The Director of Administration shall as the need arises  
16 request for additional appropriations to the Fund to ensure adequate  
17 funding to pay for benefits pursuant to § 4131 of this Article.

18 (c) The A.B. Won Pat Guam International Airport Authority  
19 and the Jose D. Leon Guerrero Commercial Port shall reimburse the  
20 Fund for death benefits issued for public safety and law enforcement  
21 officers from these agencies pursuant to § 4131 of this Article.

22 (d) The Fund shall not be subject to *I*  
23 *Maga'håga's/Maga'låhi's* transfer authority, and funds herein shall  
24 remain available until fully expended.”

25 **Section 4. Administrative Rules and Regulations.** The Department of  
26 Administration shall, within ninety (90) days following the enactment of this Act,  
27 develop rules and regulations for the administration of the Public Safety and Law

1 Enforcement Officers' Line of Duty Death Benefit and the Public Safety and Law  
2 Enforcement Officers' Line of Duty Death Benefit Fund established by this Act.

3       **Section 5. Agencies Authorized to Expend Fiscal Year 2025 General**  
4 **Fund Appropriations.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, public safety  
5 and law enforcement departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the government  
6 of Guam are authorized to utilize their respective General Fund appropriations for  
7 death benefits issued during Fiscal Year 2025 consistent with the requirements of  
8 this Act. The A.B. Won Pat Guam International Airport Authority and the Jose D.  
9 Leon Guerrero Commercial Port shall be responsible for funding death benefits for  
10 public safety and law enforcement officers from these agencies in accordance with  
11 the provisions of this Act.

12       **Section 6. Effective Date.** This Act shall be effective upon enactment.