

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
88-38 (COR) As amended by the Committee on Economic Investment, Military Buildup, Regional Relations, Technology, Regulatory Affairs, Justice, Elections, and Retirement; and further amended on the Floor.	Telo T. Taitague Sabina Flores Perez Therese M. Terlaje Chris Barnett Shelly V. Calvo V. Anthony Ada Frank F. Blas, Jr Vincent A.V. Borja Christopher M. Dueñas Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao Jesse A. Lujan Tina Rose Muña Barnes Sabrina Salas Matanane Joe S. San Agustin	AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT CHAPTER 25, TITLE 16, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ASSESSING THE TAXATION OF VEHICLE TITLE TRANSFERS ON THE BILL OF SALE ONLY AND STREAMLINING VEHICLE OWNERSHIP TRANSFERS.	3/10/25 11:40 a.m.	3/19/25	Committee on Economic Investment, Military Buildup, Regional Relations, Technology, Regulatory Affairs, Justice, Elections, and Retirement.	3/17/25	4/29/25 2:00 p.m.	5/12/25 As Amended.	
	SESSION DATE	TITLE	DATE PASSED	TRANSMITTED	DUE DATE	NOTES			
	5/27/25	AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT CHAPTER 25 OF TITLE 16, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ASSESSING THE TAXATION OF VEHICLE TITLE TRANSFERS ON THE BILL OF SALE ONLY AND STREAMLINING VEHICLE OWNERSHIP TRANSFERS.	6/3/25	6/5/25	6/17/25				

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

June 5, 2025

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

Dear *Maga'håga* Leon Guerrero:

Transmitted herewith are Bill Nos. 6-38 (COR), 18-38 (COR), 20-38 (COR), 23-38 (COR), 27-38 (COR), 33-38 (COR), 50-38 (COR), 53-38 (COR), 54-38 (COR), 55-38 (COR), 59-38 (COR), 66-38 (COR), 67-38 (COR), 75-38 (COR), 78-38 (COR), 80-38 (COR), 83-38 (COR), 88-38 (COR), 89-38 (COR), 95-38 (COR), 109-38 (COR), 121-38 (COR), 129-38 (COR) and 130-38 (COR), and Substitute Bill Nos. 28-38 (COR) and 118-38 (COR) which were passed by *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guahan* on June 3, 2025.

Sincerely,

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane
Legislative Secretary

Enclosure (26)



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

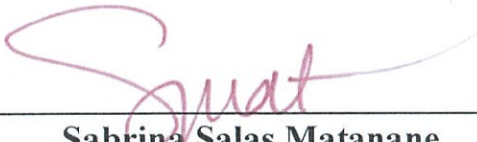
CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN

This is to certify that Bill No. 88-38 (COR), "AN ACT TO *REPEAL* AND *REENACT* CHAPTER 25 OF TITLE 16, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ASSESSING THE TAXATION OF VEHICLE TITLE TRANSFERS ON THE BILL OF SALE ONLY AND STREAMLINING VEHICLE OWNERSHIP TRANSFERS," was on the 3rd day of June 2025, duly and regularly passed.



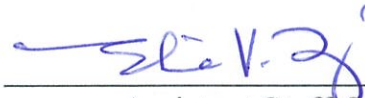
Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Speaker

Attested:



Sabrina Salas Matanane
Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* this 5th day of June, 2025, at 4:56 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: <u>Elaine Tajalle</u>	
Date: <u>6/5/25</u>	Time: <u>4:56 PM</u>

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

Bill No. 88-38 (COR)

As amended by the Committee on Economic Investment,
Military Buildup, Regional Relations, Technology,
Regulatory Affairs, Justice, Elections, and Retirement;
and further amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

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

**AN ACT TO *REPEAL* AND *REENACT* CHAPTER 25 OF
TITLE 16, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO
ASSESSING THE TAXATION OF VEHICLE TITLE
TRANSFERS ON THE BILL OF SALE ONLY AND
STREAMLINING VEHICLE OWNERSHIP TRANSFERS.**

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

2 **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds
3 that Guam faces a significant issue with junk and abandoned vehicles, surpassing
4 the challenges faced by other jurisdictions across the nation. A primary obstacle in

1 enforcing Guam's junk and abandoned vehicle laws is the failure to complete vehicle
2 ownership transfers upon sale.

3 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that the tax imposed on vehicle
4 ownership transfers is based on the Kelley Blue Book value, rather than the vehicle's
5 condition and actual sale amount. The Kelley Blue Book assigns values based on
6 excellent, good, or fair conditions, but it does not account for vehicles in disrepair
7 or with conditions that fall below the lowest fair market assessment. This tax
8 valuation method is inaccurate and does not always reflect a vehicle's true worth,
9 resulting in inflated tax assessments.

10 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that these excessively high title transfer
11 costs for Guam residents often prevent them from completing the transfer process,
12 many of whom are selling their vehicles due to hardship. Consequently, many
13 vehicles remain registered under previous owners because the high cost of title
14 transfers discourages the buyers from completing the process, leaving vehicles
15 unaccounted for when abandoned and ultimately contributing to the growing issue
16 of junk and abandoned vehicles across the island.

17 Therefore, it is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to streamline the process
18 by only assessing taxes based on the Bill of Sale amount to ensure a fair and accurate
19 taxation process, reduce unnecessary financial burdens on the community, and
20 address the longstanding issue of abandoned vehicles.

21 **Section 2.** Chapter 25 of Title 16, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby
22 *repealed* and *reenacted* to read:

23 **"CHAPTER 25**
24 **VEHICLE TRANSFER TAX**

25 § 25101. Purpose.

26 § 25102. Definitions.

27 § 25103. Taxation on Transfer of Vehicle Title.

1 § 25104. Verification and Compliance.

2 § 25105. Tax Rate.

3 § 25106. Penalties.

4 § 25107. Review and Reporting.

5 **§ 25101. Purpose.**

6 The purpose of this Chapter is to establish a fair, transparent, and
7 administratively efficient method for taxing the transfer of vehicle titles in
8 Guam. This Chapter ensures taxation is based on the actual value of a
9 vehicle as stated in a notarized Bill of Sale, rather than an arbitrary or
10 estimated valuation such as an appraisal or blue book value.

11 **§ 25102. Definitions.**

12 For the purposes of this Chapter, the following terms shall mean:

13 (a) ‘Bill of Sale’ means a notarized document that confirms the sale
14 and purchase of a vehicle, including the agreed-upon sale price between the
15 buyer and the seller.

16 (b) ‘Vehicle’ means any motor vehicle required to be registered
17 under the laws of Guam.

18 (c) ‘Transfer’ and ‘Transfer of Ownership’ means the process of
19 changing the legal owner of a vehicle.

20 (d) ‘The Department’ means the Department of Revenue and
21 Taxation.

22 **§ 25103. Taxation on Transfer of Vehicle Title.**

23 (a) The tax on the transfer of a vehicle title in Guam shall be based
24 on the actual sale price as stated in the Bill of Sale.

25 (b) The Department of Revenue and Taxation shall require a copy of
26 the Bill of Sale to be submitted with the title transfer application.

27 **§ 25104. Verification and Compliance.**

1 The Department of Revenue and Taxation shall establish procedures to
2 verify the accuracy of the Bill of Sale, including random audits and
3 inspections.

4 **§ 25105. Tax Rate.**

5 (a) The tax rate for the transfer of vehicle titles shall be Five Dollars
6 (\$5.00) plus two and one-half percent (2.5%) of the value stated on the Bill of
7 Sale.

8 (b) Exemptions. The following transfers shall be exempt from the
9 tax imposed under this Chapter:

10 (1) transfers due to inheritance; provided, that sufficient legal
11 documentation is provided; and

12 (2) transfers involving a vehicle donated to a recognized
13 nonprofit organization.

14 **§ 25106. Penalties.**

15 Any transfer tax not paid within thirty (30) days after the date of transfer
16 or sale is subject to a delinquency penalty of five percent (5%) of the tax, and
17 in addition, interest thereafter until paid at one-half percent (1/2%) per month
18 or fraction thereof.

19 **§ 25107. Review and Reporting.**

20 (a) The Guam Department of Revenue and Taxation shall review the
21 effectiveness of this Chapter to include total taxes collected under this
22 Chapter.

23 (b) Recommendations for any necessary amendments to improve the
24 Act shall be included in the annual report for each calendar year, which shall
25 be submitted to *I Liheslatura* and *I Maga'hågan/Maga'låhen Guåhan* one
26 hundred eighty (180) days after the end of the calendar year.”

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

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