








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
324-38 (LS)	Telo T. Taitague Shelly V. Calvo Therese M. Terlaje Tina Rose Muña-Barnes V. Anthony Ada Chris Barnett Joe S. San Agustin	AN ACT TO AMEND § 161.90 (a) OF CHAPTER 161, TITLE 8, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO AUTHORIZING THE CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION COMMISSION TO CONSIDER LATE APPLICATIONS UPON A SHOWING OF GOOD CAUSE	5/20/26 1:29 p.m.						

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

Bill No. 324-38 (LS)

Introduced by:

Telo T. Taitague 
Shelly V. Calvo 
Therese M. Terlaje 
Tina Rose Muña-Barnes 
V. Anthony Ada 
Chris Barnett 
Joe S. San Agustin 

**AN ACT TO *AMEND* § 161.90 (a) OF CHAPTER 161,
TITLE 8, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO
AUTHORIZING THE CRIMINAL INJURIES
COMPENSATION COMMISSION TO CONSIDER LATE
APPLICATIONS UPON A SHOWING OF GOOD CAUSE.**

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

2 **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslatuan Guåhan* finds the
3 nation's commitment to supporting victims of crime includes the Victims of Crime
4 Act of 1984 (VOCA) [28 CFR Chapter 1 Department of Justice, Subpart B,
5 §94.115]. The core intent of VOCA is to provide limited financial support for
6 victims of violent crime, and to ensure they are treated with dignity and fairness.

7 *I Liheslatuan Guåhan* further finds that our commitment to supporting victims of
8 crime includes the Criminal Injuries Compensation Commission (CICC), created by 8
9 GCA Ch. 161. The CICC is directed to review applications from victims of violent crimes

1 (8 GCA Ch. §161.55) and award compensation based on statutory parameters. *I*
2 *Liheslatura* finds in the immediate aftermath of a violent crime, victims and survivors may
3 not know about compensation or may not have the emotional capacity to go through an
4 arduous application process. The process of applying for compensation can be exhausting,
5 retraumatizing, and an emotional hardship for victims and survivors. Guam’s
6 compensation statute of limitation requires that an application to be filed within 18 months
7 of injury or death. It was copied from Hawaii’s compensation statute of 1967. Hawaii
8 amended its statute of limitation to allow for a good cause exception with these words
9 “provided that upon a showing of good cause, the commission may consider applications
10 filed beyond this time period.” The majority of states provide for similar good cause
11 exceptions to the rigidity of statute of limitations. A “good cause” exception allows a state
12 or territory’s criminal injuries compensation program to consider applications with equity
13 and fairness. *I Liheslatuan Guåhan* seeks to accomplish such intent.

14 **Section 2.** § 161.90 (a) of Chapter 161, Title 8, Guam Code Annotated is
15 amended, to read:

16 “(a) No order for the payment of compensation shall be made under this
17 Chapter unless the application has been made within eighteen (18) months after the
18 date of injury, death or property damage, provided that upon a showing of good
19 cause, the commission may consider applications filed beyond this time period.
20 Good cause may include, but is not limited to, physical or mental incapacity,

- 1 trauma resulting from the offense, fear of retaliation, hospitalization, inability to
- 2 obtain necessary documentation, or other extraordinary circumstances beyond the
- 3 applicant's control."