

*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
122-38 (COR)	Therese M. Terlaje	AN ACT RELATIVE TO GRANTING PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY TO PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS AND INCLUDING PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS ON THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS, AND TO ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS AND CODE OF ETHICS FOR PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS BY <i>ADDING</i> A NEW (10) AND (11) OF §12215 AND <i>AMENDING</i> (7) TO §12202(a), (7) AND (8) TO 12202(b), §12203(a) (1) TO (4), AND §121609, ALL OF CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.	4/18/25 9:23 a.m.						Exhibits A and B

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

**Bill No. 122-38 (COR)**

Introduced by:

Therese M. Terlaje *TMT*

**AN ACT RELATIVE TO GRANTING PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY TO PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS AND INCLUDING PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS ON THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS, AND TO ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS AND CODE OF ETHICS FOR PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS BY ADDING A NEW (10) AND (11) OF §12215 AND AMENDING (7) TO §12202(a), (7) AND (8) TO 12202(b), §12203(a) (1) TO (4), AND §121609, ALL OF CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.**

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

2 **Section 1. Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that the  
3 Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners was established to regulate and oversee the  
4 licensure of a wide range of allied health professionals, including acupuncture and  
5 oriental medicine, audiology, chiropractic, clinical psychology, counseling,  
6 marriage and family therapy, dietetics and nutrition, occupational therapy, physical  
7 therapy, speech-language pathology, respiratory therapy, veterinary medicine,  
8 podiatry and physician assistant.

9 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that the Guam Board of Medical Examiners  
10 oversees the licensure and regulation of physicians, including medical doctors  
11 (MDs) and doctors of osteopathy (DOs). Its primary responsibility is ensuring the

1 competence and professional conduct of medical practitioners engaged in direct  
2 patient care, diagnosis, treatment, surgery, and prescribing authority. The Board’s  
3 focus is on maintaining the highest medical standards to protect public health and  
4 safety

5 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that physician assistants, who play an integral  
6 role in delivering medical care, are currently licensed and regulated by the Guam  
7 Board of Allied Health Examiners. However, their practice requires supervision by  
8 a licensed physician, and their supervision agreements must also be approved by the  
9 Guam Board of Medical Examiners. This dual oversight structure does not align with  
10 national regulatory best practices, where physician assistants are typically regulated  
11 by the same medical board that oversees their supervising physicians.

12 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that transferring the licensing and  
13 regulation of physician assistants to the Guam Board of Medical Examiners will  
14 create a more effective and streamlined regulatory framework. This transfer will  
15 ensure that physician assistants are subject to the same medical standards and  
16 oversight as their supervising physicians, eliminating unnecessary administrative  
17 complexities and reinforcing patient safety.

18 Therefore, it is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to transfer the licensure,  
19 regulation, and oversight of physician assistants from the Guam Board of Allied  
20 Health Examiners to the Guam Board of Medical Examiners. This change will  
21 enhance regulatory efficiency, align with national best practices, and strengthen  
22 Guam’s healthcare system by ensuring physician assistants operate under a board  
23 that specializes in medical practice.

24 **Section 2.** §12101(r) of Title 10, Chapter 12, Guam Code Annotated is hereby  
25 *amended* to read:

26 “(r) Physician Assistants means a skilled individual nationally certified by  
27 examination, administered by the National Certifying Commission for Physician

1 Assistants, as being qualified by practical and academic training to provide a specific  
2 medical service delegated to him or her by a licensed physician or group of  
3 physicians who is responsible for the performance of that physician assistant.  
4 Licensure requirements, ~~and scope of practice,~~ and procedures ~~of governing the~~  
5 practice for such individuals are to be promulgated by the Guam Board of Allied  
6 ~~Health Professionals~~ Medical Examiners.”

7 **Section 3.** Subsection (7) of § 12202(a) of Article 2 Chapter 12 Title 10 Guam  
8 Code Annotated is amended to read as follows:

9 “(7) using the designation Doctor, Doctor of Medicine, Doctor of Osteopathy,  
10 Physician, Surgeon, Physician and Surgeon, Physician Assistant, Dr., M.D., D.O.,  
11 P.A., or any combination thereof in the conduct of any occupation or profession  
12 pertaining to the prevention, diagnosis or treatment of human disease or condition,  
13 unless such a designation additionally contains the description of another branch of  
14 the healing arts for which one holds a valid license in the jurisdiction.”

15 **Section 4.** Subsections (7) and (8) of § 12202(b) of Article 2 Chapter 12 Title  
16 10 Guam Code Annotated are hereby amended to read:

17 “(7) those fully licensed to practice medicine, or as a physician assistant in  
18 another jurisdiction of the United States who briefly render emergency medical  
19 treatment or briefly provide critical medical service at the specific lawful direction  
20 of a medical institution or Federal agency that assumes full responsibility for that  
21 treatment or service and is approved by the state medical board.

22 (8) A licensed physician or physician assistant who resides outside of Guam  
23 within a State, Federal jurisdiction or country is not subject to Guam medical  
24 licensure requirements where said licensed physician is providing consultation to a  
25 Guam licensed physician through the use of telemedicine technology if:

26 (A) the non-resident licensed consulting physician or physician assistant  
27 operates no clinical practice or office on Guam;

1 (B) the non-resident licensed consulting physician or physician assistant does  
2 not render any final written or otherwise documented final medical opinion  
3 concerning the diagnosis or treatment of a patient on Guam directly to the patient;  
4 and

5 (C) the non-resident licensed consulting physician or physician assistant does  
6 not render any treatment to any patient on Guam.

7 (D) The non-resident licensed consulting physician or physician assistant may  
8 render care and provide final diagnostic and treatment decisions without an active  
9 Guam license if the consultant is to act as a receiving physician, podiatrist, or  
10 physician assistant for the patient in the consultant’s jurisdiction.

11 (E) The non-resident licensed consulting physician or physician assistant may  
12 render care and provide diagnostic and treatment recommendations without an active  
13 Guam license if the consulting physician or physician assistant acts jointly and  
14 directly with the local attending physician or physician assistant of the patient who  
15 is the subject of the consultation.

16 (F) The non-resident licensed consulting physician or physician assistant  
17 rendering consultation shall abide by all local and federal laws with regard to patient  
18 confidentiality.”

19 **Section 5.** Subsection (a) and subsections (a)(1)-(4) of § 12203 of Article 2  
20 Chapter 12 Title 10, Guam Code Annotated are amended to read as follows:

21 “(a) There is established, in and for the government of Guam, a Guam Board  
22 of Medical Examiners (~~BOARD~~) (Board) composed of ~~seven (7)~~ nine (9) members  
23 who shall be nominated and appointed by *I Maga’lahen Guåhan*, with the advice  
24 and consent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*.

25 (1) At least six (6) of the ~~seven (7)~~ nine (9) members shall be physicians,  
26 Doctors of osteopathy, or surgeons licensed in Guam, one (1) shall be a physician  
27 assistant licensed in Guam and one(1) shall be a podiatrist licensed in Guam. The

1 members of the Board who are licensed healthcare providers shall be persons of  
2 recognized professional ability and integrity, and shall have practiced in Guam for  
3 at least five (5) consecutive years immediately preceding the appointment.

4 (2) All members of the Board shall be citizens or permanent residents of the  
5 United States who have resided in Guam for at least five (5) consecutive years  
6 immediately preceding the appointment.

7 (3) One (1) of the physician board members shall be the Medical Director of  
8 the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority (GMHA); who meets the above criteria  
9 otherwise.

10 (4) Provided that the initial members appointed under this Article,  
11 appointments shall be made so that three (3) members of the Board, sitting or newly  
12 appointed, shall serve for two (2) years, and four (4) members, sitting newly  
13 appointed shall serve for a term of four (4) years, until a successor is appointed and  
14 qualified.”

15 **Section 6.** § 121609 of Article 16 Chapter 12, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated  
16 is hereby *amended*, to read as follows:

17 **“§121609. Prescriptive Authority for Physician Assistants.**

18 ~~A physician assistant may administer, prescribe and dispense any~~  
19 ~~licensed drug in accordance with 12 GCA §12827 and in accordance to any~~  
20 ~~other rules and regulation established by the Board.~~

21 (a) A physician assistant may be authorized by the Board of Medical Examiners to  
22 administer, prescribe, and dispense any licensed drug or class of drugs as a delegated  
23 authority of the physician assistant’s Collaborative Practice Agreement (“CPA”)  
24 with a Guam licensed physician.

25 (b) To be licensed in Guam a physician assistant:

1                   (1) shall be graduates of a program accredited by the Commission  
2                   on Accreditation of Allied Health Programs (CAAHP) or its  
3                   successor organization;

4                   (2) Have passed a proficiency examination developed by the  
5                   National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants  
6                   NCCPA) or its successor; and

7                   (3) Hold a current certificate issued by the NCCPA.

8                   (c) To qualify for prescriptive authority, a physician assistant must have all  
9                   of the following:

10                   (1) a valid Federal Drug Enforcement Administration (“DEA”)  
11                   certification;

12                   (2) a current Guam Control Substance Registration (CSR) from  
13                   Department of Public Health and Social Services; and

14                   (3) a Collaborative Practice Agreement (CPA) approved by the  
15                   Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Pharmacy.

16                   (d) “Collaborative Practice Agreement” or ‘CPA” means an agreement by  
17                   and between a physician assistant and a Guam licensed physician  
18                   (supervising physician) detailing the physician assistant’s authorized scope  
19                   of practice or area of specialty, wherein the parties to such an agreement  
20                   mutually agree, in writing, to the terms and conditions of the physician  
21                   assistant’s authority to administer, prescribe, and dispense Schedule Drugs  
22                   II - V. Alternate physicians shall be identified in the event of the  
23                   unavailability of the primary physician under the CPA.

24                   (e) the physician assistant shall always have a physician available on the  
25                   premises, preferably the supervising physician signing the CPA, but an  
26                   alternate physician or physicians may be designated in the CPA to serve in  
27                   the supervising physician’s absence.

1 (f) The supervising physician and physician assistant shall submit a scope  
2 of practice; list or class of drugs the physician assistant is authorized to  
3 administer, prescribe, and dispense; and the CPA for approval by the Board  
4 of Medical Examiners and Board of Pharmacy. The physician assistant shall  
5 not include any drug on the list that he or she is not competent to prescribe  
6 by education, training, and experience, nor shall the physician assistant  
7 administer, order, or prescribe drugs that are not routinely administered  
8 within the physician assistant's scope of practice. The Board of Medical  
9 Examiners is authorized to amend the list of drugs.

10 (g) In the discretion of either the board of Medical Examiners or Board of  
11 Pharmacy, the physician assistant and supervising physician may be  
12 requested to appear and provide additional information or documentation in  
13 aid of the board's evaluation of the applicant's qualifications for  
14 prescriptive authority.

15 (h) Modification to any of the terms of the CPA including the identity of  
16 the supervising physician shall be immediately reported to the boards for  
17 their consideration and subject to both board's approval at the boards' next  
18 available board meetings.

19 (i) The physician assistant's prescriptive authority shall be automatically  
20 suspended or revoked for an invalid, suspended, or revoked Guam CSR or  
21 federal DEA registration, and may be revoked for any violation of this Act  
22 or the Board's rules and regulations.

23 (j) Prescriptive Authority shall be renewed at the time of licensure renewal."

24 **Section 7.** Transfer of Jurisdiction with Respect to the Licensing of Physician  
25 Assistants from the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners to the Guam Board of  
26 Medical Examiners.



1 (a) Jurisdiction with respect to the licensure and practice of physician  
2 assistants presently located in Article 16 of Chapter 12, Title 10, Guam Code  
3 Annotated is transferred from the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners to the  
4 Guam Board of Medical Examiners to be placed in Article 2 Chapter 12 Title 10,  
5 Guam Code Annotated, to be codified as determined by the Compiler of Laws as  
6 authorized by 1GCA § 1606.

7 (b) Subsections 12802(a) (8) of Article 8 Chapter 12 Title 10, Guam Code  
8 Annotated, is transferred as new subsections (8) to § 12202 of Article 2, Chapter 12  
9 Title 10, Guam Code Annotated and the remaining subsections of § 12802(a)  
10 renumbered as determined by the Compiler of Laws as authorized by 1 GCA § 1606.

11 (c) All Guam statutes and administrative rules and regulations not specifically  
12 identified or mentioned in this enactment which refer to the jurisdiction and authority  
13 of the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners over the licensure, practice, and  
14 discipline of physician assistants are amended to reflect the transfer of jurisdiction  
15 from the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners to the Guam Board of Medical  
16 Examiners, which shall henceforward perform all functions with respect to licensure,  
17 discipline, rulemaking concerning these two professions formerly performed by the  
18 Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners.

19 **Section 9.** New subsections (10) and (11) are hereby added to § 12215(a)  
20 within Article 2 Chapter 12 of Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, or to be placed as  
21 the Compiler of Laws may determine as provided by 1 GCA § 1606, to read as  
22 follows:

23 “(10) Physician Assistants shall be required to earn fifty (50) credit hours of  
24 continuing education, or as may be otherwise established by law or rules and  
25 regulations adopted by the Board of Medical Examiners in accordance with the  
26 Administrative Adjudication Law. At least twenty (20) of these credit hours must be  
27 in the licensee’s specific area of practice.

1           (11) The Board is authorized to prorate the continuing education credit hours  
2 requirement for licenses issued less than two (2) years prior to the renewal period.”

3           **Section 9. Repeal of Administrative Rules and Regulations.** All references  
4 to the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners found within any rules and  
5 regulations presently located at Title 25 Guam Administrative Rules and Regulations  
6 Chapter 10 of the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners administrative rules  
7 governing the licensure, practice, and supervision of physician assistants, are  
8 repealed.

9           **Section 10. Approval of Administrative Rules and Regulations.** The Guam  
10 Board of Medical Examiners Administrative Rules and Regulations governing the  
11 licensure and practice of physician assistants, attached hereto as Exhibit A, are  
12 approved. GBME may repeal, amend, or add these rules pursuant to AAL.

13           **Section 11. Codes of Professional Conduct and Ethics.** The Guam Board  
14 of Medical Examiners Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Physician  
15 Assistants, attached hereto as Exhibit B, is approved. GBME may repeal, amend, or  
16 add to these rules pursuant to 5 GCA Chapter 9 Administrative Adjudication Law  
17 (AAL).

18           **Section 12. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or its application to any  
19 person or circumstance is found to be invalid or contrary to law, such invalidity shall  
20 not affect other provisions or applications of this Act which can be given effect  
21 without the invalid provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
22 Act are severable.

23           **Section 13. Effective Date.** This Act shall become immediately effective  
24 upon its enactment.

# **EXHIBIT A**

## **Guam Board of Medical Examiners**

### **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**for**

### **Physician Assistants**

Health Professional Licensing Office  
Department of Public Health & Social Services  
194 Hernan Cortez Avenue, Suite 213  
Hagåtña, Guam 96910  
Tel: (671) 735-740

§ \_\_\_\_\_ **RULES APPLICABLE TO PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS**

§ \_\_\_\_\_. **Definitions – Physician Assistant**

(a) *Physician Assistant* means a Board licensed person, qualified by academic and practical training, who provides patient services under the direct supervision of a licensed physician. A physician assistant is not an independent practitioner. A physician assistant may provide any medical services delegated to him/her by a supervising physician or group of physicians when such services are within his/her skills, form a usual component of the physician's scope of practice, and are provided under the supervision of a supervising physician.

(b) *Board* means the Guam Board of Medical Examiners.

(c) *Direct Supervision of a Physician Assistant* means providing guidance of the services performed by the physician assistant. Supervision shall be continuous but shall not necessarily require the physical presence of the supervising physician at the time and place where the services are performed. The supervising physician must be available continuously for contact personally or by telephone or other electronic means.

(d) *Licensed Physician* means a physician currently licensed to practice medicine in Guam.

(e) *Supervising Physician* means a licensed physician who is registered by the Board to supervise a specific physician assistant.

§ \_\_\_\_\_. **Requirements for Licensure.**

(a) Licensed physician assistants must be graduates of a program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Programs (CAAHP) or its successor organization;

(b) Have passed a proficiency examination developed by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) or its successor; and

(c) Hold a current certificate issued by the NCCPA. If an applicant does not hold a current certificate issued by the NCCPA and has not actively practiced as a physician assistant within the immediately

preceding 4 years, the applicant must retake and successfully complete the entry-level examination of the NCCPA.

**§ \_\_\_\_\_. RENEWAL OF LICENSE – PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS**

(a) Licenses expire biennially on December 31st of even numbered years and may be renewed upon payment of a renewal fee and proof of completion of continuing education requirements as stated in these rules and regulations. The Board staff shall, no later than September 1st of each even-numbered year, mail a notice of renewal along with a renewal form to the licensee’s latest address on file with the Board. Failure of the Board staff to send renewal notices and forms does not excuse the licensee from failing to file the forms, documentation, and fees required to renew their license. A new certificate or other evidence of current licensure may be mailed to all persons completing renewal requirements as stated herein.

(b) An individual licensed on or after October 1 of the renewal year is not required to renew or provide proof of continuing education until the following renewal term.

(c) In addition to payment of required fees and proof of continuing education, additional documentation is required of the following allied health professionals:

- (1) *Physician Assistants* must, at the time of license renewal, present evidence of current certification by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants, or its successor. Failure to maintain current certification by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants or its successor shall result in the automatic suspension of the Physician Assistant’s license.
- (2) *Physician Assistants* must, at the time of license renewal, provide proof or otherwise certify that they possess a current certificate in basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation (“CPR”) or Basic Life Support (“BLS”). Failure to maintain current CPR or BLS certification shall result in the automatic suspension of the Physician Assistant license.

**§ \_\_\_\_\_. Registration of Physician Assistants Supervision.**

(a) Prior to practicing on Guam, a licensed physician assistant shall present for approval of the Board a completed application as designated by the Board. The supervising physician shall specify the specialty areas in which the physician assistant shall provide services. Proposed changes of supervision registration must be approved by the Board. Not more than two currently licensed physician assistants may be supervised by a licensed physician.

(b) If no registered supervising physician is available to supervise the physician assistant, the physician assistant must not perform patient care activities.

**§ \_\_\_\_\_. Identification.**

(a) While working, the physician assistant shall wear or display appropriate identification, clearly indicating that he or she is a physician assistant. The physician assistant's license must be displayed in the office and any satellite operation in which he may function. A physician assistant may not advertise himself/herself in a manner that would mislead the patients of the supervising physician or the public.

(b) Any person not approved as required by these rules and regulations who holds himself or herself out as a physician assistant, or uses any other term to indicate or imply that he or she is a physician assistant, or acts as a physician assistant without having obtained the approval of the Board, is subject to penalties applicable to the unlicensed practice of medicine.

(c) The Board shall administer the provisions of this Act and enforce them with the aid of the Attorney General's Office.

**§ \_\_\_\_\_. Scope of Practice.**

(a) A physician assistant may provide any medical services delegated to him/her by a supervising physician or group of physicians when such services are within his/her skills, form a usual component of the physician's scope of practice, and are provided under the direct supervision of a supervising physician.

(b) Physician assistants with privileges or employed by a hospital or skilled nursing facility may, if permissible under the by-laws and rules

and regulations of such facility, write medical orders, including medications, tests, and treatments, for inpatients under the care of the supervising physician. In every case, such medical orders must be countersigned by the supervising physician or confirmed by telephone within twenty-four (24) hours.

(c) Licensed physician assistants shall not perform work in a medical specialty area in which they have not been trained or in which their supervising physician is not qualified.

(d) If no registered supervising physician is available to supervise the physician assistant, the physician assistant must not perform patient care activities.

**§ \_\_\_\_\_. Supervision Required.**

(a) Tasks performed by the physician assistant must be under the direct supervision of a licensed physician, registered by this Board to be the supervising physician.

(b) The Board shall keep a current register of licensed physician assistants and their supervising physicians; this register shall be available for public inspection.

(c) The supervising physician (or group of physicians) must provide written guidelines readily available at each site at which the physician assistant is practicing covering medical conditions commonly encountered and diagnostic and treatment protocols.

(d) All medical records must be reviewed and co-signed by the approved supervising physician within seven days.

(e) In the event of any changes of supervising physician, the names of the supervising physicians must be provided to the above boards. The Board must be notified at least ten (10) days prior to the effective date of change. Practicing without a supervising physician shall be grounds for disciplinary action, including revocation of license.

**§ \_\_\_\_\_. Prescriptive Authority.**

A physician assistant may administer, prescribe, and dispense any licensed drug other than Scheduled II-III drugs as provided by law.

# EXHIBIT B

## CODES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT & ETHICS

Health Professional Licensing Office  
Department of Public Health & Social Services  
194 Hernan Cortez Avenue, Suite 213  
Hagåtña, Guam 96910  
Tel: (671) 735-7405



**§ \_\_\_\_\_. CODES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT & ETHICS**

**(a) DOCTORS OF MEDICINE; DOCTORS OF OSTEOPATHY. [RESERVED]**

**(b) PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS.** The Codes of Professional Conduct for Physician Assistants licensed by the Board shall be the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) Code of Conduct for Certified and Certifying Physician Assistants (PAs) and PAs with the PA-C Emeritus Designation (last revised November 2019), to include the NCCPA Policies and Procedures for PA Disciplinary Matters (last revised August 2019) as adopted as of the effective dates of these rules, and any revisions made hereafter thereto; and the Guidelines for Ethical Conduct for the Physician Assistant Profession (2013) as adopted as of the effective dates of these rules, and any revisions made hereafter thereto. These Rules shall be known as the Codes of Professional Conduct for Physician Assistants and by reference thereto shall have the full force and effect of a regulation of the Board. In the event of a conflict between the Codes of Professional Conduct for Physician Assistants and any statute enacted by the Guam Legislature or any rule promulgated by this Board the more recent in time statute or rule shall control.

**(c) PODIATRY.** The Code of Professional Conduct for Podiatrists licensed by the Board shall be the American Podiatric Medical Association – Code of Ethics (2013) as adopted as of the effective dates of these rules, and any revisions made hereafter thereto. These Rules shall be known as the Code of Professional Conduct for Podiatrist and by reference thereto shall have the full force and effect of a regulation of the Board. In the event of a conflict between the Code of Professional Conduct for Podiatrist and any statute enacted by the Guam Legislature or any rule promulgated by this Board the more recent in time statute or rule shall control.