








*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
199-38 (COR)	Vincent A. V. Borja Shelly V. Calvo Sabrina Salas Matanane Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao V. Anthony Ada Tina Rose Muña Barnes Frank F. Blas, Jr.	AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §27027 TO CHAPTER 27, TITLE 17, OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO ADDING A LIFETIME TEACHING CERTIFICATE FOR EXPERIENCED EDUCATORS ON GUAM.	10/9/25 11:40 a.m.						

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

**Bill No. 199-38(COR)**

Introduced by:

Vincent A. V. Borja   
Shelly V. Calvo   
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Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao   
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**AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §27027 TO CHAPTER 27,  
TITLE 17, OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED  
RELATIVE TO ADDING A LIFETIME TEACHING  
CERTIFICATE FOR EXPERIENCED EDUCATORS ON  
GUAM.**

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

2 **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that  
3 the dedication and long-term service of educators are crucial to the development and  
4 strength of Guam's education system. Recognizing the contributions of teachers  
5 with extensive experience promotes professional excellence, retains seasoned  
6 educators, and encourages ongoing commitment to teaching. Many states and  
7 jurisdictions have adopted lifetime or permanent certification options to honor  
8 veteran educators who have demonstrated sustained dedication and expertise.

9 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that in Guam, some teachers retire and  
10 then let their certification lapse after 40 years of service, which can discourage them  
11 from returning to the profession. The process of re-certification can be complex and

1 burdensome, deterring many experienced educators from rejoining the workforce  
2 even if they are interested.

3 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that Guam Federation of Teachers (GFT)  
4 President Tim Fedenko’s testimony on April 21, 2025, highlighted that efforts to  
5 bring teachers back require strategies that recognize their service and make re-entry  
6 easier. One effective approach used by other states is reinstating a lifetime certificate  
7 for teachers who have achieved, for example, 25 years of dedicated service. This not  
8 only honors long-standing educators but also provides a pathway for those close to  
9 retirement or interested in continued service to remain or return to the classroom.

10 Therefore, it is the purpose of this legislation to establish a lifetime  
11 certification for qualified teachers, serving as a token of appreciation, reducing  
12 administrative barriers, and helping to retain experienced educators within Guam’s  
13 schools.

14 **Section 2.** A new §27027 of Chapter 27, Title 17 Guam Code Annotated, to  
15 read as follows:

16 **§27027 Lifetime Teacher Certification Requirements**

17 (a) Minimum Qualifications. An individual shall be eligible for a Lifetime  
18 Teacher Certification upon meeting the following requirements:

19 (1) Accumulation of at least twenty-five (25) years of verified,  
20 continuous, and satisfactory teaching experience in a recognized educational  
21 institution in Guam;

22 (2) Possession of a valid and current certification in the relevant subject  
23 area or grade level; and

24 (3) Completion of any required professional development or activities  
25 as prescribed by the Guam Commission for Educator Certification (GCEC)  
26 prior to issuance.

27 (b) Issuance of Lifetime Certificate.

1           (1) Upon verification of eligibility, the Guam Commission for Educator  
2           Certification (GCEC) shall issue a Lifetime Teacher Certification to the  
3           qualified educator. The certification shall:

4                   (A) Be valid for the educator’s lifetime and shall not require  
5                   renewal; and

6                   (B) Be subject to the following conditions:

7                           (i) Lifetime Certificate holders shall report to the GCEC  
8                           every five (5) years to declare their intent to continue teaching  
9                           and disclose any background check issues that may disqualify  
10                           them from holding a valid license; and

11                           (ii) Submission of a satisfactory evaluation every five (5)  
12                           years.

13                           (iii) Required to participate in their school or district  
14                           professional development

15                           (iv) Active participation in the Guam Teacher Evaluation  
16                           Program (GTEP), including completion of all Guam Department  
17                           of Education requirements for maintaining professional  
18                           standards, such as annual evaluations, training sessions,  
19                           professional growth planning, and fulfillment of student outcome  
20                           assessments.

21           (2) The Lifetime Teacher Certification may be revoked if the holder is  
22           found to have violated the professional code of conduct or code of ethics, or  
23           if character assessments indicate disqualifying violations.

24           **Section 3. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or its application to any  
25 person or circumstance is found to be invalid or contrary to law, such invalidity shall  
26 not affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be given effect without

1 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are  
2 severable.

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