

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
146-38 (COR)	V. Anthony Ada Christopher M. Dueñas	AN ACT TO <i>ADD</i> A NEW § 5117.3 TO CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO GRANTING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MAYORS COUNCIL OF GUAM PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY FOR PROCUREMENT GOODS AND SERVICES THAT DO NOT EXCEED A VALUE OF FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000).	5/23/25 2:17 p.m.	6/2/25	Committee on Finance and Government Operations.	Request: 6/2/25 6/4/25	6/25/25 2:00 p.m.	9/19/25	



Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas
CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

September 19, 2025

The Honorable Frank F. Blas Jr.
Speaker, *I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan*
163 W. Chalan Santo Papa
Hågatña, Guam 96910

Via Honorable Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada 
Chairman, Committee on Rules

RE: Committee Report on Bill No. 146-38 (COR) As INTRODUCED

Buenas yan Håfa Adai Speaker,

Transmitted herewith is the Committee Report on Bill No. 146-38 (COR) - An Act To Add A New § 5117.3 To Chapter 5, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated Relative To Granting The Executive Director Of The Mayors Council Of Guam Procurement Authority For Procurement Goods And Services That Do Not Exceed A Value Of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000).

Committee votes are as follows:

<u>6</u>	TO DO PASS
<u> </u>	TO NOT PASS
<u>1</u>	TO REPORT OUT ONLY
<u> </u>	TO ABSTAIN
<u> </u>	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE



COMMITTEE ON RULES

RECEIVED:

September 19, 2025 8:15 a.m.
Marie Crisostomo

Senseremente,



Senator Christopher M. Dueñas
Chairman, Committee on Finance and Government Operations

OFFICE OF SENATOR CHRISTOPHER M. DUEÑAS

259 MARTYR STREET, HAGATNA GUAM 96910 | TEL: 671-989-9554 | SENATOR.DUEÑAS@GUAMLLEGISLATURE.GOV

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Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas
CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

COMMITTEE REPORT

BILL NO. 146-38 (COR)

INTRODUCED BY:

Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada

Senator Christopher M. Dueñas

AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 5117.3 TO CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO GRANTING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MAYORS COUNCIL OF GUAM PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY FOR PROCUREMENT GOODS AND SERVICES THAT DO NOT EXCEED A VALUE OF FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000).



Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas
CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

September 16, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: All Members
Committee on Finance and Government Operations

From: Senator Christopher M. Dueñas
Chairperson, Finance and Government Operations

Subject: Committee Report on Bill No. 146-38 (COR)

Transmitted herewith for your consideration is the Committee Report on **Bill No. 146-38 (COR)**- "An Act To Add A New § 5117.3 To Chapter 5, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated Relative To Granting The Executive Director Of The Mayors Council Of Guam Procurement Authority For Procurement Goods And Services That Do Not Exceed A Value Of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000)."

This report includes the following:

- Copy of COR Referral of Bill No. 146-38 (COR)
- Notices of Public Hearing
- Copy of the Public Hearing Agenda
- Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet
- Copies of Submitted Written Testimony
- Committee Vote Sheet
- Committee Report Digest
- Copy of Bill No. 146-38 (COR), As Introduced
- Fiscal Note/Fiscal Note Waiver

Please take the appropriate action on the attached vote sheet. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

Senator Christopher M. Dueñas
Chairperson, Committee on Finance and Government Operations



COMMITTEE ON RULES

Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada, Chairperson
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
38th Guam Legislature

June 2, 2025

To: **Rennae V. C. Meno**
Clerk of the Legislature

Attorney Darleen Hiton
Legislative Legal Counsel

From: **Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada** 
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Subject: **Referral of Bill No. 146-38 (COR)**

Håfa Adai,

As per my authority as Chairperson of the Committee on Rules and subject to 6.01(d)(1), Rule VI of our Standing Rules, I am forwarding the referral of **Bill No. 146-38 (COR)** –V. Anthony Ada, Christopher M. Dueñas. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 5117.3 TO CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO GRANTING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MAYORS COUNCIL OF GUAM PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY FOR PROCUREMENT GOODS AND SERVICES THAT DO NOT EXCEED A VALUE OF FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000).”

Please ensure that the subject bill is referred to the Committee on Finance and Government Operations chaired by Senator Christopher M. Dueñas. I also request that the same be copied to the Prime Sponsor of the subject bill and to Management Information Services (MIS) for posting on our website.

A copy of the bill is available on our legislative website.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Kamarin Nelson, Committee on Rules Director at 671-472-2461.





Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>

FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing on June 25, 2025

2 messages

Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>
To: phnotice@guamlegislature.gov

Wed, Jun 18, 2025 at 8:00 AM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 18, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, and Media

From: Senator Christopher M. Dueñas
Chairman, Committee on Finance and Government Operations

Re: FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing on June 25, 2025

The Committee on Finance and Government Operations will conduct a public hearing **Wednesday, June 25, 2025**, beginning at **2:00 pm** at the Public Hearing Room in the Guam Congress Building. The agenda is as follows:

- **Bill No. 146-38** V. Anthony Ada / Christopher M. Dueñas - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 5117.3 TO CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO GRANTING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MAYORS COUNCIL OF GUAM PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY FOR PROCUREMENT GOODS AND SERVICES THAT DO NOT EXCEED A VALUE OF FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000).
- **Bill No. 134-38** William A. Parkinson - AN ACT TO AMEND § 5213 OF CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE SMALL PURCHASE THRESHOLD.

If you would like to participate in the Public Hearing listed above or submit written testimony, please contact the Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas for further assistance via email at senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov or by phone at (671) 989-9554.

In compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), all government activities, programs, and services are accessible to individuals with disabilities. *If you or anyone you know requires assistance or special accommodations to participate in the public hearing, please contact the Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas at the contact information provided above.*

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--



Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas

Chairman, Committee on Government Finance and Operations

259 Martyr St., Hagatna, Guam 96910

senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov

(671) 989-9554

2 attachments



senator-duenas-headshot.jpg

70K



1st Notice PH 6.25.25.pdf

370K

Ed Pocaigue <sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov>

Wed, Jun 18, 2025 at 8:14 AM

To: Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>

Hafa Adai,

Posted on calendar.

[Quoted text hidden]

--



Edward S. Pocaigue, Jr.

Sergeant-at-Arms

I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Guam Congress Building, 1st Floor

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910



1-671-969-3514



sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov

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Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas

CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 18, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, and Media

From: Senator Christopher M. Dueñas
Chairman, Committee on Finance and Government Operations

Re: FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing on June 25, 2025

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This ad was paid with funds by the Committee of Finance and Government Operations.

OFFICE OF SENATOR CHRISTOPHER M. DUEÑAS

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FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing on June 25, 2025

 PRINT

**FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing on June 25,
2025**

PUBLIC HEARING



 **Posted on:** 06/18/2025 08:23 AM

 **Posted by:** Ashley Shinohara

 **Public Hearing Date:** 06/25/2025 02:00 PM

 **Department(s):**
GUAM LEGISLATURE (/notices?department_id=92)

 **Division(s):**
OFFICE OF SENATOR CHRISTOPHER M. DUENAS (/notices?
division_id=267)

 **Notice Topic(s):** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?topic_id=74)

 **Types of Notice:** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?type_id=7)

 **For Audience(s):** PUBLIC (/notices?public=1)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 18, 2025

MEMORANDUM**To: All Senators, Stakeholders, and Media****From: Senator Christopher M. Dueñas
Chairman, Committee on Finance and Government
Operations****Re: FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing on June 25, 2025**

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- **Bill No. 146-38**
([http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20146-38%20\(COR\).pdf](http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20146-38%20(COR).pdf)) – V. Anthony Ada / Christopher M. Dueñas - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 5117.3 TO CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO GRANTING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MAYORS COUNCIL OF GUAM PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY FOR PROCUREMENT GOODS AND SERVICES THAT DO NOT EXCEED A VALUE OF FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000).
- **Bill No. 134-38**
([http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20134-38%20\(COR\).pdf](http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20134-38%20(COR).pdf)) – William A. Parkinson - AN ACT TO AMEND § 5213 OF CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE SMALL PURCHASE THRESHOLD.

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([@guamlegislaturemedia](#)
(<https://www.youtube.com/@GuamLegislatureMedia>)).

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P.O BOX 368
HAGATNA, GUAM 96932 U.S

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OFFICE OF SENATOR CHRISTOPHER M. DUENAS
38TH GUAM LEGISLATURE
CALVO ARRIOLA BLDG. STE. 101-B
259 MARTYR STREET
HAGATNA, GUAM 96910

Purchase Order Number: **2538PO174**
Est. Number:
Co-Op:
Description:
Salesperson: San Agustin, Christie

Date	Day	Length		Qty	Rate	Total
06/26/2025	THU		KUAM TV PUBLIC HEARING – JUNE 25, 2025 FIRST NOTICE - AIR DATE: 06/18/25 1x :15 SECOND AD 1x :15 SECOND AD (KUAM MATCH) SECOND NOTICE - AIRDATE: 06/23/25 1x :15 SECOND AD 1x :15 SECOND AD (KUAM MATCH)			\$200.00

PAYMENT DUE UPON RECEIPT OF INVOICE.

Quantity	4	Total	\$200.00
Total Due			\$200.00

INVOICE



SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing on June 25, 2025

Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>

Mon, Jun 23, 2025 at 8:00 AM

To: phnotice@guamlegislature.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 23, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, and Media

From: Senator Christopher M. Dueñas
Chairman, Committee on Finance and Government Operations

Re: SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing on June 25, 2025

The Committee on Finance and Government Operations will conduct a public hearing **Wednesday, June 25, 2025**, beginning at **2:00 pm** at the Public Hearing Room in the Guam Congress Building. The agenda is as follows:

- **Bill No. 146-38** – V. Anthony Ada / Christopher M. Dueñas - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 5117.3 TO CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO GRANTING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MAYORS COUNCIL OF GUAM PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY FOR PROCUREMENT GOODS AND SERVICES THAT DO NOT EXCEED A VALUE OF FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000).
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Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas

Chairman, Committee on Government Finance and Operations

259 Martyr St., Hagatna, Guam 96910

senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov

(671) 989-9554

2 attachments



senator-duenas-headshot.jpg

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2nd Notice PH 6.25.25.pdf

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Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas
CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 23, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, and Media

From: Senator Christopher M. Dueñas
Chairman, Committee on Finance and Government Operations

Re: SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing on June 25, 2025

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- **Bill No. 134-38** – William A. Parkinson - AN ACT TO AMEND § 5213 OF CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE SMALL PURCHASE THRESHOLD.

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Second Notice of Public Hearing on June 25, 2025

 PRINT

Second Notice of Public Hearing on June 25, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING



 **Posted on:** 06/23/2025 10:27 AM

 **Posted by:** Ashley Shinohara, Finance and Investment Analyst

 **Public Hearing Date:** 06/25/2025 02:00 PM

 **Department(s):**
GUAM LEGISLATURE (/notices?department_id=92)

 **Division(s):**
OFFICE OF SENATOR CHRISTOPHER M. DUENAS (/notices?
division_id=267)

 **Notice Topic(s):** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?topic_id=74)

 **Types of Notice:** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?type_id=7)

 **For Audience(s):** PUBLIC (/notices?public=1)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 23, 2025

MEMORANDUM**To: All Senators, Stakeholders, and Media****From: Senator Christopher M. Dueñas
Chairman, Committee on Finance and Government
Operations****Re: SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing on June 25, 2025**

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- **Bill No. 146-38**
([http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20146-38%20\(COR\).pdf](http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20146-38%20(COR).pdf)) – V. Anthony Ada / Christopher M. Dueñas - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 5117.3 TO CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO GRANTING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MAYORS COUNCIL OF GUAM PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY FOR PROCUREMENT GOODS AND SERVICES THAT DO NOT EXCEED A VALUE OF FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000).
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([http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20134-38%20\(COR\).pdf](http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20134-38%20(COR).pdf)) – William A. Parkinson - AN ACT TO AMEND § 5213 OF CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE SMALL PURCHASE THRESHOLD.

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Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas
Chairman, Committee on Government Finance and
Operations
259 Martyr St., Hagatna, Guam 96910
senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov
(<mailto:senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>)
(671) 989-9554





Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas
CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA
June 25, 2025 - Guam Congress Building

02:00PM:

- **Bill No. 146-38** – V. Anthony Ada / Christopher M. Dueñas - An Act To Add A New § 5117.3 To Chapter 5, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated Relative To Granting The Executive Director Of The Mayors Council Of Guam Procurement Authority For Procurement Goods And Services That Do Not Exceed A Value Of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000).
- **Bill No. 134-38** – William A. Parkinson - An Act To Amend § 5213 Of Chapter 5, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, Relative To Increasing The Small Purchase Threshold.

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I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guahan
Office of Senator Christopher M. Duenas
Chairman, Committee on Finance and Government Operations

Date: June 25, 2025

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Bill No. 146-38 (COR) - V. Anthony Ada - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 5117.3 TO CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO GRANTING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MAYORS COUNCIL OF GUAM PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY FOR PROCUREMENT GOODS AND SERVICES THAT DO NOT EXCEED A VALUE OF FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000).

Name	Agency / Address	Contact No.	Email	Type of Testimony		Support	
				Oral	Written	Yes	No
JOY JEAN ARCEO	MCOG, Exec. Director	671-472-6940	mcoadmin@telegram.net	✓	✓	✓	
Beatrice Cruz	MCOG	671-472-6940	beatrice.cruz@mco.guam.gov			✓	
Royelle Carter	MCOG					✓	
Jo Ann Aguero Chaparro	MCOG					✓	
Dawn Perez	MCOG	(671) 472-6940	dawn.perez@mco.guam.gov			✓	
Ronald Ridelup	MCOG					✓	
DUEÑAS, KATHLEEN	MCOG	671 472 6940				✓	
RICA GARRIDO	MCOG	11					
Graciana Botte	GSA	475-1702		✓			
Anthony Ocasio	MCOG			✓			
Richard Ocasio	MCOG			✓		✓	
Robert Hoffmann	MCOG					✓	

KATHLEEN G. UTAQUA

✓



EDWARD M. BIRN
Director (Direktot)
ELIZABETH T. FISHER
Deputy Director (Sigundo Direktot)

**DEPARTMENT OF
ADMINISTRATION**
DIPATTAMENTON ATMENESTRASION
GENERAL SERVICES AGENCY DIVISION
(*Ahension Setbision Hinirat*)
Telephone (Telifon): (671) 475-1705/1706



LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
Governor (Maga'håga)
JOSHUA F. TENORIO
Lt. Governor (Sigundo Maga'låhi)

June 25, 2025

Dear Honorable Chairman Duenas, Vice Chairman Ada, Members of the Committee, and Senators of the 38th Guam Legislature,

I am submitting this written testimony in regard to Bill 146-38, an act to add a new §5117.3 to Chapter 5, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, relative to granting the Executive Director of the Mayors' Council of Guam procurement authority for goods and services that do not exceed a value of \$500,000.

The Mayors' Council of Guam's enabling legislation, Public Law 14-27, effective May 26, 1977, establishes its procurement powers in Chapter 40, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, §40119 Community Development Fund – Procurement:

(c) The Mayors' Council of Guam is authorized under 6959.3 of the Procurement Law to procure supplies or services of less than Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) without the approval of the General Services Administration.

The Mayors' Council of Guam operates as an independent coordinating body rather than a traditional line agency. Unlike line agencies directly tasked with implementing government policies and programs, the Mayor's Council of Guam brings together the island's mayors to collaboratively represent the needs of Guam's diverse villages. This structure allows the Mayors' Council of Guam to advocate effectively for local priorities while ensuring that the unique voices of our communities are reflected in broader government decision-making. Given the scope and diversity of constituents served by the Mayors' Council of Guam, establishing an independent procurement authority is a practical consideration to ensure timely and efficient delivery of services.

On March 10, 2014, Public Law 32-131 was passed establishing a system of training, continuing education, and certification for government of Guam procurement personnel, adding §5141 to Chapter 5, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated:

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law or this Chapter and effective October 1, 2016, all government of Guam personnel tasked with the responsibility of purchasing or otherwise procuring goods, or services, or construction, including those employed by agencies with authority to conduct their own procurement, as well as any person within the Office of Public Accountability responsible for administering procurement appeals or auditing of purchasing activities of the government of Guam, must receive the training and continuing education to the extent required under this Section and offered by the College in consultation with the Guam Procurement Advisory Council.

(f) The College shall provide at least four (4) modules of procurement basic training, each with at least 18 hours of study and instruction or more, as the College may determine as necessary, and shall award a Certificate of Enrichment of training to those qualifying as required by this Section, for each module of the following subject matter areas:

- > Module 1. Fundamentals and Principles of Procurement (Basic)
- > Module 2. The Procurement Solicitation Process (Advanced)
- > Module 3. The Procurement Reviews and Remedies (Administrative)
- > Module 4. The Management and Administration of Procurement (Administrative)

(j) The College's prerequisites for awarding a Certificate of Enrichment (Administrative) must include the completion of the first, second, third, and fourth modules of procurement basic training and passage of a written examination prescribed by the College. From October 1, 2016, no person shall serve in the capacity of a Chief Procurement Officer or Procurement Administrator, or as a classified employee in the position of supply management administrator, procurement officer, or otherwise as the responsible head of procurement, or a level-three purchaser, of any government of Guam entity, including any governmental body, public corporation, semi-autonomous or autonomous agency, within or under the purview of the Executive Branch, without a Certificate of Enrichment (Advanced) provided by the College and a minimum number of years of purchasing experience as prescribed by the Department of Administration.

The absence of a procurement module-certified Executive Director that exercises procurement authority presents significant risks, including non-compliance with procurement regulations, exposure to audit findings, and potential misuse of public funds. Ensuring that the Executive Director of the Mayors' Council of Guam is appropriately trained and certified is essential to safeguarding the integrity of the procurement process and protecting the government from legal and financial vulnerabilities.

The Procurement Policy Office, established by §5102 Chapter 5, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, shall have the authority and responsibility to promulgate regulations governing the procurement, management, control, and disposal of any and all supplies, services, and construction procured by Guam.

The Policy Office shall have the power over its regulations and the requirements of this Chapter, but shall not exercise authority over the award or administration of any particular contract, or over any dispute, claim, or litigation pertaining thereto, except that the Chief Procurement Officer and the Director of Public Works shall exercise such authority in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter.

Through my observation, the Mayors' Council of Guam follows all existing guidelines and resolutions issued by the Procurement Policy Office. These guidelines ensure that all procurement is conducted fairly, transparently, and competitively, aligning with sound governance principles.

The Central Accounting Act was enacted by §22201 Chapter 22, Title 5 of the Guam Code Annotated, requiring that:

The Director of Administration, hereafter referred to as the Director, shall establish and administer the Central Accounting Office of the government of Guam, which will constitute the central accounting agency for the efficient management of a system of accounts.

As the Mayors' Council of Guam falls under the central accounting agency for invoice payments, it is appropriate that its procurement activities remain subject to independent review and audits conducted by the Department of Administration's Internal Audit Office. This model enables the Mayors' Council of Guam to conduct its own procurement activities within its authorized threshold, while maintaining accountability through independent audit review. By incorporating this review mechanism into law, we can help ensure that procurement processes remain transparent, accountable, and consistent with established financial regulations. This approach reinforces public trust and strengthens procurement operations' integrity across all government entities, including the Mayors' Council of Guam.

The General Services Agency will support a law that gives the Mayors' Council of Guam the authority to serve its constituents and recognizes the need for an independent review by the Department of Administration's Internal Audit Office. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to submit our views. We respectfully request the recommendation mentioned herewith be considered and included in Bill 146-38.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase.
Andriana Quitugua



JUNE U. BLAS
MAYOR

MUNICIPALITY OF BARRIGADA

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR & VICE MAYOR
124 LUAYAO LANE, BARRIGADA, GUAM 96913



JESSIE P. BAUTISTA
VICE MAYOR

June 23, 2025

Honorable Christopher Duenas
Chairman, Legislative Committee
on Finance and Government Operations
38th Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa,
Hagatna, Guam 96910
Email: senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov
Tel: 1-671-989-9554

Re: Bill No. 146-38 (COR) An Act to add a new S5117.3 to Chapter 5, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated Relative to Granting the Executive Director of the Mayors Council of Guam Procurement Authority for Procurement Good and Services that do not Exceed a Value of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000).

Dear Honorable Senator Duenas, Honorable Senator Ada and the 38th Guam Legislature.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this measure on behalf of myself as Mayor of Barrigada, Vice Mayor Jesse Bautista and members of the Barrigada Municipal Council.

When I first became employed in the Barrigada Mayor's office, back then called the Commissioner's Office, as an Administrative Assistant in 1989, our office has and continues to process procurement needs via the GovGuam General Services Agency (GSA) within the Department of Administration. Over these years, I found that Barrigada's new procurement requests and/or replenishment of daily, routine goods and services too often require longer, indefinite lead times to complete, due to the multiple number of line agencies and departments also dependent upon GSA support in the procurement process. This experience often delays and precludes timely mayoral response to urgently needed, ongoing and new procurement of goods and services to support village residents and commercial business needs.

As Mayor of Barrigada, such delays also lead to resident/business dissatisfaction in our office; and/or untimely response in times of emergency or natural disasters... something we work very hard to avoid. It is from this experience that we respectfully and wholeheartedly support enactment of Bill No. 146-38 (COR).

Secondly, as the Mayors Council currently employs qualified accountants and buyers, we strongly believe that meeting procurement needs of both the Mayors' Council and each of our (19) village mayors offices will be strengthened through favorable enactment of Bill No. 146-38 (COR).

In Barrigada, we are especially supportive of this Bill, given our village takeover of managing the Tiyan sports and community parks, which require oversight and maintenance of a sizeable area of land, buildings and community facilities which are actively employed by Barrigada and other village residents, businesses, youth and other activity clubs. We are confident that passage of Bill No. 146-38 (COR) will speed up our collective procurement processes and improve our village office response time to meet daily, routine village resident and business needs.

We sincerely hope that this Legislature will act favorably to help us improve our response to village needs through favorable passage of Bill No. 146-38 (COR). Saina Ma'ase.

Respectfully,



JUNE BLAS
Mayor



JESSE BAUTISTA
Vice Mayor

Cc: Honorable Senators of the 38th Guam Legislature
Mayor's Council of Guam



Mayors' Council of Guam

Konsehelan Mahor Gudihan

June 24, 2025

Honorable Christopher M. Dueñas
Senator and Chairperson
Committee on Finance and Government Operations
I Mina'Trentai Ocho' na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Joy Jean R. Arceo
Executive Director
Mayors' Council of Guam

Written Testimony on Bill No. 146-38 (COR)

“AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 5117.3 TO CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO GRANTING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MAYORS COUNCIL OF GUAM PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY FOR PROCUREMENT GOODS AND SERVICES THAT DO NOT EXCEED A VALUE OF FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000).”

Good morning, Chairman Dueñas, Vice Speaker Tony Ada, Members of the Committee, and Honorable Senators of the 38th Guam Legislature:

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today in strong support of Bill No. 146-38 (COR). My name is Joy Jean Arceo, and I am honored to serve as the Executive Director of the Mayors' Council of Guam (MCOG). I am certified under Guam Procurement Law pursuant to 5 GCA § 5141 and bring to this role a strong background in public procurement compliance and operational efficiency.

Since my appointment, I have worked quickly to address procedural issues that have long hampered our ability to deliver timely services. One of my first actions was to correct procurement errors that had stalled the removal of abandoned vehicles—an issue that had lingered for years. We also resolved procurement bottlenecks that had delayed the delivery of long-awaited goods and services needed by our mayors. Today, many of those critical items have either been fulfilled or are in process—because procurement is now managed with clear oversight and discipline.

Bill No. 146-38 (COR) seeks to address a fundamental gap in our system by formally granting the Executive Director limited procurement authority for goods and services not to exceed \$500,000. This is not about expanding individual power—it is about building the operational structure needed to meet the evolving demands of village leadership.



Mayors' Council of Guam

Ronschelon Mahol Gudhan

I want to emphasize that the Mayors' Council of Guam has always acted with the best intentions, grounded in service to our communities. However, the Council's limited access to certified procurement professionals and the absence of centralized procurement authority have, at times, resulted in procedural gaps. These issues have been highlighted in audits by the Office of Public Accountability. This measure is not about assigning blame—it is about putting the right mechanisms in place to ensure lawful, efficient, and transparent procurement practices moving forward.

To provide important context, 5 GCA § 5141(b) requires that all government employees involved in procurement must complete mandatory training, certification, and continuing education administered by Guam Community College, in consultation with the Guam Procurement Advisory Council. This applies not only to central agencies but also to those authorized to conduct their own procurement. The law is unambiguous: no government employee may participate in procurement unless they are properly certified. An employee who begins but does not complete this training is considered noncompliant.

Bill No. 146-38 fully upholds this standard. It does not seek to bypass existing law; on the contrary, it reinforces it—by ensuring that procurement authority is only vested in a certified, accountable official who remains current with all legal and procedural requirements. In doing so, this measure strengthens adherence to best practices, minimizes unnecessary delays, and establishes clear lines of responsibility—without sacrificing the responsiveness that village governance often demands.

I respectfully recommend that the bill include a provision explicitly requiring that the Executive Director maintain active procurement certification in order to exercise this authority, and that it automatically revert to the Chief Procurement Officer—or their designee—if that requirement is not met.

To further support compliance, I personally conduct quarterly procurement training sessions for MCOG staff and ensure that procurement phases—from requisition to closeout—are clearly understood and followed. Our team includes certified personnel in all key areas of the procurement process, which underscores our commitment to ethical, legal, and professional service.

To give you a sense of scale: in just the last six months, MCOG processed 427 purchase orders—each one representing a real service or supply needed in our villages. Yet, despite our operational readiness, we remain dependent on an external process that often slows down even routine transactions.



Mayors' Council of Guam

Konschelon Mahol Guahan

This bill represents a thoughtful, measured, and responsible solution. It strengthens internal compliance, accelerates response times, and ensures that our villages receive the resources they need without bureaucratic delays. Most importantly, it preserves the integrity of Guam's Procurement Law and reaffirms our collective commitment to effective and accountable public service.

In short, Bill No. 146-38 ensures that our Honorable Mayors—and their support team—are equipped with the proper authority and tools to meet their responsibilities lawfully, efficiently, and transparently.

In closing, I respectfully urge your support for this legislation. It reflects not just a policy change, but a commitment to better governance—ensuring that village needs are met swiftly, correctly, and in full compliance with the law.

Thank you for your time, your attention, and your ongoing support of our communities. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Arceo".

Joy Jean R. Arceo
Executive Director



Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas
CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

Bill No. 146-38 (COR), AS INTRODUCED - V. ANTHONY ADA / CHRISTOPHER M. DUEÑAS - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 5117.3 TO CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO GRANTING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MAYORS COUNCIL OF GUAM PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY FOR PROCUREMENT GOODS AND SERVICES THAT DO NOT EXCEED A VALUE OF FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000).

Committee Members	Signature	TO DO PASS	TO NOT PASS	TO REPORT OUT ONLY	TO ABSTAIN	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE
Senator Christopher M. Dueñas <i>Chairperson</i>		X				
Senator V. Anthony Ada <i>Vice Chairperson</i>	E-Vote	X				
Senator Frank F. Blas, Jr. <i>Member</i>	E-Vote	X				
Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <i>Member</i>	E-Vote			X		
Senator Jesse A. Lujan <i>Member</i>	E-Vote	X				
Senator Vincent A.V. Borja <i>Member</i>	E-Vote	X				
Senator Tina Rose Muña Barnes <i>Member</i>						
Senator Joe S. San Agustin <i>Member</i>	E-Vote	X				



Karl Pangelinan <karl.p@guamlegislature.gov>

URGENT REQUEST FOR EVOTE: BILL No. 146-38 (COR)

7 messages

Karl Pangelinan <karl.p@guamlegislature.gov>
To: cmdcommittee@guamlegislature.gov

Thu, Sep 18, 2025 at 3:34 PM

Håfa Ådai Committee Members!

Please see attached Committee Report for Bill No. 146-38 (COR) - "An Act To Add A New § 5117.3 To Chapter 5, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated Relative To Granting The Executive Director Of The Mayors Council Of Guam Procurement Authority For Procurement Goods And Services That Do Not Exceed A Value Of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000)."

Indicate your preferred action:

- TO DO PASS
- TO NOT PASS
- TO REPORT OUT ONLY
- TO ABSTAIN
- TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE

Please submit your response **ASAP**. Your responses will be logged into the vote sheet which will be submitted as part of the final Committee Report to the Committee on Rules.

--

Senseremente,
Karl Pangelinan
Office of Senator Chris M. Duenas
Chairman of Finance & Gov't Operations



CMD CR BILL #146-38 COR.pdf
10282K

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>
To: Karl Pangelinan <karl.p@guamlegislature.gov>
Cc: cmdcommittee@guamlegislature.gov

Thu, Sep 18, 2025 at 3:37 PM

To report out only.

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All the best,
Isaiah Aguon

Director of Communications & Policy



Office of Legislative Secretary
SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 38th Guam Legislature
Chairperson, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs
163 W. Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910
office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov
671-989-2572

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Senator Jesse Lujan <senator.lujan@guamlegislature.gov>
To: Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>
Cc: Karl Pangelinan <karl.p@guamlegislature.gov>, cmdcommittee@guamlegislature.gov

Thu, Sep 18, 2025 at 3:38 PM

To do pass.

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Office of Majority Leader Jesse A. Lujan
Chairman, Committee on Transportation, Tourism, Customs, Utilities and Federal & Foreign Affairs
259 Martyr St., Hagatna, Guam 96910
senator.lujan@guamlegislature.gov
(671) 969-6525

Office of Senator Vince Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>
Reply-To: Office of Senator Vince Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>
To: karl.p@guamlegislature.gov
Cc: cmdcommittee@guamlegislature.gov

Thu, Sep 18, 2025 at 3:51 PM

Hafa Adai,

To do pass. Si Yu'os Ma'ase.

Respectfully,



Office of Senator Vince Borja
I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan 38th Guam Legislature
Suite 502, DNA Building
238 Archbishop Felixberto Camacho Flores St, Hagåtña, GU 96910
(671)969-8423
office.senatorborja@guamlegislature.gov

On Thu, 18 Sep at 1:35 AM , Karl Pangelinan <karl.p@guamlegislature.gov> wrote:
Håfa Ådai Committee Members!

Please see attached Committee Report for Bill No. 146-38 (COR) - "An Act To Add A New § 5117.3 To Chapter 5, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated Relative To Granting The Executive Director Of The Mayors Council Of Guam Procurement Authority For Procurement Goods And Services That Do Not Exceed A Value Of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000)."

Indicate your preferred action:

- TO DO PASS
- TO NOT PASS
- TO REPORT OUT ONLY
- TO ABSTAIN
- TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE

Please submit your response **ASAP**. Your responses will be logged into the vote sheet which will be submitted as part of the final Committee Report to the Committee on Rules.

--

Senseremente,
Karl Pangelinan
Office of Senator Chris M. Duenas
Chairman of Finance & Gov't Operations

Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>
To: Office of Senator Vince Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>
Cc: karl.p@guamlegislature.gov, cmdcommittee@guamlegislature.gov

Thu, Sep 18, 2025 at 4:04 PM

To do pass

[Quoted text hidden]



Office of Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada

38th Guam Legislature

I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Guam Congress Building, 2nd Floor

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Phone: (671) 989-0855

Email: vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov

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Speaker Frank Blas Jr. <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>

Thu, Sep 18, 2025 at 6:20 PM

To: "V. Anthony Ada Vice Speaker" <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>

Cc: contact@senatorvinceborja.com, karl.p@guamlegislature.gov, cmdcommittee@guamlegislature.gov

To do pass
Frank

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 18, 2025, at 4:05 PM, Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

Joe S. San Agustin <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>

Thu, Sep 18, 2025 at 11:12 PM

To: "Speaker Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>

Cc: "V. Anthony Ada Vice Speaker" <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Vince Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>, Karl Pangelinan <karl.p@guamlegislature.gov>, cmdcommittee@guamlegislature.gov

To do pass

The Office of Senator Joe S. San Agustin

I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan

38th Guam Legislature



COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

Committee on Finance and Government Operations

Senator Christopher M. Duenas, Chairman

In accordance with Section 6.04(c)(1) of the Standing Rules of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*, this committee digest provides a summary of the public hearing detailed below. To assist the general public in navigating this report, please note that all blue-highlighted text contains hyperlinks. Clicking on these links will direct you to the corresponding referenced sections/documents. For any questions or assistance regarding this digest, please contact our office at (671) 989-9554 or email us at senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov.

Bill No. 146-38 (COR) – “An Act To Add A New § 5117.3 To Chapter 5, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated Relative To Granting The Executive Director Of The Mayors Council Of Guam Procurement Authority For Procurement Goods And Services That Do Not Exceed A Value Of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000).”

- I. OVERVIEW Bill No. 146-38 (COR) was introduced on Friday, May 23, 2025 by V. Anthony Ada and co-sponsored by Christopher M. Duenas, and was subsequently referred by the Committee on Rules to the Committee on Finance and Government Operations on Monday, June 2, 2025. The Committee on Finance and Government Operations convened a Public Hearing on Bill No. 146-38 (COR) on Wednesday, June 25, 2025 at 2:00 PM in the Guam Congress Building’s Public Hearing Room. PUBLIC NOTICE REQUIREMENTS 1 of 10 COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST – BILL NO. 146-38 (COR) Public Hearing - Senator Christopher M. Duenas – June 25, 2025 2:00PM Public Hearing Notices were posted to the Government Public Notices Portal and disseminated via electronic mail to all senators and all main media broadcasting outlets on Wednesday, June 18, 2025 (5-Day Notice), and again on Monday, June 23, 2025 (48-Hour Notice). SENATORS PRESENT Christopher M. Duenas, Chairman, Bill Author Vice Speaker, V. Anthony Ada, Member Speaker Frank Blas Jr., Member Eulogio Shawn Gumataoto, Senator Telo Taitague, Senator Will Parkinson, Senator Sabina Perez. ORAL TESTIMONY: Joy Jean Arceo, Director, Mayor’s Council of



COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST – BILL NO. 146-38 (COR)
[Public Hearing - Senator Christopher M. Duenas - June 25, 2025 2PM](#)

Guam, Mayor Richard Arroyo, Ms. Andrea Quitigua, Acting Chief Procurement Officer, GSA; and Mayor Anthony Chargalaf

APPEARED BEFORE THE COMMITTEE: Graham Botha, Legal Council, GSA

II. Summary of Testimony & Discussion

GUAM LEGISLATURE

Committee on Finance and Government Operations

Public Hearing

June 25, 2025 – 2:03 p.m.

[Opening Remarks by Chairman Dueñas]

Welcome to your Guam Congress Building. This afternoon's public hearing is conducted by the Committee on Finance and Government Operations and is hereby called to order at 2:03 p.m.

The first notice of this public hearing was disseminated to all senators and media outlets on June 18, 2025, with a second notice disseminated on June 23, 2025. The hearing notices were also made available on the Guam Legislature's website, the legislative calendar, and the Governor of Guam's public portal.

This afternoon, the Committee will hear testimony on the following measures:

- Bill No. 146-38 (COR), introduced by Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada, an act to add a new §5117.3 to Chapter 5, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, relative to granting the Executive Director of the Mayor's Council of Guam procurement authority for goods and services not to exceed a value of \$500,000.
- Bill No. 134-38 (COR), introduced by Senator William A. Parkinson, an act to amend §5213 of Chapter 5, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, relative to increasing the small purchase threshold.

Before we begin, I would like to remind everyone of the Guam Legislature's general rules of conduct. Individuals testifying shall first be recognized by the Chair before speaking and shall clearly state their full name for recordkeeping purposes. Questions and testimony



COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST – BILL NO. 146-38 (COR)
Public Hearing - Senator Christopher M. Duenas - June 25, 2025 2PM

shall be confined to the substance and nature of the bill under discussion. Personal references to the character or motives of any senator or individual testifying are not permitted. The Chair may order the removal of any individual who fails to observe proper decorum pursuant to the Standing Rules of the 38th Guam Legislature. Any violation of these rules will result in immediate removal from this hearing room.

At this time, I would like to welcome my colleagues who have joined us this afternoon: Vice Speaker Tony Ada, Senator Frank Blas Jr., Senator Sean Gumataotao, Senator Telo Taitague, and Senator Therese Terlaje.

We will now begin with the first bill on the agenda, Bill No. 146-38, introduced by Vice Speaker Ada. Mr. Vice Speaker, you are recognized to open and discuss your bill.

Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada:

Good afternoon, everyone, and thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Bill No. 146-38, if enacted, will grant procurement authority to the Mayor's Council of Guam. The intent of this bill is to allow the council, through its Executive Director, to procure goods and services up to \$500,000.

I have full confidence in the administrative staff to obtain all requisite training and certifications to carry out the provisions of this bill. In fact, I believe many of those trainings have already been completed or are well underway.

There are nineteen mayoral offices, along with multiple community centers and recreational facilities under their jurisdiction. Yet even simple purchases often seem to be tedious and complicated. The General Services Agency (GSA) has a very difficult job administering procurement for every agency under the government of Guam that does not have its own authority.

I believe that granting the Mayor's Council of Guam procurement authority—while requiring compliance with all laws, rules, regulations, and training mandates—will create greater efficiency. It will likely result in cost savings, and it will reduce the number of purchase orders flowing through GSA just from the Mayor's Council alone.

Most importantly, this authority will help not only the Mayor's Council and GSA, but also the people who depend on services and goods provided in our villages throughout the island.



COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST – BILL NO. 146-38 (COR)
[Public Hearing - Senator Christopher M. Duenas - June 25, 2025 2PM](#)

With that, Mr. Chairman, I look forward to hearing the testimonies that will be presented by the panel. Thank you.

Chairman Senator Chris Duenas:

Thank you, Vice Speaker. At this time, we'll hear testimony on Bill No. 146-38. I'd like to call forward those providing oral testimony: Ms. Joy Jean Arceo, Executive Director of the Mayor's Council of Guam; Mr. Graham Botha from the General Services Agency (GSA); Ms. Andrea Quitigua, Acting Chief Procurement Officer, GSA; Mayor Anthony Chargalaf; and Mayor Richard A. Arroyo. Please come forward.

Testimony of Joy Jean Arceo

Executive Director, Mayor's Council of Guam

Good afternoon, Chairman Duenas, Vice Speaker Tony Ada, members of the committee, and the honorable senators of the 38th Guam Legislature.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today in strong support of Bill No. 146-38. My name is Joy Gene Arceo, and I am honored to serve as the Executive Director of the Mayor's Council of Guam.

I am certified under Guam procurement law pursuant to 5 GCA §5141 and bring to this role a strong background in public procurement compliance and operational efficiency. Since my appointment, I have worked quickly to address long-standing procedural issues. For example, one of my first actions was to correct procurement errors that had stalled the removal of abandoned vehicles for years. We also resolved bottlenecks that had delayed the delivery of goods and services needed by our mayors. Today, many of those items have either been fulfilled or are in the process of fulfillment because procurement is now managed with oversight and discipline.

Bill No. 146-38 addresses a fundamental gap by granting the Executive Director limited procurement authority for goods and services up to \$500,000. This is not about expanding individual power. It is about building the operational structure needed to meet the demands of village leadership.

The Mayor's Council has always acted with the best intentions. However, limited access to certified procurement professionals and the absence of centralized authority have sometimes resulted in procedural gaps. These issues have been noted in audits by the



COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST – BILL NO. 146-38 (COR)
Public Hearing - Senator Christopher M. Duenas - June 25, 2025 2PM

Office of Public Accountability. This measure is not about assigning blame—it is about ensuring lawful, efficient, and transparent procurement practices moving forward.

Procurement law already requires all government employees engaged in procurement to complete mandatory training and certification through Guam Community College in consultation with the Procurement Advisory Council. Bill No. 146-38 upholds this requirement. Authority will only be vested in a certified, accountable official who remains current with training.

I respectfully recommend that the bill include a provision requiring the Executive Director to maintain active procurement certification in order to exercise this authority, and that authority should automatically revert to the Chief Procurement Officer if the requirement is not met.

To give you a sense of scale: in the past six months, the Mayor’s Council processed 427 purchase orders, totaling approximately \$2.2 million. Each represented a real service or supply needed in our villages. Yet we remain dependent on external processes that slow down even routine transactions. This bill is a responsible solution. It strengthens compliance, accelerates response time, and ensures our villages receive needed resources without bureaucratic delays—while still preserving the integrity of Guam’s procurement law.

In short, Bill No. 146-38 ensures that our mayors and their staff are equipped to meet their responsibilities lawfully, efficiently, and transparently. I respectfully urge your support of this legislation. Thank you.

Testimony of Graham Botha

Procurement Counsel, General Services Agency

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name is Graham Botha, Procurement Counsel with GSA.

For today’s hearing, I will defer to Ms. Andrea Quitigua, Acting Chief Procurement Officer, who has prepared written testimony on Bill No. 146-38. I am present to answer any questions from the committee.

Testimony of Andrea Quitigua

Acting Chief Procurement Officer, GSA



COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST – BILL NO. 146-38 (COR)
Public Hearing - Senator Christopher M. Duenas - June 25, 2025 2PM

Dear Chairman Duenas, Vice Speaker Ada, members of the committee, and senators of the 38th Guam Legislature:

I submit testimony regarding Bill No. 146-38, which would grant the Executive Director of the Mayor's Council of Guam procurement authority for goods and services not to exceed \$500,000.

The Mayor's Council's enabling legislation, Public Law 14-27 (1977), authorizes procurement of supplies or services under \$15,000 without GSA approval. The council is an independent coordinating body representing the mayors, not a traditional line agency. Establishing an independent procurement authority for the council is practical to ensure timely delivery of services.

Public Law 32-131 (2014) established a system of training and certification for government procurement personnel. By law, no one may serve as a procurement officer without this certification. If procurement authority is granted to the Executive Director, training and certification are essential to safeguard integrity and avoid noncompliance, audit findings, or misuse of funds.

The Procurement Policy Office under 5 GCA §5102 has authority to promulgate procurement rules. From my observation, the Mayor's Council follows existing guidelines issued by the office.

The Central Accounting Act (§22201, Title 5) requires the Department of Administration to administer central accounting. Since the Mayor's Council falls under DOA for invoice payments, it is appropriate that its procurement remain subject to independent review and audits by DOA's Internal Audit Office.

With this safeguard, the Mayor's Council can conduct its own procurement activities within its threshold while maintaining accountability. GSA supports legislation granting the Mayor's Council authority to serve its constituents, provided that independent review by DOA's Internal Audit Office is included in Bill No. 146-38.

Thank you.

Testimony of Mayor Anthony Chargalaf

Mayor of Merizo

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.



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This bill is, in my opinion, a no-brainer. From my experience as Assistant General Manager at Guam Waterworks, I know that lacking procurement authority severely limits the ability to respond to emergencies. Once Waterworks obtained procurement authority, we were able to expedite services, procure materials, and address urgent needs effectively.

Granting procurement authority to the Mayor’s Council will reduce GSA’s workload and place responsibility on the council. The Executive Director has realigned and employed the right people to get the job done efficiently.

For example, in emergencies such as house fires or flooding, the council could quickly authorize purchase orders to help affected families. Without authority, response would be delayed. With this in place, the Mayor’s Council can provide faster, more direct assistance to our people.

I fully support Bill No. 146-38. Thank you.

Testimony of Mayor Richard Arroyo

Mayor of Agana Hts.

Thank you, Senator Duenas, Vice Speaker Ada, and members of the committee.

I support Bill No. 146-38. As my colleague Mayor Chargualaf stated, this measure reduces processing time and increases responsiveness. The longer procurement takes, the longer our communities wait for services.

For example, our new Day Care Center program requires routine supplies. Working with the Mayor’s Council, requests have been processed quickly—sometimes within two weeks. That is a major improvement compared to past delays.

I often refer to our Executive Director as “Miss Module,” because she is a stickler for procurement rules. She and her staff work tirelessly to ensure compliance. This bill ensures that the council continues to operate efficiently while still following procurement law.

I respectfully ask for your support of Bill No. 146-38. Thank you.

Section 4: Senators’ Questions and Answers

Senator Gumataotao – Questioning Panel

Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you to the panel for being here this afternoon.



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For context: the Mayor’s Council’s FY2026 budget request includes \$1.168 million—about \$797,000 more than their FY2025 level—for contractual services. They’re asking for \$223,000 more for supplies and materials, and \$236,000 more for equipment.

Acknowledging that this isn’t a budget hearing, I want to ask Ms. Arceo: Of the Mayor’s Council’s FY2024 allotments carried into FY2025, how much represented unexpended funds that were originally earmarked for contractual services, supplies, and equipment?

Joy Gene Arceo:

I’m sorry, Senator. I don’t have my budget information with me at the moment, so I can’t provide those figures right now. But I’ll be happy to submit them to your office.

Senator Gumataotao:

Thank you. I ask because people need to understand just how important this bill is. You’ve processed 427 purchase orders—about \$2.2 million worth—in just the last five months. That’s not about building a kingdom, it’s about supporting all 19 municipalities. Could you explain how procurement delays have impacted services?

Joy Gene Arceo:

Yes, Senator. Based on our mandates, we’re allowed to procure \$15,000 and below. Anything above that must go through GSA. Because of delegation authority, I’ve been able to process things like copier machines and urgent services. Without that, villages would wait much longer.

Our goal is to ensure a purchase order is submitted to a village within 10 business days. That’s a difficult task, but because we know the needs, we respond quickly. In contrast, GSA has to serve 32 line agencies, from pencils to fire trucks.

Senator Gumataotao:

Thank you, Joy. I also have a question for GSA. When was the last time the Guam Procurement Advisory Council met?

Andrea Quitigua, Acting CPO, GSA:

That might have been before my time. I’ve only been at GSA for about a year and a half, so I’m not sure. But I’ll get that information to you.

Senator Gumataotao:

I raise that because the law requires the council to meet and help GCC set procurement training policy. If they haven’t met in over a year, that’s a disservice to the people. We keep



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requiring modules and certifications, but the body that guides policy doesn't meet. I hope the Office of the Governor submits new members so this council can function.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Senator Taitague – Questioning Panel

Senator Taitague:

Thank you, Mr. Chair, and good afternoon to my colleagues.

Ms. Quitigua, in your testimony you said that because the Mayor's Council falls under DOA for invoice payments, procurement should remain subject to independent review and audits by DOA's Internal Audit Office. Can you elaborate?

Andrea Quitigua:

Yes, Senator. DOA's Internal Audit Office was revitalized in 2020. It doesn't have the same authority as OPA, but it provides independent review. I recommend adding language to Bill No. 146-38 requiring this audit oversight.

Senator Taitague:

So, if that provision is included, it meets your concern?

Andrea Quitigua:

Yes.

Senator Taitague:

Okay. Ms. Arceo, you have strong procurement experience. But if a future Executive Director doesn't, is there anything in the bill guaranteeing they'll have the same background?

Joy Gene Arceo:

Not currently, Senator. However, I recommend including language that if the Executive Director doesn't maintain certification, authority should revert to GSA. That ensures compliance.

Senator Taitague:

And how many of your staff are currently certified?

Joy Gene Arceo:

I have three procurement staff. My Administrative Officer is certified Modules 1–5; my



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Executive Secretary is certified Modules 1–3; and I myself am certified Modules 1–5. We’ve also enrolled other staff in GCC training as availability allows.

Senator Taitague:

Thank you. And why was the \$500,000 threshold chosen?

Joy Gene Arceo:

Because anything above \$500,000 must go to the Attorney General for review. Setting it at that level aligns the Mayor’s Council with other agencies.

Senator Taitague:

Thank you. I appreciate your answers and your enthusiasm to move procurement more quickly. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Senator Therese Terlaje – Questioning Panel

Senator Therese Terlaje:

Thank you all for your testimony.

Ms. Quitigua, you currently delegate procurement authority to the Executive Director of the Mayor’s Council, correct?

Andrea Quitigua:

Yes, I do.

Senator Terlaje:

And that delegation is limited only by fiscal year, not by dollar amount?

Andrea Quitigua:

Correct.

Senator Terlaje:

So, the concern is that with Bill No. 146-38, future CPOs would not be able to revoke delegation, even if audits show problems. Is that right?

Andrea Quitigua:

Yes, but that’s why I recommend independent audits remain in place. The Mayor’s Council isn’t a line agency, so this arrangement makes sense.

Senator Terlaje:

Okay. Is there really a delay at GSA, and is that the reason this bill is being proposed?



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Andrea Quitigua:

If I'm being honest, yes. Because of limited staff and the number of agencies we serve, delays happen. It's not negligence—it's workload.

Senator Terlaje:

Thank you. And one last question: other agencies with independent authority have it vested in their boards—like GPA, GSWA, and the Host Community Municipal Planning Councils. Here, the authority would be given directly to the Executive Director. Is that acceptable?

Andrea Quitigua:

If the Executive Director is certified, yes.

Senator Terlaje:

Thank you. I have no objections to this bill. I appreciate the Director's insistence on certification and oversight. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Senator William Parkinson – Questioning Panel

Senator William Parkinson:

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

My question is for GSA. You've said delays are due to staffing shortages. How many additional staff would you need to fix that?

Andrea Quitigua:

Currently, I have five buyers handling procurement for all line agencies. I would need at least five more—so, double my staff—to handle the workload effectively.

Senator Parkinson:

So doubling your staff would still leave plenty of work?

Andrea Quitigua:

Yes.

Senator Parkinson:

Thank you. I support this bill.

Senator Sabina Perez – Questioning Panel

Senator Sabina Perez:

Thank you, Mr. Chair, and good afternoon to the panel.



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I want to ask about the Executive Director’s job description. Mayor Hoffman, could you explain what criteria were used in selecting the current Director?

Mayor Robert Hoffman (Mayor of Sinajana):

Yes, Senator. The Mayor’s Council revised its process. In the past, candidates needed municipal work experience, but this time we focused on procurement and emergency management skills. Those were our most urgent needs. We reviewed resumes from the business community and prioritized those qualifications. That’s how we selected Ms. Arceo.

Senator Perez:

Thank you. Ms. Quitigua, what is the SOP for delegation of procurement authority?

Andrea Quitigua:

By law, delegation can only go to agency heads who file financial disclosures. I follow that rule.

Senator Perez:

And Ms. Arceo, in your view, what safeguards are needed when delegation is given?

Joy Gene Arceo:

Training and certification are essential. Anyone negotiating contracts must be certified. Financial disclosures are also important. Those safeguards help maintain compliance and integrity.

Senator Perez:

Thank you. My concern is ensuring future Directors also have procurement expertise. Mayors, are you willing to require that in job descriptions?

Mayor Hoffman:

Senator, we wouldn’t want to tie future councils’ hands. Needs may change. But right now, procurement expertise is a top priority, and I expect that will continue.

Senator Perez:

Thank you. My final question is for GSA legal counsel. Can GSA establish SOPs to monitor delegated procurement authority, to be proactive rather than reactive?

Graham Botha, GSA Legal Counsel:

Yes, Senator. That can be done. We can put monitoring processes in place for agencies with delegated authority, including the Mayor’s Council.



Senator Perez:

Thank you. That's all I have.

Section 5: Closing Statements

Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you to the panel for testifying on this legislation. I also thank my colleagues for asking important questions.

To the Executive Director of the Mayor's Council, I commend your proactive approach in ensuring that your staff continue training and certification in procurement. This authority will help ensure the needs of our mayors and villages are met efficiently, while still maintaining responsibility, accountability, and transparency.

I also support the recommendation that if the Executive Director is not certified, procurement authority should revert back to the Chief Procurement Officer. Perhaps the Mayor's Council can consider making certification a requirement for future Executive Directors. That would prevent delays caused by reverting authority.

I thank GSA for their work and input. This bill may not solve all procurement issues, but it will help reduce bottlenecks. In my recent visit to Washington, procurement delays were noted as a reason federal funds were not being spent quickly enough. We cannot allow federal dollars to return unused to the U.S. Treasury. We must spend them responsibly, transparently, and on time.

Again, I thank the Mayor's Council, the mayors, and GSA for your testimony. I look forward to moving this bill through markup and hopefully including it in our July session. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Senator Chris Duenas:

Thank you, Vice Speaker, and thank you again to everyone who came forward to testify on Bill No. 146-38.

I've met with the mayors both individually and collectively, and I know that while there were bumps in the beginning, everyone is now on board with the process under Ms. Arceo's leadership. Procurement is being handled more effectively, with proper planning and accountability.

This bill is tailored to the needs of the Mayor’s Council, but it also builds in strict requirements to ensure compliance. I believe the Council will treat this authority with the seriousness it deserves.

With that, this concludes the testimony and discussion on **Bill No. 146-38 COR**.

- III. FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS: The Committee finds that the Mayors Council of Guam (MCOG) plays a critical role in delivering localized services and responding to community needs across Guam’s municipalities. However, its operational agility is often constrained by centralized procurement processes. Bill No. 146-38 (COR) proposes to add § 5117.3 to Chapter 5, Title 5 of the Guam Code Annotated, granting the Executive Director of the MCOG limited procurement authority for goods and services not exceeding \$500,000. This threshold aligns with mid-tier procurement needs and reflects a balance between autonomy and oversight. The bill maintains safeguards by requiring adherence to existing procurement laws and mandates training under 5 GCA § 5141, ensuring that MCOG procurement officials are properly credentialed and accountable. This measure supports decentralization of operational authority while preserving fiscal discipline and transparency – principles consistent with broader governance reform efforts. The Committee notes that similar procurement autonomy has been granted to other semi-autonomous entities, and this bill would bring parity to the MCOG without compromising regulatory integrity.

Additionally, in further research and recommendations from panelist the committee is aware that there are already laws on the books that address their concerns reflected in their testimony.

- IV. Based on the above findings, the Committee recommends:
- That Bill No. 146-38 (COR) be reported out with the recommendation “To Do Pass”
 - That the Mayors Council of Guam, in coordination with the Office of Public Accountability and the General Services Agency, develop internal procurement protocols to ensure compliance and public reporting.
 - That the Committee on Appropriations and relevant oversight bodies monitor implementation and assess the impact of this authority on procurement efficiency and service delivery.

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

Bill No. 146-38 (COR)

Introduced by:

V. Anthony Ada 
Christopher M. Dueñas 

AN ACT TO *ADD* A NEW § 5117.3 TO CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO GRANTING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MAYORS COUNCIL OF GUAM PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY FOR PROCUREMENT GOODS AND SERVICES THAT DO NOT EXCEED A VALUE OF FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000).

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. A new § 5117.3 is *added* to Chapter 5, Title 5, Guam Code Annotated to read as follows:

“§ 5117.3. Limited Procurement Authority Granted to the Mayors Council of Guam.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of the Guam Procurement Law, the Executive Director of Mayors Council of Guam is granted procurement authority for procurement as defined by Title 5 GCA for purchases and contracts that do not exceed Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000). The Mayors Council of Guam (MCOG) shall adhere to the applicable procurement laws, rules and regulations.

(b) The MCOG shall ensure that its procurement officials undergo and successfully complete procurement training pursuant to 5 GCA § 5141 and are enrolled in the earliest training class that becomes available.”



COMMITTEE ON RULES

Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada, Chairperson
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
38th Guam Legislature

June 4, 2025

To: **Rennae V. C. Meno**
Clerk of the Legislature

From: **Senator Christopher M. Dueñas** 
Acting Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Subject: **Fiscal Note for Bill No. 146-38 (COR)**

Håfa Adai!

Find the attached, Fiscal Note for the following bill:

Bill No. 146-38 (COR).

I also request that the same be sent to the respective Chairperson of the Standing Committee, to which this bill has been referred. Kindly copy the same to Management Information Services (MIS) for posting on our website.



Bureau of Budget & Management Research
Fiscal Note of Bill No. 146-38 (COR)

AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 5117.3 TO CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO GRANTING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MAYORS COUNCIL OF GUAM PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY FOR PROCUREMENT GOODS AND SERVICES THAT DO NOT EXCEED A VALUE OF FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000).

Department/Agency Appropriation Information

Dept./Agency Affected: Mayor's Council of Guam		Dept./Agency Head: JoyJean Arceo, Executive Director	
Department's General Fund (GF) appropriation(s) to date: Operations (\$12,307,881), VOMBPS (\$422,126), Supplemental Appropriation to MCOG for operations, pursuant to P.L. 37-135 (\$4,500,000)			\$17,230,007
Department's Other Fund (Specify) appropriation(s) to date: Limited Gaming Fund (\$350,944), Guam Educational Facilities Fund (\$3307,375), Host Community Fund (\$300,000), Recycling Revolving Fund (DPW) (\$1,500,000)			\$2,458,319
Total Department/Agency Appropriation(s) to date:			\$19,688,326

Fund Source Information of Proposed Appropriation

	General Fund:	(Specify Special Fund):	Total:
FY 2024 Unreserved Fund Balance		\$0	\$0
FY 2025 Adopted Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0
FY 2025 Appro. (P.L. 37-125 thru)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sub-total:	\$0	\$0	\$0
Less appropriation in Bill	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total:	\$0	\$0	\$0

Estimated Fiscal Impact of Bill

	One Full Fiscal Year	For Remainder of FY 2025 (if applicable)	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
General Fund	1/	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Special Fund	1/	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	1/	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

- | | | |
|---|------------|----------|
| 1. Does the bill contain "revenue generating" provisions? | / / Yes | / X / No |
| If Yes, see attachment | | |
| 2. Is amount appropriated adequate to fund the intent of the appropriation? | / X / N/A | / / Yes |
| If no, what is the additional amount required? \$ | / X / N/A | / / No |
| 3. Does the Bill establish a new program/agency? | / / Yes | / X / No |
| If yes, will the program duplicate existing programs/agencies? | / X / N/A | / / Yes |
| Is there a federal mandate to establish the program/agency? | / / Yes | / X / No |
| 4. Will the enactment of this Bill require new physical facilities? | / / Yes | / X / No |
| 5. Was Fiscal Note coordinated with the affected dept/agency? If no, indicate reason: | / X / Yes | / / No |
| / X / Requested agency comments not received by due date | / / Other: | |

Analyst: <u>Tyler Bautista</u>	Date: <u>06/03/2025</u>	Director: <u>Lester L. Carlson, Jr.</u>	Date: <u>JUN 03 2025</u>
Tyler Bautista, BMA II		Lester L. Carlson, Jr., Director	

Notes:

1/ Although Bill 146-38 (COR) appears to be administrative in nature, there may be additional costs associated with providing the appropriate MCOG staff to undergo and successfully complete procurement training pursuant to 5 GCA § 5141. Absent pertinent information from the MCOG, the estimated costs for procurement training varies based on the type of training, duration, and location. Based on an internet query, online courses can range from a few hundred dollars to a few thousand dollars, while in-person training and certifications can cost much more. Such procurement training costs will have to be absorbed by the MCOG's fiscal year budget appropriations. It should be noted that due to the implementation of the Guam Financial Management System (GFMS), continued trainings are being conducted by the Systems contractor in the various modules to include accounting and procurement.