

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
308-38 (COR)	Tina Rose Muña-Barnes	AN ACT TO <i>ADD</i> A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.	4/10/26 2:48 p.m.	4/21/26	Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs.	Request: 4/21/26 Waiver: 4/30/26	6/23/26 1:00 p.m.	8/26/26	



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

August 24, 2026

The Honorable Frank Blas Jr., Speaker
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
163 Hagåtña, Guåhan
Chalan Santo Papa

VIA: **The Honorable V. Anthony Ada, Vice Speaker** 
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

RE: **Committee Report on Bill No. 308-38 (COR) - Tina Rose Muña-Barnes.** – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

Håfa Adai Speaker Blas,

Transmitted herewith is the Committee Report on **Bill No. 308-38 (COR) - Tina Rose Muña-Barnes.** – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

Committee Vote as follows:

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

Sincerely,

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane 
Chairwoman, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs



COMMITTEE ON RULES

RECEIVED:

August 24, 2026 3:03 p.m.

Marie Crisostomo

Revisions Received:

August 25, 2026 12:52 p.m.



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

COMMITTEE REPORT

Public Hearing

Bill No. 308-38 (COR) - Tina Rose Muña-Barnes. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”



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

July 14, 2026

To: **ALL MEMBERS**
Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

From: **Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane**
Chairwoman, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

Subject: Committee Report on [Bill No. 308-38 \(COR\)](#) - [Tina Rose Muña-Barnes](#). – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

Transmitted herewith for your consideration is the Committee Report on [Bill No. 308-38 \(COR\)](#) - [Tina Rose Muña-Barnes](#). – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

- Notice of Hearing
- Hearing Agenda
- Hearing Sign-in Sheet
- Submitted Testimonies and Supporting Documents
- Committee Report Vote Sheet
- Committee Report Digest
- Copy of Bill No. 308-38 (COR)
- Fiscal Note

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Office of Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane.

Sincerely,

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane 
Chairwoman, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs



COMMITTEE ON RULES

Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada, Chairperson

I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

38th Guam Legislature

April 21, 2026

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

Attorney Darleen E.H. Phillips
Legislative Legal Counsel

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

Subject: Referral of Bill No. 308-38 (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. 308-38 (COR)** - Tina Rose Muña-Barnes. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

Please ensure that the subject bill is referred to the Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs chaired by Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane. 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.





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

June 16, 2026

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media

From: Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane
Chairperson, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

Subject: First Notice of Public Hearing: Tuesday June 23, 2026, 1:00 P.M.

Håfa Adai!

The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday June 23, beginning at 1:00 P.M., in the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building.

The Committee will hear and accept testimony on the following:

Bill No. 308-38 (COR) - Tina Rose Muña-Barnes. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

Bill No. 322-38 (COR) - Telo T. Taitague Therese M. Terlaje, Chris Barnett, Sabina F. Perez. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 12212.2 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXPANDING PHYSICIAN PUBLIC PROFILE DISCLOSURES TO INCLUDE PRACTICE CAPACITY AND PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INFORMATION TO PROMOTE INFORMED PATIENT DECISION-MAKING.”

Bill No. 327-38 (LS) - William A. Parkinson. – “AN ACT TO AMEND SUBSECTIONS (e) AND (f) OF § 3216 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, AND TO ADD NEW SUBSECTIONS (k), (l), AND (m) TO § 3216 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO MODERNIZING GUAM'S DEATH REGISTRATION LAW BY EXTENDING THE MEDICAL ATTENTION WINDOW FOR NATURAL DEATH CERTIFICATION AND ALIGNING DEATH REGISTRATION WITH THE POST-MORTEM EXAMINATION ACT.

How to Participate: Written testimony may be delivered to the Office of Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane at the Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa Hagåtña, Guam 96910 or via email to Office.SenatorBri@guamlegislature.gov. The Committee requests that testimonies be submitted at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the scheduled hearing. Please confirm your attendance by contacting the Office of Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane via email at Office.SenatorBri@guamlegislature.gov or via voice call at (671) 989-2572.

Special Accommodations: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals requiring assistance or accommodations should contact Annie San Nicolas, at the Office of Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane.

Watch Live/Record: The hearing will be broadcast on local television, GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117, and streamed online via *I Liheslaturan Guåhan's* live feed on YouTube. After the hearing, a hearing recording will also be available online via Guam Legislature Media on YouTube.



Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

First Notice of Public Hearing: Tuesday June 23, 2026, 1:00 P.M.

2 messages

Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane

Tue, Jun 16, 2026 at 11:44 AM

<office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

To: phnotice@guamlegislature.gov, Ed Pocaigue <sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov>, Giovanni Naz <mis@guamlegislature.gov>, 38th Committee On Rules <committeeonrules@guamlegislature.gov>, Audio / Video <av@guamlegislature.gov>

Bcc: Ann San Nicolas <ann.sn@guamlegislature.gov>, senator.sabrina@guamlegislature.gov, Sergio Salas <sergio.salas@guamlegislature.gov>, joesir@guamlegislature.gov, john.mafnas@guamlegislature.gov

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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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PH 6.16 First Notice 2026.06.23.pdf
 363K

Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane

Tue, Jun 16, 2026 at
 12:13 PM

<office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

To: phnotice@guamlegislature.gov, Ed Pocaigue <sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov>, Giovanni Naz

<mis@guamlegislature.gov>, 38th Committee On Rules <committeeonrules@guamlegislature.gov>, Audio / Video

<av@guamlegislature.gov>

June 16, 2026

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media

From: Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane
 Chairperson, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

Subject: First Notice of Public Hearing: Tuesday June 23, 2026, 1:00 P.M.

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The Committee will hear and accept testimony on the following:

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[Quoted text hidden]

First Notice of Public Hearing: Tuesday June 23, 2026, 1:00 P.M.

 PRINT

First Notice of Public Hearing: Tuesday June 23, 2026, 1:00 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING

 **Posted on:** 06/16/2026 11:36 AM

 **Posted by:** Annie San Nicolas, Administrative Office/Committee Director

 **Public Hearing Date:** 06/23/2026 01:00 PM

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

 **Division(s):**
OFFICE OF SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE (/notices?division_id=295)

 **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)

 **Share this notice**



The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday June 23, beginning at 1:00 P.M., in the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building.

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([https://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20308-38%20\(COR\).pdf](https://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20308-38%20(COR).pdf)) - Tina Rose Muña-Barnes. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

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([https://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20327-38%20\(LS\).pdf](https://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20327-38%20(LS).pdf)) - William A. Parkinson. – “AN ACT TO AMEND SUBSECTIONS (e) AND (f) OF § 3216 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, AND TO ADD NEW SUBSECTIONS (k), (l), AND (m) TO § 3216 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO MODERNIZING GUAM'S DEATH REGISTRATION LAW BY EXTENDING THE MEDICAL ATTENTION WINDOW FOR NATURAL DEATH CERTIFICATION AND AL

June 16, 2026

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media

From: Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane
Chairperson, Committee on Health and Veterans

Affairs

Subject: First Notice of Public Hearing: Tuesday June 23, 2026, 1:00 P.M.

Håfa Adai!

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([https://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20327-38%20\(LS\).pdf](https://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20327-38%20(LS).pdf)) - William A. Parkinson. – “AN ACT TO AMEND SUBSECTIONS (e) AND (f) OF § 3216 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, AND TO ADD NEW SUBSECTIONS (k), (l), AND (m) TO § 3216 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO MODERNIZING GUAM'S DEATH REGISTRATION LAW BY EXTENDING THE MEDICAL ATTENTION WINDOW FOR NATURAL DEATH CERTIFICATION AND ALIGNING DEATH REGISTRATION WITH THE POST-MORTEM EXAMINATION ACT.

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GUAM LEGISLATURE
AUDIO VISUAL DEPARTMENT
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT REQUEST FORM

Office Submitting Request: Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane

Date of Request: June 15, 2026

POINT OF CONTACT

Name: Annie San Nicolas

Contact #:

Email: ann.sn@guamlegislature.gov

PUBLIC HEARING DETAILS

Notice Type: Public Hearing ☒ Informational Briefing ☐ Roundtable

Discussion __ **Oversight Hearing** __ **Committee Meeting** __ **Other:** _____

Notice Title / Bill(s) 308-38 and 322-38 / **Resolution(s)** / **Appointment:**

Date of Event: Tuesday June 23, 2026 **Start Time:** 2:00 PM

Run Dates: June 15, 2026 - June 23, 2026

Location: Guam Congress Building, Public Hearing Room

MEDIA HANDLING

Recording Format: ☒ MP4 ☐ MP3 ☐ Other: _____

Delivery Method: ☒ Email ☐ USB Drive ☐ Cloud Link ☐ Other: _____

CERTIFIED BY:

Name:

Zachary Quinata

Signature:

[Signature]

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND VETERANS AFFAIRS



Notice of Public Hearing

Tuesday June 23, 2026, 1:00 P.M.

The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday June 23, 2026, beginning at 1:00 P.M., in the Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building.



The purpose of this Hearing is to hear from the following:

Bill No. 308-38 (COR) - Tina Rose Muña-Barnes. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

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SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND VETERANS AFFAIRS



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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

June 19, 2026

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media

From: Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane
Chairperson, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

Subject: Second Notice of Public Hearing: Tuesday June 23, 2026, 1:00 P.M.

Håfa Adai!

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Bill No. 327-38 (LS) - William A. Parkinson. – “AN ACT TO AMEND SUBSECTIONS (c) AND (d) OF § 3216 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, AND TO ADD NEW SUBSECTIONS (lc), (l), AND (m) TO § 3216 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO MODERNIZING GUAM'S DEATH REGISTRATION LAW BY EXTENDING THE MEDICAL ATTENTION WINDOW FOR NATURAL DEATH CERTIFICATION AND AL

At the request of the author, consideration of Bill No. 327-38 (COR) has been deferred and will be heard at a later date.

How to Participate: Written testimony may be delivered to the Office of Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane at the Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa Hagåtña, Guam 96910 or via email to Office.SenatorBri@guamlegislature.gov. The Committee requests that testimonies be submitted at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the scheduled hearing. Please confirm your attendance by contacting the Office of Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane via email at Office.SenatorBri@guamlegislature.gov or via voice call at (671) 989-2572.

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Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

Second Notice of Public Hearing: Tuesday June 23, 2026, 1:00 P.M.

1 message

Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane

Fri, Jun 19, 2026 at 8:00 AM

<office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

To: phnotice@guamlegislature.gov, Ed Pocaigue <sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov>, Giovanni Naz <mis@guamlegislature.gov>, Audio / Video <av@guamlegislature.gov>, 38th Committee On Rules <committeeonrules@guamlegislature.gov>

Bcc: Ann San Nicolas <ann.sn@guamlegislature.gov>, senator.sabrina@guamlegislature.gov, Sergio Salas <sergio.salas@guamlegislature.gov>

June 19, 2026

MEMORANDUM

-

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media

From: Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane
Chairperson, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

Subject: Second Notice of Public Hearing: Tuesday June 23, 2026, 1:00 P.M.

Håfa Adai!

The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday June 23, beginning at 1:00 P.M., in the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building.

The Committee will hear and accept testimony on the following:

Bill No. 308-38 (COR) - Tina Rose Muña-Barnes. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

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--



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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364K

Second Notice of Public Hearing: Tuesday June 23, 2026, 1:00 P.M.

 PRINT

Second Notice of Public Hearing: Tuesday June 23, 2026, 1:00 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING

 **Posted on:** 06/19/2026 08:30 AM

 **Posted by:** Annie San Nicolas

 **Public Hearing Date:** 06/23/2026 01:00 PM

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

 **Division(s):**
OFFICE OF SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANAN(/notices?division_id=295)

 **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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Håfa Adai!

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The Committee will hear and accept testimony on the following:

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([https://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20308-38%20\(COR\).pdf](https://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20308-38%20(COR).pdf)) - Tina Rose Muña-Barnes. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

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([https://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20322-38%20\(COR\)%20Referred%20Version.pdf](https://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20322-38%20(COR)%20Referred%20Version.pdf)) - Telo T. Taitague Therese M. Terlaje, Chris Barnett, Sabina F. Perez. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 12212.2 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXPANDING PHYSICIAN PUBLIC PROFILE DISCLOSURES TO INCLUDE PRACTICE CAPACITY AND PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INFORMATION TO PROMOTE INFORMED PATIENT DECISION-MAKING.”

Bill No. 327-38 (LS)

([https://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20327-38%20\(LS\).pdf](https://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20327-38%20(LS).pdf)) ~~William A. Parkinson. – “AN ACT TO AMEND SUBSECTIONS (e) AND (f) OF § 3216 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, AND TO ADD NEW SUBSECTIONS (k), (l), AND (m) TO § 3216 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO MODERNIZING GUAM'S DEATH REGISTRATION LAW BY EXTENDING THE MEDICAL ATTENTION WINDOW FOR NATURAL DEATH CERTIFICATION AND AL~~

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GUAM LEGISLATURE
AUDIO VISUAL DEPARTMENT
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT REQUEST FORM

Office Submitting Request: Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane

Date of Request: June 15, 2026

POINT OF CONTACT

Name: Annie San Nicolas

Contact #:

Email: ann.sn@guamlegislature.gov

PUBLIC HEARING DETAILS

Notice Type: Public Hearing ☒ Informational Briefing ☐ Roundtable

Discussion __ **Oversight Hearing** __ **Committee Meeting** __ **Other:** _____

Notice Title / Bill(s) 308-38 and 322-38 / **Resolution(s)** / **Appointment:**

Date of Event: Tuesday June 23, 2026 **Start Time:** 2:00 PM

Run Dates: June 15, 2026 - June 23, 2026

Location: Guam Congress Building, Public Hearing Room

MEDIA HANDLING

Recording Format: ☒ MP4 ☐ MP3 ☐ Other: _____

Delivery Method: ☒ Email ☐ USB Drive ☐ Cloud Link ☐ Other: _____

CERTIFIED BY:

Name:

Zachary Quinata

Signature:

[Signature]

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND VETERANS AFFAIRS



Notice of Public Hearing

Tuesday June 23, 2026, 1:00 P.M.

The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday June 23, 2026, beginning at 1:00 P.M., in the Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building.



The purpose of this Hearing is to hear from the following:

Bill No. 308-38 (COR) - Tina Rose Muña-Barnes. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

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SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND VETERANS AFFAIRS



How to Participate: Written testimony may be delivered to the Office of Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane at the Guam Congress Building, 163 *Chalan Santo Papa Hagåtña*, Guam 96910 or via email to Office.SenatorBri@guamlegislature.gov. The Committee requests that testimonies be submitted at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the scheduled hearing.

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Office of Legislative Secretary
SENATOR SABBINA SALAS MATANANE
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 38th Guam Legislature
Chairperson, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

June 17, 2026,

TRANSMITTED VIA EMAIL:

Breanna Sablan

Acting HPLO Administrator, DPHSS
breanna.sablan@dphss.guam.gov

Carissa Pangelinan

Director, GBHWC
carissa.pangelinan@gbhwc.guam.gov

Dr. Joleen Aguon

Director, GMHA
Joleen.aguon@gmha.guam.gov

Theresa Arriola

Director, DPHSS
theresa.c.arriola@dphss.guam.gov

Nathaniel Berg, MD

Chairperson, GBME
[REDACTED]

Dr. Kenny Su

Chief Medical Examiner
[REDACTED]

Subject: Invitation to Public Hearing on Monday June 23, 2026, at 1:00 P.M.

Hafa Adai,

The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday June 23, beginning at 1:00 P.M., in the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building.

The Committee will hear and accept testimony on the following:

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Should you have any questions or concerns, you may contact my office at 671-989-2572 or email office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov.

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane
38th Guam Legislature

Cc:



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1	65
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Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

Invitation to Public Hearing on Monday June 23, 2026, at 1:00 P.M.

7 messages

Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane

Wed, Jun 17, 2026 at

<office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

8:00 AM

To: Breanna Sablan <breanna.sablan@dphss.guam.gov>, "Theresa C. Arriola" <theresa.c.arriola@dphss.guam.gov>, Carissa Pangelinan <carissa.pangelinan@gbhwc.guam.gov>, [REDACTED]

Bcc: Ann San Nicolas <ann.sn@guamlegislature.gov>, senator.sabrina@guamlegislature.gov, john.mafnas@guamlegislature.gov, Sergio Salas <sergio.salas@guamlegislature.gov>

June 17, 2026,

TRANSMITTED VIA EMAIL:**Breanna Sablan**

Acting HPLO Administrator, DPHSS

breanna.sablan@dphss.guam.gov**Theresa Arriola**

Director, DPHSS

theresa.c.arriola@dphss.guam.gov**Carissa Pangelinan**

Director, GBHWC

carissa.pangelinan@gbhwc.guam.gov**Nathaniel Berg, MD**

Chairperson, GBME

Dr. Joleen Aguon

Director, GMHA

Joleen.aguon@gmha.guam.gov**Dr. Kenny Su**

Chief Medical Examiner

Subject: Invitation to Public Hearing on Monday June 23, 2026, at 1:00 P.M.

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Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane
38th Guam Legislature

--



Office of Legislative Secretary
SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guahan | 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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Invitation PH 2026.06.15.pdf
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Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane
<office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

Thu, Jun 18, 2026 at
2:33 PM

To: Breanna Sablan <breanna.sablan@dphss.guam.gov>, "Theresa C. Arriola" <theresa.c.arriola@dphss.guam.gov>, Carissa Pangelinan <carissa.pangelinan@gbhwg.guam.gov>

<cjanderson@gdoe.net>, eddy.reyes@ftfcinc.com, service@calvos.com, customerservice@takecareasia.com, lifeadmin@netcarelifeandhealth.com

TRANSMITTED VIA EMAIL: REVISED 6.18.26**Breanna Sablan**

Acting HPLO Administrator, DPHSS
breanna.sablan@dphss.guam.gov

Theresa Arriola

Director, DPHSS
theresa.c.arriola@dphss.guam.gov

Carissa Pangelinan

Director, GBHWC
carissa.pangelinan@gbhwc.guam.gov

Nathaniel Berg, MD

Chairperson, GBME
[REDACTED]

Dr. Joleen Aguon

Director, GMHA
Joleen.aguon@gmha.guam.gov

Dr. Kenny Su

Chief Medical Examiner
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

Claire Frianeza <claire.frianeza@gmha.org>

Mon, Jun 22, 2026 at 2:45 PM

To: Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

Cc: Breanna Sablan <Breanna.Sablan@dphss.guam.gov>

Hafa Adai,

Due to patient care obligations and clinical responsibilities, Dr. Eusebio will be unable to attend the public hearing.

Thank you,

Claire

From: Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2026 2:34 PM

To: Breanna Sablan <breanna.sablan@dphss.guam.gov>; Theresa C. Arriola <theresa.c.arriola@dphss.guam.gov>; Carissa Pangelinan <carissa.pangelinan@gbhwc.guam.gov>; [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Invitation to Public Hearing on Monday June 23, 2026, at 1:00 P.M.

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TRANSMITTED VIA EMAIL: REVISED 6.18.26

Breanna Sablan

Acting HPLO Administrator, DPHSS

breanna.sablan@dphss.guam.gov

Theresa Arriola

Director, DPHSS

theresa.c.arriola@dphss.guam.gov

Carissa Pangelinan

Director, GBHWC

Nathaniel Berg, MD

Chairperson, GBME

carissa.pangelinan@gbhwc.guam.gov [REDACTED]

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

carissa.pangelinan@gbhwc.guam.gov [REDACTED]**Dr. Joleen Aguon**

Director, GMHA

Joleen.aguon@gmha.guam.gov**Dr. Kenny Su**

Chief Medical Examiner

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Bill No. 327-38 (LS) - William A. Parkinson. – “AN ACT TO AMEND SUBSECTIONS (e) AND (f) OF § 3216 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, AND TO ADD NEW SUBSECTIONS

(k), (l), AND (m) TO § 3216 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO MODERNIZING GUAM'S DEATH REGISTRATION LAW BY EXTENDING THE MEDICAL ATTENTION WINDOW FOR NATURAL DEATH CERTIFICATION AND AL

The Committee requests that all written testimony and presentations be submitted forty-eight (48) hours prior to the hearing. Additionally, you are welcome to invite other officials who may be able to contribute to the discussion.

If your office requires any assistance or accommodation that can be provided by my office or the 38th Guam Legislature, please contact my office via email or voice call.

Should you have any questions or concerns, you may contact my office at 671-989-2572 or email office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov.



Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane

38th Guam Legislature

--



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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[Quoted text hidden]

Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane

<office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

Tue, Jun 23, 2026 at

9:41 AM

To: Breanna Sablan <breanna.sablan@dphss.guam.gov>, "Theresa C. Arriola" <theresa.c.arriola@dphss.guam.gov>, Carissa Pangelinan <carissa.pangelinan@gbhwc.guam.gov>, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Ann San Nicolas

<ann.sn@guamlegislature.gov>, john.mafnas@guamlegislature.gov, Sergio Salas <sergio.salas@guamlegislature.gov>

Hafa Adai,

Please be advised that The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs will recess the Public Hearing on Tuesday June 23, 2026 at 1:00 p.m., in the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building. The Public Hearing will reconvene on Thursday, July 2, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

On Wed, Jun 17, 2026 at 8:00 AM Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

Mail Delivery Subsystem <mailer-daemon@googlemail.com>
To: office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov

Tue, Jun 23, 2026 at 9:42 AM



Address not found

Your message wasn't delivered to [REDACTED] because the domain grmc.gum couldn't be found. Check for typos or unnecessary spaces and try again.

[LEARN MORE](#)

The response was:

DNS Error: DNS type 'mx' lookup of grmc.gum responded with code NXDOMAIN Domain name not found: grmc.gum For more information, go to <https://support.google.com/mail/?p=BadRcptDomain>

Final-Recipient: rfc822; [REDACTED]

Action: failed

Status: 5.1.2

Diagnostic-Code: smtp; DNS Error: DNS type 'mx' lookup of grmc.gum responded with code NXDOMAIN

Domain name not found: grmc.gum For more information, go to <https://support.google.com/mail/?p=BadRcptDomain>

Last-Attempt-Date: Mon, 22 Jun 2026 16:42:18 -0700 (PDT)

 **noname**
6K

Mail Delivery Subsystem <mailer-daemon@googlemail.com>
To: office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov

Tue, Jun 23, 2026 at 9:42 AM



Address not found

Your message wasn't delivered to **mamieb@yahoo.com** because the address couldn't be found, or is unable to receive mail.

The response from the remote server was:

552 1 Requested mail action aborted, mailbox not found

Final-Recipient: rfc822; mamieb@yahoo.com

Action: failed

Status: 5.1.1

Remote-MTA: dns; mta5.am0.yahoodns.net. (67.195.228.110, the server for the domain yahoo.com.)

Diagnostic-Code: smtp; 552 1 Requested mail action aborted, mailbox not found

Last-Attempt-Date: Mon, 22 Jun 2026 16:42:24 -0700 (PDT)

 **noname**
6K

Thomas Shieh, MD, FACOG <doctorshieh@yahoo.com>

Wed, Jun 24, 2026 at 1:15 AM

To: Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>, Breanna Sablan <breanna.sablan@dphss.guam.gov>, "Theresa C. Arriola" <theresa.c.arriola@dphss.guam.gov>, Carissa Pangelinan <carissa.pangelinan@gbhwc.guam.gov>, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Ann San Nicolas
<ann.sn@guamlegislature.gov>, john.mafnas@guamlegislature.gov, Sergio Salas <sergio.salas@guamlegislature.gov>

Confirmed received. Thank you.

Thomas Shieh, MD, FACOG

Board Certified

www.shiehclinic.com

Apologies for grammar & typos from small keyboard on iPhone

[Shieh Clinic Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

[Quoted text hidden]



Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

Notice of Public Hearing Recessed:Public Hearing to reconvene on Thursday July 2, 2026 at 8:30 a.m

9 messages

Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane

Mon, Jun 29, 2026 at 10:31 AM

<office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

To: Breanna Sablan <breanna.sablan@dphss.guam.gov>, "Theresa C. Arriola" <theresa.c.arriola@dphss.guam.gov>, Carissa Pangelinan <carissa.pangelinan@qbhwc.guam.gov>

[REDACTED]

Bcc: Ann San Nicolas <ann.sn@guamlegislature.gov>, senator.sabrina@guamlegislature.gov

Invitation to attend Public Hearing Reconvening on Thursday July 2, 2026, at 8:30 AM

Håfa Adai,

Please be advised that The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs recessed the Public Hearing held Today, June 23, 2026.

The Public Hearing will reconvene on Thursday, July 2, 2026 at 8:30 a.m., in the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building.

The Committee will hear and accept testimony on the following:

Bill No. 308-38 (COR)- Tina Rose Muña-Barnes. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

Bill No. 322-38 (COR)- Telo T. Taitague Therese M. Terlaje, Chris Barnett, Sabina F. Perez. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 12212.2 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXPANDING PHYSICIAN PUBLIC PROFILE DISCLOSURES TO INCLUDE PRACTICE CAPACITY AND PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INFORMATION TO PROMOTE INFORMED PATIENT DECISION-MAKING.”

Bill No. 327-38 (LS)- William A. Parkinson. – “AN ACT TO AMEND SUBSECTIONS (c) AND (f) OF § 3216 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, AND TO ADD NEW SUBSECTIONS (k), (l), AND (m) TO § 3216 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO MODERNIZING GUAM'S DEATH REGISTRATION LAW BY EXTENDING THE MEDICAL ATTENTION WINDOW FOR NATURAL DEATH CERTIFICATION AND AL

At the request of the author, consideration of Bill No. 327-38 (COR) has been deferred and will be heard at a later date.

The Committee requests that all written testimony and presentations be submitted forty-eight (48) hours prior to the hearing. Additionally, you are welcome to invite other officials who may be able to contribute to the discussion.

If your office requires any assistance or accommodation that can be provided by my office or the 38th Guam Legislature, please contact my office via email or voice call. Should you have any questions or concerns, you may contact my office at 671-989-2572 or email office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov.

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane

38th Guam Legislature

--



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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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING RECESS .RESCHEDULED July 2, 2026 8.30AM.pdf**

334K

Mail Delivery Subsystem <mailer-daemon@googlemail.com>

Sun, Jun 28, 2026 at 5:33 PM

To: office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov



Address not found

Your message wasn't delivered to [REDACTED] because the address couldn't be found, or is unable to receive mail.

The response from the remote server was:

552 1 Requested mail action aborted, mailbox not found

Final-Recipient: rfc822; [REDACTED]

Action: failed

Status: 5.1.1

Remote-MTA: dns: mta7.am0.yahoodns.net. (67.195.204.72, the server for the domain yahoo.com.)

Diagnostic-Code: smtp; 552 1 Requested mail action aborted, mailbox not found

Last-Attempt-Date: Sun, 28 Jun 2026 00:33:14 -0700 (PDT)

**noname**

6K

Board Certified
Shieh Clinic

Shieh Clinic

By Shieh Clinic

Apologies for grammar & typos from small keyboard on iPhone
[Shieh Clinic Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

[Quoted text hidden]

Gi Young Flores [REDACTED]
To: office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov

Mon, Jun 29, 2026 at 8:39 AM

Dept, [REDACTED]
To: "office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov" <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

Mon, Jun 29, 2026 at 3:01 PM

Your message

To: Dept, HIM
Subject: Notice of Public Hearing Recessed:Public Hearing to reconvene on Thursday July 2, 2026 at 8:30 a.m
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2026 10:31:47 AM (UTC+10:00) Guam, Port Moresby

was read on Monday, June 29, 2026 3:01:09 PM (UTC+10:00) Guam, Port Moresby.

Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane
<office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

Wed, Jul 1, 2026 at
1:42 PM

To: Breanna Sablan <breanna.sablan@dphss.guam.gov>, "Theresa C. Arriola" <theresa.c.arriola@dphss.guam.gov>, Carissa Pangelinan <carissa.pangelinan@gbhwc.guam.gov>

[REDACTED]
Ann San Nicolas <ann.sn@guamlegislature.gov>,
senator.sabrina@guamlegislature.gov, Sergio Salas <sergio.salas@guamlegislature.gov>

Please see attached zoom link for the Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs public hearing for Thursday July 2, 2026 at 8:30am.

Guam Legislature is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Guam Legislature's Zoom Meeting

Time: Jul 2, 2026 08:30 AM Guam, Port Moresby

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83179006415?pwd=kftbZJwpl26eQvUrYutNETulWelkv3.1>

Meeting chat link

<https://us06web.zoom.us/launch/jc/83179006415>

Meeting ID: 831 7900 6415

Passcode: 210727

One tap mobile

+16694449171,,83179006415#,,,,*210727# US

+16699006833,,83179006415#,,,,*210727# US (San Jose)

Join by SIP

• 83179006415@zoomcrc.com

Join instructions

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meetings/83179006415/invitations?signature=sl1IPnDYKuhQskZPTxfA3FbXSQ4oLi02r-TRES468E>



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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[Quoted text hidden]

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Wed, Jul 1, 2026 at 1:43 PM

To: office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov

[Quoted text hidden]

Final-Recipient: rfc822; [REDACTED]

Action: failed

Status: 5.1.1

Remote-MTA: dns; mta7.am0.yahoodns.net. (67.195.228.109, the server for the domain yahoo.com.)

Diagnostic-Code: smtp; 552 1 Requested mail action aborted, mailbox not found

Last-Attempt-Date: Tue, 30 Jun 2026 20:43:05 -0700 (PDT)

7/14/26, 2:42 PM

Guam Legislature Mail - Notice of Public Hearing Recessed:Public Hearing to reconvene on Thursday July 2, 2026 at 8:30 a.m

 **noname**
6K



Office of Legislative Secretary
SENATOR SABBINA SALAS MATANANE
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 38th Guam Legislature
Chairperson, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday June 23, 2026, 1:00PM
Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building

Agenda

Bill No. 308-38 (COR) - Tina Rose Muña-Barnes. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

Bill No. 322-38 (COR) - Telo T. Taitague Therese M. Terlaje, Chris Barnett, Sabina F. Perez. – “AN ACT TO *ADD* A NEW § 12212.2 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXPANDING PHYSICIAN PUBLIC PROFILE DISCLOSURES TO INCLUDE PRACTICE CAPACITY AND PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INFORMATION TO PROMOTE INFORMED PATIENT DECISION-MAKING.”

Bill No. 327-38 (LS) – ~~William A. Parkinson. – “AN ACT TO AMEND SUBSECTIONS (e) AND (f) OF § 3216 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, AND TO ADD NEW SUBSECTIONS (k), (l), AND (m) TO § 3216 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO MODERNIZING GUAM'S DEATH REGISTRATION LAW BY EXTENDING THE MEDICAL ATTENTION WINDOW FOR NATURAL DEATH CERTIFICATION AND ALIGNING DEATH REGISTRATION WITH THE POST MORTEM EXAMINATION ACT.~~

At the request of the author, consideration of Bill No. 327-38 (COR) has been deferred and will be heard at a later date.

This Public Hearing will broadcast on local television, GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117 and stream online via I Liheslaturan Guåhan's live feed.



The Office of the Legislative Secretary
SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 38th Guam Legislature
 Chairwoman, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

PUBLIC HEARING

Thursday July 2, 2026, 8:30 AM
 Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building

Bill No. 308-38 (COR) - Tina Rose Muña-Barnes. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

Bill No. 322-38 (COR) - Telo T. Taitague Therese M. Terlaje, Chris Barnett, Sabina F. Perez. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 12212.2 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXPANDING PHYSICIAN PUBLIC PROFILE DISCLOSURES TO INCLUDE PRACTICE CAPACITY AND PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INFORMATION TO PROMOTE INFORMED PATIENT DECISION-MAKING.”

Check all that apply. Please provide staff with written testimony for photocopying.

Name (Please Print)	Agency /Organization	Contact Information	Bill No./Doc No. Appointment	Participation	Stance
BALTAZAR HATTORI	DPHSS/HPLO		308-38 (COR) 322-38 (COR) 327-38 (LS)	☒ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support
Bryce Taijeron	DPHSS/HPLO		308-38 (COR) 322-38 (COR) 327-38 (LS)	☒ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support
Beydan Chun	Office of Tina Muña Barnes		308-38 (COR) 322-38 (COR) 327-38 (LS)	☒ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support
Sarah Serisola	Office of Senator Tina Muña Barnes		308-38 (COR) 322-38 (COR) 327-38 (LS)	☒ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support
Isauro Aguon	Office of Senator Tina Muña Barnes		308-38 (COR) 322-38 (COR) 327-38 (LS)	☒ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support
Edward Santos			308-38 (COR) 322-38 (COR) 327-38 (LS)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support
Mamie Balajadia			308-38 (COR) 322-38 (COR) 327-38 (LS)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support
Breanna Sablan			308-38 (COR) 322-38 (COR) 327-38 (LS)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support



The Office of the Legislative Secretary
SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 38th Guam Legislature
Chairwoman, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

PUBLIC HEARING

Thursday July 2, 2026, 8:30 AM
Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building

Bill No. 308-38 (COR) - Tina Rose Muña-Barnes. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

Bill No. 322-38 (COR) - Telo T. Taitague Therese M. Terlaje, Chris Barnett, Sabina F. Perez. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 12212.2 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXPANDING PHYSICIAN PUBLIC PROFILE DISCLOSURES TO INCLUDE PRACTICE CAPACITY AND PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INFORMATION TO PROMOTE INFORMED PATIENT DECISION-MAKING.”

Check all that apply. Please provide staff with written testimony for photocopying.

Name (Please Print)	Agency /Organization	Contact Information	Bill No./Doc No. Appointment	Participation	Stance
Nadine Cepeda			308-38 (COR) 322-38 (COR) 327-38 (LS)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support
			308-38 (COR) 322-38 (COR) 327-38 (LS)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support
			308-38 (COR) 322-38 (COR) 327-38 (LS)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support
			308-38 (COR) 322-38 (COR) 327-38 (LS)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support
			308-38 (COR) 322-38 (COR) 327-38 (LS)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support
			308-38 (COR) 322-38 (COR) 327-38 (LS)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support
			308-38 (COR) 322-38 (COR) 327-38 (LS)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support
			308-38 (COR) 322-38 (COR) 327-38 (LS)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support



Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners

Department of Public Health and Social Services
Health Professional Licensing Office

June 23, 2026

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane
Office of the Legislative Secretary
Chairperson, Committee on Health & Veteran Affairs
38th Guam Legislature

Senator Tina Rose Muna-Barnes
Vice Chairperson, Committee on Education, Libraries, and Public Broadcasting
38th Guam Legislature

RE: Bill No. 308-38 "An Act to Add a New § 1212202(b)(1), Guam Code Annotated, Relative to Regulating the Training of Clinical Psychologists to Allow for Supervision in Guam." Introduced by Senator Tina Muna-Barnes

Honorable Senator Salas Matanane, Honorable Senator Muna-Barnes and Honorable Members of the 38th Guam Legislature:

It is an honor to come before you today to testify on the Subject Bill 308-38

I am Dr. Mamie Balajadia, a Guam Licensed Clinical Psychologist for the last 41 years. I was licensed in 1985. My clinical experience and services spanned from the Community Mental Health Center, under old Guam Memorial Hospital to the old Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse and the Guam Regional Community Health Centers where I am today as a practitioner. I have served on the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners (GBAHE), representing Clinical Psychology from 2003 to present, for 23 years. And I have been elected Chairpersonship to serve on the GBAHE for sixteen consecutive years, from 2010 to present.

I cannot over emphasize the role, duty and responsibility of a licensed Clinical Psychologist providing clinical supervision to psychology interns as well as pre- and post-doctoral Residents. It is not merely to clock-in the number of hours at a designated clinical setting in a hospital or clinic where the Intern or Residents gaining their experience but the valuable ground for learning and what it means to be a clinician in the field of psychology. Proper clinical supervision required a formal and structured hours between the Clinical Supervisor and Supervisee. The Clinical Supervisor must demonstrate that they have the knowledge, skills, experience, and leadership skills to exercise the position of a Clinical Supervisor. I am happy to report to you that I have been fortunate to have several competent and effective supervisors, on Guam and graduate schools in the States to shape and develop me to be the Clinical Psychologist I am today. And presently, I am learning from patients who also taught me to be a better clinician.

However, I must report to you today that some up and coming individuals who believe that once they have secured a clinical supervisor and have obtained the minimum required hours, they are ready to roll out in this community, to work as a "clinician" without rules and regulations.

This is why the subject Bill mandates and required the proper "training of post-doctorate interns of clinical psychology" under a licensing regulatory Board, i.e. The Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners to ensure our future clinical psychologists are receiving the proper training and skills necessary to be a competent and skilled clinician.

May I suggest adding a provision of (i) under Section 2 (1) (B) "Is under the immediate supervision of a licensed clinical psychologist or licensed psychiatrist or other licensed profession who is *located in the same premises* as the patient or client and who is ultimately responsible for the psychological services rendered."

I am confident that Members of this 38th Guam Legislature see and recognize the importance of this Bill which is meant to *protect the public* and would vote in favor of Bill 308-38.

Dunkulu Si Yu'os Ma'asi.

Very Sincerely,



Dr. Mamie Balajadia, Ed.D., Clinical Psychologist
Chairperson, Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners
American Psychological Association (APA) Fellow 2024
APA Presidential Citation 2000
APA Karl Heiser Award 2000



LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
MAGA' IIAHAN GUAHAN
GOVERNOR OF GUAM

JOSHUA F. TENORIO
SEGUNDO MAGA' LAHEN GUAHAN
LT. GOVERNOR OF GUAM

GOVERNMENT OF GUAM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
DIPATTAMENTON SALUT PUPBLEKO YAN SETBISION SUSIAT



THERESA C. ARRIOLA, MBA
DIRECTOR

PETERJOHN D. CAMACHO, MP
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

June 22, 2026

Senator Sabrina Salas Mantanane

Senator, 38th Guam Legislature

Chairwoman, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

Guam Congress Building

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagatna, GU 96910

Re: **Bill No. 308-38 (COR)** AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(B)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.

Håfa Adai Chairperson and Members of the Committee,

My name is Theresa C. Arriola, and I am the Director of the Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS). Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of Bill No. 308-38 (COR). This legislation addresses a critical, long-standing gap in our island's healthcare infrastructure by creating a clear, board-approved framework for the local supervision and training of post-doctorate clinical psychology interns.

As the former Director of the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center (GBHWC), I have seen firsthand the deep challenges our island faces in building and maintaining a robust mental health workforce. Over one billion people globally live with mental health disorders, and Guam is absolutely not exempt from this reality. Clinical psychologists are essential to diagnosing and treating these complex conditions, yet we consistently struggle to recruit and retain them.

The primary barrier has never been a lack of interest from local students; rather, it is the structural bottleneck that occurs after they graduate. Currently, it is incredibly difficult for interns to find compliant post-doctorate training opportunities on Guam to secure the clinical hours necessary for licensure. This force-exports our brightest local talent to the U.S. mainland simply because they cannot complete their training at home. Bill No. 308-38 (COR) corrects this by establishing a mechanism under the Guam Board of Allied Health to approve local internship programs and define who can legally provide supervision.

What I appreciate most about this bill is that it expands our training capacity without compromising the quality of care or professional standards. It models national guidelines by explicitly outlining stringent criteria for supervisors:

- Supervision can be provided by a licensed Clinical Psychologist, Psychiatrist, or equivalent professional approved by the Board.
- It permits supervisors authorized in the U.S., its territories, or vetted foreign jurisdictions with equivalent standards to participate.
- Any supervisor practicing within Guam must hold a valid local license, have held that license for a minimum of three (3) years, and obtain explicit Board approval.

These guardrails ensure that our post-doctorate interns receive top-tier guidance while protecting the health, safety, and well-being of the patients they serve.

At DPHSS, our overarching mission is to modernize our systems and expand access to comprehensive healthcare for all Guam residents, particularly our most vulnerable populations. Mental and behavioral health is an undeniable, foundational pillar of public health. By providing a legal path to cultivate and retain home-grown clinical psychologists, Bill 308-38 (COR) complements our ongoing efforts to strengthen Guam's broader healthcare workforce infrastructure.

When we give our local psychology students the ability to finish their clinical journeys right here in our community, we ensure that their skills, cultural understanding, and long-term careers remain dedicated to the people of Guam.

Bill No. 308-38 (COR) is a practical, safe, and urgently needed piece of legislation that removes administrative roadblocks to mental health care access. For these reasons, I urge this body to pass this measure swiftly.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse' for your time and your continued commitment to improving the health and well-being of our island.


THERESA C. ARRIOLA, MBA
Director

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF BILL NO. 308-38 (COR)

Submitted to:

I Mina Trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
2026 (Second) Regular Session

RE: Bill No. 308-38 (COR) – Relative to Regulating the Training of Clinical Psychologists to Allow for Supervision in Guam

Håfa Adai Madam Speaker, Members of I Liheslaturan Guåhan:

I respectfully submit this testimony in support of Bill No. 308-38 (COR), which establishes a framework for supervised post-doctoral training for clinical psychologists seeking licensure in Guam.

The proposed legislation addresses a critical workforce development need within Guam's behavioral health system. The island continues to face significant shortages of licensed mental health professionals while simultaneously experiencing growing demands for psychological services across healthcare, education, public safety, military, and community settings. Establishing a clear and ethical pathway for post-doctoral supervision will strengthen Guam's capacity to train, recruit, and retain qualified clinical psychologists.

The American Psychological Association (APA) Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct strongly support the importance of competent supervision and professional training. Several ethical principles are particularly relevant to this legislation.

Principle A: Beneficence and Nonmaleficence states that psychologists strive to benefit those with whom they work and take care to do no harm. Effective supervision protects the public by ensuring that emerging psychologists receive appropriate guidance, consultation, and oversight before independent practice. Bill No. 308-38 promotes this principle by requiring supervision by qualified licensed professionals and Board-approved internship programs.

Principle B: Fidelity and Responsibility emphasizes psychologists' responsibility to establish relationships of trust and uphold professional standards. Licensed psychologists have an ethical obligation to contribute to the development of future professionals. The bill creates a structured mechanism through which experienced clinicians can fulfill this responsibility while maintaining accountability to regulatory standards established by the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners.

Principle C: Integrity requires psychologists to promote accuracy, honesty, and truthfulness in the science, teaching, and practice of psychology. Board approval of internship programs and supervisors helps ensure that training experiences meet professional standards and accurately prepare candidates for independent practice.

Principle D: Justice recognizes that all persons should have access to and benefit from the contributions of psychology. Guam's residents deserve equitable access to high-quality mental

and behavioral health services. By reducing barriers to obtaining supervised post-doctoral experience, this legislation expands opportunities for qualified trainees to complete licensure requirements and ultimately serve the people of Guam. Increasing the number of licensed psychologists on island promotes greater access to care and advances health equity.

Principle E: Respect for People's Rights and Dignity emphasizes the protection of individuals' welfare and the importance of competent service delivery. Well-supervised training experiences ensure that psychological services are provided by individuals who are appropriately trained, monitored, and supported, thereby safeguarding clients and communities.

Furthermore, APA Ethical Standard 2.05 (Delegation of Work to Others) and Ethical Standard 7.06 (Assessing Student and Supervisee Performance) underscore the responsibility of supervisors to provide adequate oversight and evaluate trainees' competence. The provisions of Bill No. 308-38 align with these standards by establishing qualifications for supervisors and requiring Board approval of training programs.

Particularly commendable is the bill's requirement that supervisors hold a valid license, possess a minimum of three years of licensure experience, and receive Board approval before providing supervision. These safeguards help ensure that supervision is delivered by experienced professionals capable of fostering clinical competence, ethical decision-making, and professional development.

As Guam continues to address behavioral health challenges, including mental health disorders, substance use disorders, trauma, suicide prevention, and integrated healthcare needs, strengthening the professional training pipeline is essential. Bill No. 308-38 represents a prudent and ethical investment in Guam's mental health workforce and aligns with nationally recognized standards for psychological education, training, and supervision.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the members of I Mina'Trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan to support and pass Bill No. 308-38 (COR).

Si Yu'os Ma'åse' for your consideration and commitment to advancing the behavioral health needs of the people of Guam.

Respectfully submitted,


Edward Lee Santos, Ph.D.
Officer Guam Psychological Association
June 23, 2026

Hafa Adai Health and Veterans Affairs Committee,

My name is Dr. Alan Butler and I am a clinical psychologist currently practicing on our island. I have worked in a variety of settings here as a clinical psychologist, including the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center, Blue Ocean Behavioral Health, and I am currently working at the Todu Guam Foundation. I greatly appreciate the legislature's time and effort in working toward modernizing and improving laws related to the practice of clinical psychology for our community. The intent of Bill 308-38 to reduce the difficulty "for interns in clinical psychology to find opportunities to complete post-doctorate training" is crucial for our behavioral health community. However, it is important to ensure that the intent of the bill aligns with the likely outcomes of this legislation. Based on my reading of the bill and testimony offered by members of the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners (GBAHE), it is unfortunately very likely that Bill 308-38 will result in even fewer clinical psychologists providing supervision and add further barriers to the training of clinical psychology interns/fellows.

A significant issue with the testimony provided by the GBAHE is Dr. Balajadia requesting the legislature to add a provision stating that the clinical psychologist providing supervision must be "located in the same premises as a patient or client and is ultimately responsible for the psychological services rendered." Requiring the direct supervisor to be on site at all times is an extremely limiting addition to the bill, unnecessary, and unusual for the profession of clinical psychology. Based on a research article that outlines the importance of telesupervision (Noon et al., 2025), of the 50 states, only 4 require clinical psychologist supervisors to be on-site (Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, and North Carolina). The rest of the 46 states either explicitly allow telesupervision (28 states), allow telesupervision with restrictions (2 states), prohibit telesupervision with exceptions to this prohibition (6 states), or have unclear laws regarding telesupervision (13 states). The article outlines the struggle of rural areas to retain psychologists due to the shortage of psychologists providing supervision in those areas. It would benefit our community greatly to take these issues seriously and reduce barriers to clinical psychology interns/fellows receiving supervision on Guam by explicitly allowing licensed clinical psychologists by law to provide telesupervision to doctoral interns and post-doctoral fellows practicing on Guam.

Further, the request to require an on-site supervisor demonstrates a lack of understanding modern trends in clinical psychology and technology. Telesupervision has been much more commonly utilized since the COVID pandemic and has been found in research to be as effective as in-person supervision (Reese et al., 2009; Tarlow et al., 2020). Many clinical psychologists have found that it is more realistic to reach rural areas, such as Guam, by having space for telesupervision and off-site supervision. In fact, the American Psychological Association discusses the use of remote supervision/distance supervision as a valid method for providing clinical supervision (American Psychological Association, 2025) as does the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (2020) which stated that "supervision of telepsychology has the potential to create greater access to care for recipients of psychological services in remote locations or with otherwise underserved populations" (p.20). This type of telesupervision makes it possible for rural areas, such as Guam, to increase access to supervisors in areas with few licensed clinical psychologists. In this way, it is common practice to provide supervision for an intern/fellow who is working in a separate facility due to the lack of supervisory access as clinical psychologists are not present in every agency that could provide behavioral health services. For example, at this time I am not aware of any clinical psychologists working at DISID, DYA, GDOE, GMHA, or GRMC who provide supervision to post doctoral interns. By limiting supervision to being "located in the same premises as a patient" we are dooming those agencies from having clinical psychology interns/fellows for the foreseeable future due to the shortage of clinical psychologists in our community.

Another significant issue is the unrestricted power this bill grants the GBAHE to determine “supervision standards substantially equivalent to those of the United States” without oversight or input from the community (questions about what the board considers “substantially equivalent” were asked by Senator Barnett during the committee hearing, with no satisfying response by the GBAHE). The GBAHE has indicated in their June 12, 2026 board meeting that they are interested in adding “additional specialized education, continuing education units, and formal training in supervision.” Requiring additional continuing education units, specialized education, and formal training is not the norm for clinical psychologists. Instead, some states such as Washington State simply require the psychologist to have a license as a clinical psychologist [“Supervision of the postdoctoral supervised experience must be by a supervisor with an unrestricted license at the time the supervision takes place” (Washington Administrative Code 246-924-059, 2025)] or to have been licensed for a certain number of years, such as 2 years for Oregon psychologists (State of Oregon Board of Psychology, 2026) and currently 3 years for Guam (Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners Administrative Rules and Regulations, 2022). Although some states such as California (California Association for Licensed Clinical Counselors, 2026) require additional training, these states are not the norm and Guam should not increase the barriers to supervision on our island when our community already has a shortage of licensed clinical psychologists willing to provide supervision. These additional burdens will make it so that current supervisors of psychology doctoral students are no longer considered “qualified” by the GBAHE to provide supervision and will result in local psychology interns/fellows leaving the island due to a lack of supervisors considered qualified by the GBAHE.

A final issue is the lack of feedback requested by the GBAHE from stakeholders in the community who will be affected by this legislation. At this time, there are only 3 clinical psychologists providing supervision to doctoral level clinical psychology interns/fellows: myself, Dr. Angela Laygo, and Dr. Mary Fegurgur. The GBAHE has not contacted any of the practitioners who currently are providing supervision to clinical psychology interns/fellows. If the GBAHE had done so, they would have been informed about the problematic nature of the additional and unnecessary requirements they are attempting to place on clinical psychologist supervisors. To my knowledge, and based on GBAHE meeting minutes/videos, the GBAHE has not consulted any of the major stakeholders for behavioral health such as the University of Guam, Guam Psychological Association Members, clinics on Guam that provide behavioral health services, and the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center. The most problematic omission for feedback from stakeholders is the GBAHE neglecting to ask current clinical psychology interns/fellows about their challenges attaining supervision on Guam. Without feedback from these stakeholders, this legislation runs a significant risk of harming clinical psychology interns/fellows and supervisors of these professionals. If Bill 308-38 passes as is, current interns/fellows will be forced to move off-island to complete their internships/fellowships and they likely will not return, creating further shortage of clinical psychologists on Guam.

Our island would be better served by the legislature providing clear pathways to licensure for clinical psychologists, improvements in the law for licensure of clinical psychologists, and incentives to organizations providing licensure related supervision to both clinical psychology doctoral students and masters level counseling students. Regarding clear pathways to licensure, it is a common experience for individuals who apply for licensure to have delays placed on them by the GBAHE. My own licensure was delayed by the GBAHE for over 6 months due to inefficiencies of the GBAHE and incorrect interpretation of the law by the GBAHE. Many others who have sought licensure on our island have had similar delays and inconsistencies in attaining licensure due to issues within the GBAHE itself. Increased oversight of the GBAHE by the legislature, such as by hosting a hearing about barriers licensees faced when attempting to attain licensure, could improve the GBAHE, especially if the legislature were to collect testimony and information from both current licensees and prospective licensees.

Updating the law for clinical psychologist licensure would also potentially increase interest in individuals considering Guam for licensure as many of the provisions in the current law are deficient and have not been updated in decades. Examples of this deficiency include the number of required credit hours not being specified as either quarter or semester hours (currently it states that “not less than one hundred twenty credit hours” are required, which creates great confusion regarding if these “one hundred twenty credit hours” should be quarter hours or semester hours, with individuals in the semester system being unlikely to meet this large and arbitrary number of credits), the requirements for clinical psychologists on Guam to take two licensure examinations rather than the standard one licensure examination (this extra examination is only required in 2 states and Guam, adding unnecessary additional barriers to licensure and making it less likely for psychologists to choose to get licensed here due to the increased burden of an extra examination), and wording in our law that speaks about clinical psychologists being required to complete “two (2) years of internship, of which at least one (1) year must be after receiving their doctorate” when calling both years “internship” created a great deal of confusion (the “internship” completed after the doctorate should be called post doctoral supervised experience, post doctoral fellowship, or supervised professional experience; this issue was noted by Senator Terlaje during the committee hearing where she noticed differences in language within the Bill itself for interns/fellows). These types of issues with the current Guam law for clinical psychologist licensure make it difficult for prospective clinical psychologists to consider Guam as a reasonable destination for clinical practice.

Finally, the legislature could provide support for clinical psychology interns/fellows by providing incentives and grants to organizations that take on supervisors as Senator Gumataotao inquired about during the committee hearing. It is often difficult for clinics in the community to hire interns/fellows due to the additional time and financial burden required to train, supervise, and observe interns/fellows. Organizations such as the Department of Public Health and Social Services could provide grants for clinics to take on clinical psychology interns/fellows; this may include funding for interns/fellows to receive payment for their services, funding for psychological testing materials, and funding for additional off-island trainings for interns/fellows and their supervisors to learn new behavioral health intervention techniques. By providing this funding, more psychologists in the community may be willing to provide supervision to clinical psychology interns/fellows while increasing their own skills through clinical training on interventions.

In summary, the intent of Bill 308-38 is well intentioned and important for our community. It identifies a shortage of psychologists and a need to recruit home-grown behavioral health professionals. However, the actual effects of this Bill as written will result in additional barriers to those of us who are providing supervision in the community and will result in clinical psychologists currently providing supervision to be unable to continue to provide this supervision due to this change in Guam law and GBAHE rules. Instead of focusing on this current Bill, I believe our community will be better served by increased oversight of the GBAHE and the delays in licensure caused by the GBAHE, updating the clinical psychologist licensure law, and incentives/funding for those who are willing to contribute to our island by providing supervision to clinical psychology interns/fellows. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Dr. Alan Butler, Psy.D.

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Guam Medical Association

STATEMENT OF THE GUAM MEDICAL ASSOCIATION REGARDING BILL 322-38

July 1, 2026

Dear Honorable Senators of the 38th Guam Legislature:

The **Guam Medical Association** represents several hundred healthcare providers, predominantly physicians, practicing in Guam. We have consulted a large portion of our membership regarding Bill 322-38, and we are providing this statement to the Legislature.

Our Position: The membership of the Guam Medical Association is uniformly opposed to Bill 322-38. Not a single member polled has expressed support for this legislation.

Context: Before discussing the specifics of this bill, it is important to understand the regulatory environment in which Guam physicians already operate. Guam physicians face regulatory and financial burdens that do not exist in other U.S. jurisdictions.

For example, Guam requires physicians to maintain a separate Controlled Substance Registry (CSR) registration and pay an associated fee of \$500, in addition to federal DEA registration. This requirement essentially duplicates the federal DEA registration. The CSR fee did not exist for years and was suddenly raised without consulting the medical community regarding its impact. Most other states—including Hawaii—do not impose this separate requirement. Physicians in those jurisdictions pay only their federal DEA fee. The Guam CSR requirement has not generated any demonstrable benefit to Guam's regulatory environment or patient safety; it is simply an additional cost.

Additionally, Guam physicians are subject to the Business Privilege Tax (BPT), a gross receipts tax that applies to medical collections in ways that differ significantly from other jurisdictions. This tax cannot be passed on to patients or insurance companies. As a result, Guam physicians receive among the lowest Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement rates in the entire country. Is this something that helps improve healthcare on Guam? The Guam Medical Association members do not believe so.

Guam is already an expensive place to practice medicine, and we face a persistent shortage of specialists. These existing regulatory and financial burdens make recruitment and retention of qualified physicians extremely challenging. Now the Legislature proposes to add yet another burden.

The Contradiction: We note that one of the primary sponsors of Bill 322-38 was instrumental in authoring legislation to bring foreign physicians to Guam and allow them to practice here. That same legislator is now supporting a bill that will make it even harder for us to recruit U.S. physicians. These positions are in direct conflict with each other.

Key Concerns with Bill 322-38:

1. **Excessive and Continuous Reporting Burden**

The bill requires physicians to notify the Board within 30 days of any change in employment status or malpractice insurance status. This includes absences of as little as 30 days. For physicians who work in multiple capacities (private practice, part-time at GMH, part-time at other facilities), this creates a constant stream of notifications and updates. The reporting burden falls entirely on physicians, consuming time and resources that could be devoted to patient care.

2. **Invasion of Privacy and Mandatory Public Disclosure**

Physicians will be required to publicly disclose where they work. For those employed by the Government of Guam, this means disclosing the specific locations where they work—a small number of facilities that are easily identifiable. Many physicians have legitimate reasons for not wanting their employment information publicly available, including safety concerns. This is an unprecedented intrusion into the professional privacy of Guam physicians.

3. **Selective Targeting of Physicians—Discriminatory Application**

This bill targets only physicians. It does not apply to teachers, who are not required to publicly disclose whether they work part-time as bartenders, tutors, or in other capacities. Police officers are not required to disclose on a public website whether they work part-time as private security guards. Government employees across all agencies are not required to make their outside employment public. Why are physicians uniquely subject to this requirement? This selective application raises serious questions about the legislative intent.

4. **Safety and Stalking Concerns**

Publicly disclosing a physician's specific workplace(s), particularly government facilities, creates potential safety risks. Physicians, like all professionals, may face stalking—both online and in person. Compiling easily accessible information about a physician's location and schedule makes stalking more feasible. The Legislature should be aware that stalking is a documented problem both online and in the physical world. No consideration has been given to the safety implications of this mandatory public disclosure.

5. **No Demonstrated Patient Benefit**

Not a single member of the Guam Medical Association has reported that a patient has ever asked them whether they maintain malpractice insurance. Not one. Patients do not choose their physicians based on this information. As part of the selection of a physician, no member of the Legislature has ever asked a physician, "Do you have malpractice insurance? Do you work part-time at Guam Memorial Hospital?" And even if they did ask, the answer certainly would not impact their decision to see that physician. This bill does nothing to improve patient decision-making or healthcare outcomes.

6. **Benefits Only Medical Malpractice Attorneys**

The only parties who benefit from this bill are medical malpractice attorneys. The information mandated by this bill—employment status and malpractice insurance status—is exactly what med-mal attorneys need to determine whom to target for litigation and to assess which claims

might be covered under government versus private liability. This bill is a thinly disguised mechanism to enrich medical malpractice attorneys. It has nothing to do with patient transparency or informed consent.

7. **Contradictory Legislative Position**

Ironically, the same sponsors of this bill are among those who are constantly complaining about the Guam Board of Medical Examiners falling behind in its work. Yet this bill—sponsored by these very same legislators—proposes to add significant new administrative burden to that board. This is internally contradictory: complain about GBME performance while simultaneously imposing additional tasks that will further strain its capacity. If the Legislature believes the GBME is underperforming, adding more administrative requirements will not solve that problem.

8. **No Input from the Medical Community**

The Medical Association has never been consulted about what would genuinely help our members practice medicine on Guam, recruit specialists, or improve the healthcare environment. Instead, the Legislature has proposed legislation that makes it harder to recruit physicians and adds regulatory burden without any demonstrated benefit to patients. This is backwards.

Our Call to the Legislature:

Stop targeting physicians with selective regulatory requirements that do not apply to other licensed professions. Stop proposing legislation designed to benefit private attorneys at the expense of physician recruitment and retention.

Instead, reach out to the Guam Medical Association. We are ready to work with the Legislature to identify genuine barriers to physician recruitment and retention on Guam. We are ready to work together to improve the healthcare environment and the lives of all Guamanians. But that work cannot begin with legislation that makes it harder for us to attract the specialists this island desperately needs.

Bill 322-38 does not serve patients. It does not enhance healthcare. It does not help the Legislature understand anything meaningful about physician practice in Guam. It serves only the financial interests of medical malpractice attorneys.

We respectfully urge the Legislature to withdraw this bill and to engage in genuine collaboration with the medical community.

Respectfully submitted,



Pramila Sullivan
Executive Director, Guam Medical Association

Cc: Guam Board of Medical Examiners



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

COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

Bill No. 308-38 (COR) - Tina Rose Muña-Barnes. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	SIGNATURE AND DATE	TO DO PASS	TO NOT PASS	TO REPORT OUT ONLY	TO ABSTAIN	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE
Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane Chairperson	8.24.26 E-VOTE <i>Smart</i>			X		
Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada Vice Chair, Committee on Health						
Senator Vincent A.V. Borja Vice Chair, Committee on Veterans Affairs	8.21.26 E-VOTE			X		
Speaker Frank F. Blas, Jr. Member	8.21.26 E-VOTE			X		
Senator Jesse A. Lujan Member	8.24.26 E-VOTE			X		
Senator Shelly V. Calvo Member	8.21.26 E-VOTE			X		
Senator Christopher M. Duenas Member	8.21.26 E-VOTE			X		
Senator Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao Member	8.21.26 E-VOTE	X				
Senator Tina Rose Muna Barnes Member	8.21.26 E-VOTE	X				



Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

URGENT: Request for E-Vote-Committee Report for Bill No. 308-38 (COR)

9 messages

Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane

Fri, Aug 21, 2026 at 12:01 PM

<office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

To: "Speaker Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>, Vice Speaker Tony Ada <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Tina Rose Muña-Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Shelly Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>, Senator Jesse Lujan <senator.lujan@guamlegislature.gov>
 Bcc: Ann San Nicolas <ann.sn@guamlegislature.gov>, senator.sabrina@guamlegislature.gov, john.mafnas@guamlegislature.gov, Sergio Salas <sergio.salas@guamlegislature.gov>

Hafa Adai Committee Members:

Please see the attached Amended Committee report relative to **Bill No. 308-38 (COR) - Tina Rose Muña-Barnes**. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

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- 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.

Please contact our office if you have any questions or concerns.

--

**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

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671-989-2572

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**Committee Report 308-38 Final.pdf**

9521K

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

Fri, Aug 21, 2026 at 1:09 PM

To: Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

Cc: "Speaker Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>, Vice Speaker Tony Ada <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Tina Rose Muña-Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Shelly Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>, Senator Jesse Lujan <senator.lujan@guamlegislature.gov>

To Report Out Only



Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas

Chairman, Committee on Finance and Government Operations

259 Martyr St., Hagatna, Guam 96910

senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov

(671) 989-9554

[Quoted text hidden]

Office of Senator Shelly Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>

Fri, Aug 21, 2026 at 1:33 PM

To: Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

To Report Out Only

Respectfully,



Office of the People | Senator Shelly V. Calvo

Majority Whip & Chairwoman

Committee on Child Welfare, Youth Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women's Affairs, Disability Services, the Arts, Culture, Historic Preservation & Hagåtña Restoration

38th Guam Legislature

163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

T +1 (671) 989-5682

E officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov

On Fri, Aug 21, 2026 at 12:02 PM Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

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

Fri, Aug 21, 2026 at 2:39 PM

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

Cc: Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>, Vice Speaker Tony Ada <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Tina Rose Muña-Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Shelly Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>, Senator Jesse Lujan <senator.lujan@guamlegislature.gov>

To Report Out Only

Judy Shockley
Office Administrator



Office of Speaker Frank F. Blas, Jr.

I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan 38th Guam Legislature

Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagatña

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speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov

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[Quoted text hidden]

Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>

Fri, Aug 21, 2026 at 2:43 PM

To: Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

Cc: "Speaker Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>, Vice Speaker Tony Ada

<vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Tina Rose Muña-Barnes

<senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Shelly Calvo

<officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>, Senator Jesse Lujan <senator.lujan@guamlegislature.gov>

Hafa adai,

TO DO PASS

Si Yu'os ma'åse'!

On Fri, Aug 21, 2026 at 12:02 PM Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Office of Senator Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao

Chairman, Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard

38th Guam Legislature

[120 Father Duenas Avenue](#) Capitol Plaza Building, Suite 103, Hagatña, Guam 96910

(671) 647-1409/1411

Office of Senator Vince Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2026 at 2:45 PM

Reply-To: Office of Senator Vince Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>

To: office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov

Cc: speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov, vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov,

senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov, officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov,

senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov, office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov, senator.lujan@guamlegislature.gov,

office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov

Hafa Adai,

TO REPORT OUT ONLY.

Respectfully,

**Gerri Salas**

Committee on Education, Libraries, & Public Broadcasting

38th Guam Legislature

Suite 502, DNA Bldg. 238 Archbishop Flores St.

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

T +1 (671) 969-8423

E contact@senatorvinceborja.com

On Fri, 21 Aug at 12:39 AM , Frank Blas Jr. <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov> wrote:
To Report Out Only

Judy Shockley
Office Administrator

**Office of Speaker Frank F. Blas, Jr.**I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guahan 38th Guam Legislature

Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagatña

(671)969-6456

speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov

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On Fri, Aug 21, 2026 at 1:10 PM Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov> wrote:

To Report Out Only

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

259 Martyr St., Hagatna, Guam 96910

senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov

(671) 989-9554

On Fri, Aug 21, 2026 at 12:02 PM Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov> wrote:

Hafa Adai Committee Members:

Please see the attached Amended Committee report relative to **Bill No. 308-38 (COR) - Tina Rose Muña-Barnes**. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

- 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.

Please contact our office if you have any questions or concerns.



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 Tina Rose Muña-Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>

Fri, Aug 21, 2026 at 2:57 PM

To: Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

Cc: "Speaker Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>, Vice Speaker Tony Ada <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Shelly Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>, Senator Jesse Lujan <senator.lujan@guamlegislature.gov>

to do pass

On Fri, Aug 21, 2026 at 12:02 PM Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane

Mon, Aug 24, 2026 at 11:25 AM

<office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

To: Senator Tina Rose Muña-Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>

Cc: "Speaker Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>, Vice Speaker Tony Ada <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Shelly Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>, Senator Jesse Lujan <senator.lujan@guamlegislature.gov>

To Report Out Only.

[Quoted text hidden]

Senator Jesse Lujan <senator.lujan@guamlegislature.gov>

Mon, Aug 24, 2026 at 11:37 AM

To: Office of Legislative Secretary Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>

Cc: Senator Tina Rose Muña-Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>, "Speaker Frank Blas Jr."

<speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>, Vice Speaker Tony Ada <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator

Shelly Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Chris Duenas

<senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of

Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>

To Report Out Only.

[Quoted text hidden]

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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

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The Office of the Legislative Secretary

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE

I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 38th Guam Legislature
Chairwoman, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

I. OVERVIEW:

The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs conducted a Public Hearing on Thursday July 2, 2026, scheduled to begin at 8:30 AM., in the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building.

Among other items, on the agenda for discussion was [Bill No. 308-38 \(COR\)](#) - Tina Rose Muña-Barnes. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

Public Notice Requirements

In accordance with Open Government Law, the public notice for this public hearing was disseminated via email to all senators and main media broadcasting outlets on June 16, 2026, and June 19, 2026 and June 29, 2026. This Public Hearing was recessed and reconvened on July 2, 2026 at 8:30am This public notice was also posted on the Guam Legislature website and the Public Notice Portal.

Senators Present

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane, Chairperson of the Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs
Senator Shawn Gumataotao
Senator Tina Muna Barnes
Senator Therese Terlaje
Senator Telo Taitague
Senator Sabina Perez
Senator Chris Barnett

Appearing before the Committee:

Breanna Sablan
Dr. Mamie Balajadia
Dr. Edward Santos
Nadine Cepeda

II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY AND DISCUSSION:

This Public Hearing was called to order at 8:32 AM.

SENATOR MATANANE

Hafa Adai and Good Morning, Everyone. Welcome to this hearing of the Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs. The time is 8:32 in the morning. It is Thursday, July 2nd, 2026.

Committee Report Digest: [Bill No. 308-38 \(COR\)](#) - Tina Rose Muña-Barnes. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

Thursday July 2, at 8:30 AM.

Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building

THANK YOU TO THOSE JOINING US HERE IN PERSON. AND TO THOSE TUNING IN ONLINE, TODAY WE WILL BE HEARING THE FOLLOWING MEASURES. BILL 308-38 COR INTRODUCED BY RANKING MEMBER TINA ROSE MUNA BARNES. IT IS AN ACT ADD A NEW SUBSECTION 121202B1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM. WE WILL ALSO BE HEARING BILL NUMBER 322-38 COR INTRODUCED BY SENATOR TELO TAITAGUE. IT IS AN ACT TO ADD A NEW SUBSECTION 12212.2 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXPANDING PHYSICIAN PUBLIC PROFILE DISCLOSURES TO INCLUDE PRACTICE CAPACITY AND PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INFORMATION TO PROMOTE INFORMED PATIENT DECISIONMAKING. BEFORE WE GET STARTED, ALL HEARING MATERIALS HAVE BEEN UPLOADED TO THE COMMITTEE DRIVE AND PRINTED COPIES ARE AVAILABLE IF NEEDED. TODAY'S HEARING IS ALSO BEING RECORDED AND WILL BE POSTED ON THE GUAM LEGISLATURE'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL FOR PUBLIC VIEWING. WITH THAT, I'D LIKE TO RECOGNIZE MY COLLEAGUES THAT ARE WITH US TODAY. RANKING MEMBER TINA ROSE MUNA BARNES, SENATOR SHAWN GUMATAOTAO, SENATOR TELO TAITAGUE, AND SENATOR THERESE TERLAJE. BEFORE WE GET STARTED, A QUICK REMINDERS. SENATORS WILL EACH HAVE FIVE MINUTES FOR QUESTIONS. AS FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT ARE WITH US, WE ASK THAT YOU PLEASE SPEAK CLOSELY INTO THE MICROPHONE, STATE YOUR NAME, THE ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT BEFORE YOU BEGIN YOUR TESTIMONY. WE ARE GOING TO START WITH BILL 308. IF YOU ARE HERE TO TESTIFY ON THAT BILL, PLEASE HAVE A SEAT AT THE TABLE. AND BEFORE ACCEPTING TESTIMONY, WE WILL HEAR OPENING REMARKS FROM THE AUTHOR, RANKING MEMBER.

SENATOR MUNA BARNES

MANANA SI YU'OS. GOOD MORNING, MADAME CHAIR. THANK YOU VERY MUCH MADAM CHAIR FOR HEARING BILL NUMBER 308-38 COR WHICH IS A BILL AN ACT TO ADD A NEW SECTION 121202B1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM. BILL 308-38 COR MADAM CHAIR AND COLLEAGUES WAS RESEARCHED AND DRAFTED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF A STUDENT INTERN FROM THE NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ARKANSAS CAMPUS STUDYING MEDICINE AND DR. VERN PARIS. SHE IS AMONG A GROUP OF YOUNG HEALTH PROFESSIONALS SEEKING TO ADDRESS GAPS IN GUAM'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM. THIS BILL MADAME CHAIR REFLECTS OUR CONTINUED EFFORTS TO CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR GUAM STUDENTS PURSUING HIGHER EDUCATION OFF ISLAND AND TO BUILD PATHWAYS FOR THEM TO RETURN HOME AND TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY. BILL 308-38 SEEKS TO ESTABLISH A CLEARER FRAMEWORK FOR THE SUPERVISION OF POST DOCTORAL CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY INTERNS HELPING EXPAND LOCAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES AND STRENGTHEN GUAM'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH WORKFORCE. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES MADAME CHAIR AND COLLEAGUES AND TO THE LISTENING AUDIENCE REMAINS A CRITICAL NEED IN OUR ISLAND COMMUNITY AND THIS LEGISLATION AIMS TO REMOVE BARRIERS THAT MAY PREVENT QUALIFIED PSYCHOLOGY GRADUATES FROM COMPLETING THE REQUIREMENTS NECESSARY FOR LICENSURE AND PRACTICE IN GUAM. MOREOVER, MENTAL HEALTH IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT ISSUE FOR OUR YOUTH. ACROSS MULTIPLE COHORTS OF THE GUAM LEGISLATURE'S PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE, STUDENTS HAVE CONSISTENTLY IDENTIFIED MENTAL HEALTH AS ONE OF THE MOST PRESSING CHALLENGES FACING THEIR GENERATION. YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY FACE INCREASING

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PRESSURES FROM SCHOOL AND SOCIAL MEDIA AS WELL AS PRESSURES AT HOME WITH FAMILY AND FINANCIAL ISSUES AND THE LINGERING EFFECTS OF COVID AND TYPHOONS. YET ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS REMAIN LIMITED. AND IF WE ARE SERIOUS ABOUT SUPPORTING THE WELL-BEING OF OUR YOUTH, WE MUST ALSO BE SERIOUS ABOUT BUILDING A STRONGER PIPELINE OF QUALIFIED MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS HERE ON GUAM AND BY CREATING MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUPERVISED TRAINING AND LICENSURE ON THE ISLAND. MADAM CHAIR, THIS BILL REPRESENTS A CRUCIAL STEP TOWARD STRENGTHENING THE WORKFORCE NEEDED TO MEET THOSE GROWING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS. AND I LOOK FORWARD MADAME CHAIR AND COLLEAGUES TO THE HEARING TESTIMONY FROM THE STAKEHOLDERS AND SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS IN THE COMMUNITY AS WE WORK TOGETHER TO STRENGTHEN THIS BILL AND ENSURE IT EFFECTIVELY SUPPORTS BOTH ASPIRING PROFESSIONALS, YOUTH, AND THE PEOPLE OF GUAM, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO WANT TO COME BACK HOME. SI YU'OS MA'ASE. MADAM CHAIR AGAIN FOR GIVING ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT THIS BILL AND FOR IT TO HAVE ITS PUBLIC HEARING HERE THIS MORNING. SAINA MA'ASE.

SENATOR MATANANE

THANK YOU RANKING MEMBER. WE WILL NOW ACCEPT PUBLIC TESTIMONY. WE WILL BEGIN WITH THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE GUAM BOARD OF ALLIED HEALTH EXAMINERS, DR. BALAJADIA.

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

GOOD MORNING. GOOD MORNING. SENATOR SALAS MATANANE CHAIR AND GOOD MORNING TINA MUNA BARNES. GOOD MORNING SENATOR GUMATAOTAO. GOOD MORNING THERESE TERLAJE. GOOD MORNING SENATOR CHRIS BARNETT AND GOOD MORNING TELO TAITAGUE. HONORABLE SENATOR SALAS MATANANE, HONORABLE SENATOR MUNA BARNES AND HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE 38TH GUAM LEGISLATURE. IT IS AN HONOR TO COME BEFORE YOU TODAY TO TESTIFY ON SUBJECT BILL 30838. I'M DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA, A GUAM LICENSED CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST FOR THE LAST 41 YEARS. I WAS LICENSED IN 1985. MY CLINICAL EXPERIENCE AND SERVICES SPAN FROM THE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER UNDER THE OLD GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL TO THE OLD DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND THE GUAM REGIONAL COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS WHERE I AM TODAY AS A PRACTITIONER. I HAVE SERVED ON THE GUAM BOARD OF ALLIED HEALTH EXAMINERS REPRESENTING CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY FROM 2003 TO PRESENT FOR 23 YEARS AND I HAVE BEEN ELECTED CHAIRPERSON TO SERVE ON THE BOARD FOR 16 CONSECUTIVE YEARS FROM 2010 TO PRESENT. I CANNOT OVEREMPHASIZE THE ROLE, DUTY AND RESPONSIBILITY OF A LICENSED CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST PROVIDING CLINICAL SUPERVISION TO PSYCHOLOGY INTERNS AS WELL AS PRE AND POSTDOCTORAL RESIDENCY RESIDENTS. IT IS NOT MERELY TO CLOCK IN THE NUMBER OF HOURS AT A DESIGNATED CLINICAL SETTING IN A HOSPITAL OR CLINIC WHERE THE INTERNAL RESIDENTS GAINING THE EXPERIENCE BUT THE VALUABLE GROUND FOR LEARNING AND WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A CLINICIAN IN THE FIELD OF PSYCHOLOGY. PROPER CLINICAL SUPERVISION REQUIRED A FORMAL AND STRUCTURED HOURS BETWEEN THE CLINICAL SUPERVISOR AND THE SUPERVISEE. THE CLINICAL SUPERVISOR MUST DEMONSTRATE THAT THEY HAVE THE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, EXPERIENCE, AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS TO EXERCISE THE POSITION OF A CLINICAL SUPERVISOR. I AM HAPPY TO REPORT TO YOU THAT I HAVE BEEN

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FORTUNATE TO HAVE SEVERAL COMPETENT AND EFFECTIVE SUPERVISORS ON GUAM AND GRADUATE SCHOOLS IN THE STATES TO SHAPE AND DEVELOP ME TO BE THE CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST I AM TODAY. AND PRESENTLY I'M LEARNING FROM PATIENTS WHO ALSO TAUGHT ME TO BE A BETTER CLINICIAN. HOWEVER, I MUST REPORT TO YOU TODAY THAT SOME UP AND COMING INDIVIDUALS WHO BELIEVE THAT ONCE THEY HAVE SECURED A CLINICAL SUPERVISOR AND HAVE OBTAINED THE MINIMAL REQUIRED HOURS, THEY ARE READY TO ROLL OUT IN THIS COMMUNITY AS A CLINICIAN WITHOUT RULES AND REGULATIONS. THAT IS WHY THE SUBJECT BILL MANDATES AND REQUIRED THE PROPER TRAINING OF POST DOCTORATE INTERNS OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY UNDER A LICENSING REGULATORY BOARD THAT IS THE GUAM BOARD OF ALLIED HEALTH EXAMINERS AND TO ENSURE OUR FUTURE CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS ARE RECEIVING THE PROPER TRAINING AND THE SKILLS NECESSARY TO BE A COMPETENT AND SKILLED CLINICIAN. MAY I SUGGEST ADDING A PROVISION OF I UNDER SECTION 21B QUOTE IS UNDER THE IMMEDIATE SUPERVISION OF A LICENSED CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST OR LICENSED PSYCHIATRIST OR OTHER LICENSED PROFESSIONAL WHO IS LOCATED IN THE SAME PREMISES AS A PATIENT OR CLIENT AND WHO'S ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES RENDERED. AND THIS PARTICULAR SECTION I LIKE TO EMPHASIZE BECAUSE IT'S ALREADY IN THE CURRENT LAW. I'M CONFIDENT THAT MEMBERS OF THE 38TH GUAM LEGISLATURE SEE AND RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS BILL WHICH IS MEANT TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC AND WOULD VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE BILL 30838. UN DANGKOLO NA SI YU'OS MA'ASE.

SENATOR MATANANE

THANK YOU, BREANNA.

BREANNA SABLAN

GOOD MORNING, SENATORS. MY NAME IS BREANNA SABLAN, THE ACTING ADMINISTRATOR OUT OF THE HEALTH PROFESSIONAL LICENSING OFFICE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES. I READ IN FOR THE RECORD FOR DIRECTOR ARRIOLA. Hafa Adai Chairperson and MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE. AGAIN, I'M READING ON BEHALF AND IT SAYS MY NAME IS THERESA ARRIOLA, BUT I'M READING ON BEHALF OF THE DIRECTOR. I AM THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES. THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF BILL NUMBER 308-38 COR. THIS LEGISLATION ADDRESSES A CRITICAL LONGSTANDING GAP IN OUR ISLAND'S HEALTH CARE INFRASTRUCTURE BY CREATING A CLEAR BOARD APPROVED FRAMEWORK FOR THE LOCAL SUPERVISION AND TRAINING OF POST-DOCTORATE CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY INTERNS. AS THE FORMER DIRECTOR OF GUAM BEHAVIORAL AND WELLNESS CENTER, I HAVE SEEN FIRSTHAND THE DEEP CHALLENGES OUR ISLAND FACES IN BUILDING AND MAINTAINING A ROBUST MENTAL HEALTH WORKFORCE. OVER 1 BILLION PEOPLE GLOBALLY LIVE WITH MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS AND GUAM IS ABSOLUTELY NOT EXEMPT FROM THIS REALITY. CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS ARE ESSENTIAL TO DIAGNOSING AND TREATING THESE COMPLEX CONDITIONS. YET, WE CONSISTENTLY STRUGGLE TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN THEM. THE PRIMARY BARRIER HAS BEEN HAS NEVER BEEN A LACK OF INTEREST FROM LOCAL STUDENTS. RATHER, IT IS THE STRUCTURAL BOTTLENECK THAT OCCURS AFTER THEY GRADUATE. CURRENTLY, IT IS INCREDIBLY DIFFICULT FOR INTERNS TO FIND COMPLIANT

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POST-DOCTORATE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES ON GUAM TO SECURE THE CLINICAL HOURS NECESSARY FOR LICENSURE. THIS FORCE EXPORTS OUR BRIGHTEST LOCAL TALENT TO THE US MAINLAND SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY CANNOT COMPLETE THEIR TRAINING AT HOME. BILL NUMBER 308-38 CORRECTS THIS BY ESTABLISHING A MECHANISM UNDER THE GUAM BOARD OF ALLIED HEALTH EXAMINERS TO APPROVE LOCAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS AND DEFINE WHO CAN LEGALLY PROVIDE SUPERVISION. WHAT I APPRECIATE MOST ABOUT THIS BILL IS THAT IT EXPANDS OUR TRAINING CAPACITY WITHOUT COMPROMISING THE QUALITY OF CARE OR PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS. IT MODELS NATIONAL GUIDELINES BY EXPLICITLY OUTLINING STRINGENT CRITERIA FOR SUPERVISORS. SUPERVISION CAN BE PROVIDED BY A LICENSED CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST, PSYCHIATRIST OR EQUIVALENT PROFESSIONAL APPROVED BY THE BOARD. IT PERMITS SUPERVISORS AUTHORIZED IN THE US, ITS TERRITORIES, OR VETTED FOREIGN JURISDICTIONS WITH EQUIVALENT STANDARDS TO PARTICIPATE. ANY SUPERVISOR PRACTICING WITHIN GUAM MUST HOLD A VALID LOCAL LICENSE, HAVE HELD THAT LICENSE FOR A MINIMUM OF THREE YEARS, AND OBTAIN EXPLICIT BOARD APPROVAL. THESE GUARD RAILS ENSURE THAT OUR POST-DOCTORATE INTERNS RECEIVE TOP TIER GUIDANCE WHILE PROTECTING THE HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELL-BEING OF THE PATIENTS THEY SERVE. AT DPHSS, OUR OVERARCHING MISSION IS TO MODERNIZE OUR SYSTEMS AND EXPAND ACCESS TO COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE FOR ALL GUAM RESIDENTS, PARTICULARLY OUR MOST VULNERABLE POPULATIONS. MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH IS AN UNDENIABLE FOUNDATIONAL PILLAR OF PUBLIC HEALTH. BY PROVIDING A LEGAL PATHWAY TO CULTIVATE AND RETAIN HOMEGROWN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS. BILL 308-38 COMPLEMENTS OUR ONGOING EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN GUAM'S BROADER HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE INFRASTRUCTURE. WHEN WE GIVE OUR LOCAL PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS THE ABILITY TO FINISH THEIR CLINICAL JOURNEYS RIGHT HERE IN OUR COMMUNITY, WE ENSURE THAT THEIR SKILLS, CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING, AND LONG-TERM CAREERS REMAIN DEDICATED TO THE PEOPLE OF GUAM. BILL NUMBER 308-38 IS A PRACTICAL, SAFE, AND URGENTLY NEEDED PIECE OF LEGISLATION THAT REMOVES ADMINISTRATIVE ROADBLOCKS TO MENTAL HEALTH ACCESS. FOR THESE REASONS, I URGE THE BODY TO PASS THIS MEASURE. SI YU'OS MA'ASE FOR YOUR TIME AND CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO IMPROVING THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF OUR ISLAND. SI YU'OS MA'ASE.

SENATOR MATANANE

THANK YOU, MS. SABLAN. NADINE.

NADINE CEPEDA

GOOD MORNING TO THE DISTINGUISHED PANEL. CHAIRWOMAN SABRINA MATANANE, SENATOR SHAWN GUMATAOTAO, SENATOR THERESE TERLAJE, SENATOR CHRIS BARNETT, AND SENATOR TELO TAITAGUE. CHAIRWOMAN SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE AND THE SPONSOR OF THE BILL, SENATOR TINA MUNA BARNES THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TODAY. MY NAME IS NADINE CEPEDA. I AM A LICENSED MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR, A LICENSED MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST, AND A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR, AND SOON TO BE A LICENSED SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST, AND AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER AND SECRETARY OF THE GUAM PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION AND THE VICE CHAIR OF THE GUAM ALLIED HEALTH BOARD EXAMINERS.

Committee Report Digest: [Bill No. 308-38 \(COR\)](#) - Tina Rose Muña-Barnes. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.”

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THE VIEWS EXPRESSED IN THIS TESTIMONY ARE MY OWN AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE OFFICIAL POSITION OF THE GUAM ALLIED HEALTH BOARD OF EXAMINERS, BUT I'M JUST GOING TO SPEAK FROM THE HEART AND THEN GO BACK INTO MY TESTIMONY. I HAVE BEEN TRYING AND ASPIRING TO BE A CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST. IT TAKES SIX TO SEVEN YEARS. I'VE COMPLETED TWO AND I STILL NEED FOUR. BUT IT DEMANDS BECAUSE AS YOU DO CLINICAL WORK, IT DEMANDS THAT YOU UNDERSTAND HUMAN BEHAVIOR AND IT'S BEYOND THAT. IT'S THE TRAINING AND I'M REALLY, REALLY STRONGLY AND PASSIONATE ABOUT OUR MENTAL HEALTH. THAT HAS BEEN MY LOVE. THAT'S WHY I CONTINUE TO BE A CHAMPION FOR MANY PEOPLE AND I SERVE IN MANY BOARDS BECAUSE I BELIEVE THIS IS A VERY VULNERABLE POPULATION. I SIT IN THE GUAM LEGAL SERVICES FOR THE LAST FOUR YEARS. I SAT IN PAMI, WHICH IS PERSONS IN ADVOCACY IN NEED OF SERVICES SPECIFICALLY FOR MENTAL HEALTH FOR EIGHT YEARS. I'VE SAT IN 12 YEARS FOR THE COALITION AT GUAM COALITION SEXUAL ASSAULT AND I CONTINUE TO SIT AND BOARD AND TOI BECAUSE I AM NOT A COMPLAINER. I'M A DOER. I'M A DOER BECAUSE I AM AGING OUT. BUT STILL, THERE'S SO MUCH WORK TO BE DONE IN OUR COMMUNITY. AND CLEARLY THE PEOPLE WE SEE WALKING AROUND HERE; IT'S NOT BY CHOICE. IT'S BECAUSE USUALLY IF YOU LOOK AT THE STATISTICS, THEY HAVE A MENTAL ILLNESS. THEY PROBABLY DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO ACCESS THAT CARE BECAUSE NAVIGATION THROUGH THIS VERY COMPLEX, COMPREHENSIVE, IS TOO DIFFICULT. SO, I SIT AND I COME HERE TO ALL OF YOU TO SAY REALLY, I URGE THE PASSAGE OF THIS BILL. AND LET ME STATE WHY. BECAUSE I AGAIN, I'M HERE TO EXPRESS A STRONG SUPPORT OF BILL 308-38 RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM WHICH ESTABLISHES CLEAR STRUCTURED AND COMPETENCY BASED STANDARDS FOR CLINICAL SUPERVISION IN PSYCHOLOGY. CLINICAL SUPERVISION IS THE CORNERSTONE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSION. IT ACTS AS A VITAL GATEKEEPING MECHANISM TO ENSURE THAT PSYCHOLOGISTS IN TRAINING DELIVER SAFE, ETHICAL AND EFFECTIVE CARE. HISTORICALLY, SUPERVISION IN MY VIEW SUFFERED FROM A LACK OF STANDARD REGULATION. IT IS OFTEN MISUNDERSTOOD AS THE PASSIVE OSMOTIC TRANSMISSION OF EXPERIENCE RATHER THAN A DISTINCT EVIDENCE-BASED PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCY. WITHOUT FORMAL TRAINING STANDARDS, TRAINEES CAN BE LEFT VULNERABLE TO INADEQUATE OR HARMFUL SUPERVISION WHICH ULTIMATELY THREATENS PUBLIC WELFARE. AND THAT IS YOUR JOB. YOU HAVE WE YOU WE VOTED YOU IN THERE SO YOU CAN MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE AND NOT BECAUSE IT'S ELECTION YEAR. IT'S BECAUSE WHEN YOU CARE ABOUT PEOPLE, YOU'RE GOING TO CONTINUE TO DO WHAT'S RIGHT IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMUNITY. THIS LEGISLATION ADDRESSES THESE CRITICAL GAPS BY RECOGNIZING CLINICAL SUPERVISION AS A FORMAL PRACTICE REQUIRING DEDICATED TRAINING. BY STANDARDIZING THE SUPERVISORY RELATIONSHIP, THE BILL ACCOMPLISHES THREE VITAL GOALS. ONE IS STRENGTHENING PUBLIC PROTECTION. THAT'S WHY I SIT IN THE BOARD. WE LOOK AT REGULATION BY ENSURING THAT PSYCHOLOGISTS IN TRAINING RECEIVE HIGH QUALITY, ETHICAL, AND COMPETENCY BASED SUPERVISION. SUPPORT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BY CREATING CONSISTENT STANDARDS BY PREPARING FUTURE PSYCHOLOGISTS AND STRENGTHENING GUAM BEHAVIOR HEALTH WORKFORCE. IMPROVE ACCESS TO QUALITY MENTAL HEALTH CARE BY FOSTERING THE DEVELOPMENT OF WELL-TRAINED CLINICIANS WHO ARE EQUIPPED TO MEET THE GROWING MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY. CLINICAL SUPERVISION IS NOT SIMPLY A MILESTONE TO CHECK OFF FOR LICENSURE. IT IS A PRIMARY SAFEGUARD FOR OUR MOST VULNERABLE

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POPULATIONS. INVESTING IN A STRUCTURED COMPANY BASED SUBVISION MODEL IS AN INVESTMENT IN THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF OUR CITIZENS. I URGE THIS COMMITTEE TO PASS BILL 308-38 AND ESTABLISH A GOLD STANDARD FOR MENTAL HEALTH CARE IN GUAM AND OUR COMMUNITY. OUR PEOPLE DESERVE IT. AND I NEED YOU TO REALIZE YOU'RE HERE BECAUSE OF OUR PEOPLE. AND THIS IS ONLY ONE FACTOR, BUT THIS ONE FACTOR IS HUGE BECAUSE IF WE DON'T HAVE THE PROPER TRAINING, I DIDN'T I CHOSE I GOT MY BACHELOR'S AND MASTERS OFF-ISLAND. I CHOSE TO COME BACK AND I'M NOW I'M A PRIMARY CAREGIVER FROM MY MOTHER. I'VE BEEN TRYING TO GET MY DOCTORATE. I HAVE TO LEAVE HERE. BUT WHY? AND IF PEOPLE DO GO OFF THE STATES, WE NEED TO PLAY HAVE A FRAMEWORK AND REGULATIONS TO ALLOW INVESTMENT IN OUR LOCAL PEOPLE BECAUSE OUR CULTURE IS SO UNIQUE. THEY BRING IN A LOT OF EXPERTISE. NOT TO SAY THAT WE NEED SOMEBODY FROM OFF-ISLAND TO TEACH US BECAUSE WE HAVE THE BRAINS AND WE HAVE THE SKILLS. WE JUST NEED TO REALLY HARNESS ON THAT AND HELP THE YOUNGER ONES THAT ARE COMING BACK AND HELP THEM. AND I THINK THIS BILL PROVIDES THAT. SO, I URGE THIS COMMITTEE TO PASS BILL 308 AND ESTABLISH A GOLD STANDARD FOR MENTAL HEALTH CARE IN GUAM IN OUR COMMUNITY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND LEADERSHIP ON THIS CRITICAL ISSUE. I AM HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS FOR THE COMMITTEE YOU MAY HAVE. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

SENATOR MATANANE

THANK YOU, MISS NADINE. SIR.

DR. EDWARD SANTOS

HAFE ADAI. GOOD MORNING SENATORS ALL THE WAY AROUND. GOOD MORNING. I RESPECTFULLY SUBMIT THIS TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF BILL 308-38 COR WHICH ESTABLISH A FRAMEWORK FOR SUPERVISED POST-DOCTORAL TRAINING FOR CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS SEEKING LICENSURE ON GUAM. MY NAME IS DR. EDWARD SANTOS. I HOLD A PHD FROM PALO ALTO UNIVERSITY. I ALSO DID A PREDOC APA PREDOC UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO AND A POSTDOCK IN MENTAL HEALTH CORPORATION OF DENVER. I'VE WORKED QUITE A BIT IN GUAM FOR THE LAST 20 YEARS, DEPARTMENTAL HEALTH, THE VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND MOST RECENTLY GUAM DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. I AM AN OFFICER WITH THE GUAM PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION. THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION ADDRESSES A CRITICAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEED WITHIN GUAM'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEM. THIS THE ISLAND CONTINUES TO FACE SIGNIFICANT SHORTAGES OF LICENSED MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY EXPERIENCING GROWING DEMANDS FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES ACROSS HEALTH CARE, EDUCATION, PUBLIC SAFETY, MILITARY, AND COMMUNITY SETTINGS. ESTABLISHING A CLEAR AND ETHICAL PATHWAY FOR POST-DOCTORAL SUPERVISION WILL STRENGTHEN GUAM'S CAPACITY TO TRAIN, RECRUIT, AND RETAIN QUALIFIED CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS. THE AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OR APA ETHICAL PRINCIPLES OF PSYCHOLOGIST AND CODE OF CONDUCT STRONGLY SUPPORT THE IMPORTANCE OF COMPETENT SUPERVISION AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING. SEVERAL ETHICAL PRINCIPLES ARE PARTICULARLY RELEVANT TO THIS LEGISLATION. SO I'M JUST GOING TO GO THROUGH THE PRINCIPLES AND SEE HOW THEY APPLY. PRINCIPLE A, BENEVOLENCE AND NON-MALFIANCE STATES THAT PSYCHOLOGISTS STRIVE TO BENEFIT THOSE WITH WHOM THEY WORK AND

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TAKE CARE OF AND DO NO HARM. EFFECTIVE SUPERVISION PROTECTS THE PUBLIC BY ENSURING THAT EMERGENCY PSYCHOLOGISTS RECEIVE APPROPRIATE GUIDANCE, CONSULTATION, AND OVERSIGHT BEFORE INDEPENDENT PRACTICE. BILL 38-308-38 PROMOTES THIS PRINCIPLE BY REQUIRING SUPERVISION BY QUALIFIED LICENSED PROFESSIONALS AND BOARD APPROVED INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS. PRINCIPLE B, FIDELITY AND RESPONSIBILITY EMPHASIZES PSYCHOLOGIST RESPONSIBILITY TO ESTABLISH RELATIONSHIPS OF TRUST AND UPHOLD PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS. LICENSED PSYCHOLOGISTS HAVE AN ETHICAL OBLIGATION TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF PROFESSIONAL OF FUTURE PROFESSIONALS. THE BILL CREATES A STRUCTURED MECHANISM THROUGH WHICH EXPERIENCED CLINICIANS CAN FULFILL THIS RESPONSIBILITY WHILE MAINTAINING ACCOUNTABILITY TO REGULATORY STANDARDS ESTABLISHED BY THE GUAM BOARD OF ALLIED HEALTH EXAMINERS. PRINCIPLE C, INTEGRITY REQUIRES PSYCHOLOGISTS TO PROMOTE ACCURACY, HONESTY, AND TRUTHFULNESS. IN THE SCIENCE, TEACHING, AND PRACTICES OF PSYCHOLOGY. BOARD APPROVAL OF INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS AND SUPERVISORS HELPS ENSURE THAT TRAINING EXPERIENCES MEET PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND ACCURATELY PREPARE CANDIDATES FOR INDEPENDENT PRACTICE. PRINCIPAL D, JUSTICE RECOGNIZE THAT ALL PERSONS SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO AND BENEFIT FROM THE CONTRIBUTION OF PSYCHOLOGY. GUAM'S RESIDENTS DESERVE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO HIGH QUALITY MENTAL HEALTH AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES BY REDUCING BARRIERS TO OBTAINING SUPERVISED POST-DOCTORAL EXPERIENCE. THIS LEGISLATION EXPANDS OPPORTUNITIES FOR QUALIFIED TRAINEES TO COMPLETE LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS AND ULTIMATELY SERVE THE PEOPLE OF GUAM. INCREASING THE NUMBER OF LICENSED PSYCHOLOGISTS ON ISLAND PROMOTES GREATER ACCESS TO CARE AND ADVANCES IN HEALTH EQUITY. PRINCIPLE E, RESPECT FOR PEOPLE'S RIGHTS AND DIGNITY. EMPHASIZE THE PROTECTION OF INDIVIDUALS WELFARE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF COMPETENT SERVICE DELIVERY. WELL SUPER-SUPERVISED TRAINING EXPERIENCES ENSURE THAT PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES ARE PROVIDED BY INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE APPROPRIATELY TRAINED, MONITORED AND SUPPORTED THEREBY SAFEGUARDING CLIENTS AND COMMUNITIES. FURTHERMORE, APA ETHICAL STANDARDS 2.05 DELEGATION OF WORK TO OTHERS AND ETHICAL STANDARDS 7.06 ASSESSING STUDENT AND SUPERVISE PERFORMANCE UNDERSCORE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF SUPERVISORS TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE OVERSIGHT AND EVALUATE TRAINEES' COMPETENCE. THE PROVISIONS OF THE CRIME OF BILL 308-38 ALIGN WITH THESE STANDARDS BY ESTABLISHING QUALIFICATIONS FOR SUPERVISORS AND REQUIRING BOARD APPROVAL FOR TRAINING PROGRAMS. PARTICULARLY COMMENDABLE IS THE BILL'S REQUIREMENT THAT SUPERVISORS HOLD A VALID LICENSE, POSSESS A MINIMUM OF THREE YEARS OF LICENSURE EXPERIENCE, AND RECEIVE BOARD APPROVAL BEFORE PROVIDING SUPERVISION. THESE SAFEGUARDS HELP ENSURE THAT SUPERVISION IS DELIVERED BY EXPERIENCED PROFESSIONALS CAPABLE OF FOSTERING CLINICAL COMPETENCE, ETHICAL DECISIONMAKING, AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT. AS GUAM CONTINUES TO ADDRESS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CHALLENGES, INCLUDING MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS, SUBSTANCE USE, TRAUMA, SUICIDE PREVENTION, AND INTEGRATED HEALTH CARE NEEDS, STRENGTHENING THE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PIPELINE IS ESSENTIAL. BILL 308-38 REPRESENTS A PRUDENT AND ETHICAL INVESTMENT IN GUAM'S MENTAL HEALTH FORCE AND ALIGNS WITH NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED STANDARDS FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND SUPERVISION. FOR THESE REASONS, I RESPECTFULLY URGE THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATION TO SUPPORT AND PASS

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BILL 308-38 COR. SI YU'OS MA'ASE FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION AND COMMITMENT TO ADVANCING THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE OF GUAM. THANK YOU.

SENATOR MATANANE

THANK YOU, DR. SANTOS. IS THERE ANYONE ELSE THAT WOULD LIKE TO TESTIFY ON BILL 308? IF NOT, WE WILL NOW OPEN IT UP FOR QUESTIONS. I'M STARTING WITH THE AUTHOR AND RANKING MEMBER, SENATOR TINA MUNA BARNES.

SENATOR MUNA BARNES

SI YU'OS MA'ASE. MADAME CHAIR, FIRST OF ALL, I DON'T HAVE QUESTIONS AT THIS TIME AND I JUST WANT TO THANK THE ALL THOSE APPEARING IN THE PANEL THIS MORNING FOR THEIR TESTIMONY AND LITERALLY THE RECOMMENDATIONS TO STRENGTHEN THIS BILL. AND I'LL YIELD, MADAME CHAIR, IF I MAY, TO DO IT AT CLOSING IF I CAN. SO, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

SENATOR MATANANE

THANK YOU, SENATOR GUMATAOTAO.

SENATOR GUMATAOTAO

THANK YOU SO MUCH, MADAM CHAIR, AND THANK YOU FOR THE PANEL FOR BEING WITH US THIS MORNING. AND AS I WAS LOOKING AT THE POLICY, THE ORIGINAL POLICY THAT SET THE KIND OF OUR DIRECTION WAS PASSED IN 1982, 44 YEARS AGO, THREE YEARS BEFORE DR. BALAJADIA ACTUALLY STARTED PRACTICING. SO, IT SHOULD JUST TELL YOU AT LEAST HERE ON GUAM SHOULD TELL YOU HOW LONG THAT THIS HAS BEEN ON THE BOOKS AND ANY MODERNIZATION HAS TAKEN A LOT OF TIME. AND SO, I WANT TO GIVE A CREDIT TO THE RANKING MEMBER FOR AT LEAST BRINGING IT FORWARD. YOU KNOW WHEN I WAS POLICY DIRECTOR AT THE JUDICIARY OF GUAM, I SAW FIRSTHAND THE CHALLENGES OF A CRITICAL WORKFORCE AND ITS DELIVERY ON JUSTICE SERVICES. I CAN ATTEST THAT WHEN THERE'S NOT ENOUGH SERVICES, THEY HAD A WHOLE DIVISION TO TAKE CARE OF THIS AND THEY STILL DO, BUT WHEN THEY HAVE TO GO TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO TRY TO GET HELP ON COURT ORDERED SERVICE, IT HAS BEEN WAS OR IS AND STILL REMAINS VERY, VERY CHALLENGING AND I SEE KIND OF AN OPENING HERE TO SUPPORT NOT JUST THE NEEDS ACROSS THE REST OF OUR COMMUNITY, BUT FOR SURE OUR JUSTICE SYSTEM. I ONLY HAVE A FEW QUESTIONS, MADAM CHAIR, BUT RECOGNIZING THAT JIBWICK IS PURSUING FUNDING FOR A WORKFORCE RESIDENCY PROGRAM IN THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR. HOW AND ANYONE CAN HELP ME ANSWER THIS OR YOUR JUST YOUR ENGAGEMENT WITH THEM, BUT HOW HAS THE AGENCY HELPED OR OTHERWISE ENGAGING CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY INTERNS WHO DURING AT LEAST THE LAST THREE YEARS HAVE FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO SECURE OPPORTUNITIES TO COMPLETE POST-DOCTORATE TRAINING BEFORE THEIR LICENSURE. SOMETHING THAT YOU HAD MENTIONED IN YOUR TESTIMONY. CAN ANYONE OFFER UP ANY INSIGHT OR MAYBE ANYTHING ON THIS ISSUE OF THE ENGAGEMENT OF INTERNS AT THIS TIME?

NADINE CEPEDA

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OKAY. SO, I'M GOING TO MAKE A COMMENT. I WAS AT MENTAL HEALTH FOR 15 YEARS AND I HAD DIFFERENT I HELD DIFFERENT POSITIONS BUT I THINK THIS IS THE FIRST THAT THEY'VE HAD AN APA AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION CONSORTIUM WHICH IS VERY DIFFICULT. IT'S VERY COMPETITIVE. SO WHEN YOU'RE FINISHING UP INTO YOUR LAST TWO YEARS, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO GO THROUGH AN APIC AND THEN THROUGH AN APA. THIS IS THE FIRST. IT IS HARD IN MANY STATES THEY DON'T EVEN HAVE IT. SO I'M GLAD THAT GUAM IS ONE OF THEM. SECOND IS YOU DO HAVE TO INVEST. THEY NEED TO BUDGET BECAUSE I'M JUST SAYING IF I FINISH MY DOCTORATE, WE HAVE PEOPLE WHO I KNOW WHO I WORKED WITH AND WENT TO GET A PHD OR A SID ARE COMING BACK. THAT'S EXACTLY WHY THIS I THINK THIS IS SO IMPORTANT BECAUSE THEY CAN COME BACK. THEY'VE THEY THEY'RE HOMEGROWN HERE. WHY DO WE NEED PEOPLE FROM THE STATES TO COME AND TELL US HOW TO DO THINGS? BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, THEY CAN THEN APPLY TO COME HOME AND DO THEIR INTERNSHIP PRIOR AND THEN DO A POST. MOST PLACES THEY PAY AND TRUTHFULLY IT SHOULD BE BUDGETED. I KNOW IF I WAS RUNNING GUAM BEHAVIOR HEALTH, I WOULD SAY WHAT WOULD WHY DID IT TAKE SO LONG? I WOULD BE HERE ADVOCATING SAYING THE NEED IS A MUST BECAUSE THAT COMES WITH THE TRAINING. AND SO, THE QUESTION WOULD BE THEY'RE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN SOONER, BUT IT'S NEVER TOO LATE. AND I URGE THIS BOARD, I MEAN, APPROPRIATIONS ARE HARD. WE'RE ALL FIGHTING FOR MONEY. AND WHERE IS THE MONEY COMING FROM, AND WHAT IS IMPORTANT VERSUS SAFETY, IT'S ALL IMPORTANT. AND THAT'S WHY YOU HAVE THE HARD JOB AND DIFFICULT JOB TO DECIDE WHAT SHOULD GO WHERE, HOW MUCH SHOULD GO WHERE. BUT OF COURSE, I'M GOING TO ADVOCATE. I DON'T LIKE I AND THEN I'M JUST GOING TO GO BACK. I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE ACCOLADES. I DO THIS BECAUSE PERSONALLY I'M NOT A COMPLAINER. I WANT TO MAKE A CHANGE AND A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY. THAT'S WHY I'M SO INVOLVED BECAUSE I DO CARE ABOUT OUR PEOPLE. AND SO, TO ANSWER THAT, YES, IS THERE A NEED AND THAT'S I THINK GETTING THAT CONSORTIUM UP AND RUNNING. THAT'S A GREAT BIG ACHIEVEMENT MILESTONE. SO KUDOS TO THE LEADERSHIP THERE. AND SECOND, WE DO NEED TO BUDGET THEM SO THEY COULD COME BACK. I KNOW SEVERAL PEOPLE WHO ARE TRYING TO APPLY FOR AN APA AND I'M HOPING THEY CAN RETURN. BUT I ALSO THINK NOT JUST BECAUSE THEY DON'T COME FROM AN APA SCHOOL WHICH IS VERY DIFFICULT. IF PEOPLE APPLY OF 3,000, THEY ONLY THINK I'M JUST REALITY IN A PHD IN CLINICAL PSYCH. THEY TAKE 13 PEOPLE. SO, YOU CAN IMAGINE HOW COMPETITIVE THAT IS. AND SO, I KNOW SOME PEOPLE ARE TAKING ONLINE UNFORTUNATELY THEY CAN'T GET INTO THAT. I KNOW ONE PERSON WHO IS ACTIVE IN GUAM PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION AND SHE CAN'T EVEN GET AN INTERNSHIP SADLY AND SHE'S BORN AND RAISED HERE. SO I THINK THESE ARE THINGS THAT COULD HELP AND SEE HOW WE CAN HELP OUR PEOPLE THAT ARE GETTING THE HIGHER EDUCATION WANT TO STAY HERE BE COMMITTED AND HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO GET THE TRAINING.

SENATOR GUMATAOTAO

YOU KNOW, WHEN I WAS GETTING MY UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE IN PSYCHOLOGY, IT WAS DAUNTING AT THE TIME TO LOOK AT THE REQUIREMENTS AND IT JUST LIKE MANY MIGHT HAVE GOTTEN SCARED OFF AT THAT TIME. I MEAN I WAS ABLE TO COMPLETE AND ANOTHER CAREER HELPED ME TO WHERE I AM TODAY BUT AT THAT TIME, I KNEW THAT IT WAS VERY, VERY DAUNTING AND CHALLENGING AND

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THOSE CHALLENGES STILL REMAIN FOR MANY PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS ACROSS NOT JUST GUAM BUT ACROSS THE COUNTRY. CAN I ASK THIS? OUTSIDE OF A LICENSED SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST, EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST, CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST, AND COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGISTS, ALL OF WHO ARE RECOGNIZED AS AUTHORIZED SUPERVISORS IN A RECENTLY ENACTED PUBLIC LAW 38131 ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE LICENSURE FRAMEWORK FOR SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS. WHAT OTHER LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COULD BE CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD? AND TO WHAT EXTENT WILL THE PORTABILITY OF CERTIFICATION BY A GUAM BOARD APPROVED INTERNSHIP PROGRAM BE ASSESSED?

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

I THINK THERE ARE DIFFERENT EXPERTISE IN THE FIELD OF PSYCHOLOGY AND RIGHT NOW THE CONCENTRATION HAVE BEEN FOR MANY YEARS CLINICAL. HOWEVER, WHEN THE BOARD LOOK AT THE APPLICATIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL TO OBTAIN LICENSURE IT'S NOT ONLY CLINICAL BUT LOOKING AT WHAT ARE THE CURRICULUM AS WELL AS THE REQUIREMENT ACCORDING TO GUAM LAW THAT THEY MEET IN A WAY I'M YOU KNOW AFTER ALL THESE YEARS SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY IS ESTABLISHED BY THIS LEGISLATURE BY LAW AND THE BOARD HAS ALREADY IMPLEMENT AND WE'RE READY TO DO THE CERTIFICATION AS REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. LET ME EMPHASIZE AGAIN THAT MANY PEOPLE THINK OH A CERTIFICATION IS ENOUGH. NO THE ULTIMATE IS A LICENSE. IF YOU HAVE CERTIFICATION AND YOU DON'T HAVE A LICENSE BY THE BOARD ACCORDING TO THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF GUAM YOU CANNOT PRACTICE. SO, IT DOESN'T MATTER. SO, THE BOARD SHOULD THRIVE TO MAKE SURE THAT IN THAT DIFFERENT ASPECT OF THE FIELD OF PSYCHOLOGIES ARE INCORPORATED AND I CAN SAY IF I'M STILL ON THE BOARD THAT WE WILL LOOK INTO OTHER SPECIALTY IN PSYCHOLOGY OTHER THAN CLINICAL HEALTH COUNSELING AND ALSO INDUSTRIAL PSYCHOLOGY WHICH IS REALLY CONCENTRATING ON HELPING BUSINESSES HOW TO GO ABOUT YOU KNOW MAKE SURE THAT THEY MEET THE REQUIREMENT AND EXPERTISE AS WELL. SO, THERE ARE DIFFERENT ASPECT. SO THAT IS SOMETHING THAT THE GUAM PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION AS WELL AS THE BOARD MEMBERS WERE LOOKING INTO HOW WE CAN MAKE THINGS TO BE MORE OPEN IN PEOPLE'S SPECIALTY. BUT RIGHT NOW, THE LAW IS ONLY SHOWING CLINICAL PSYCH AND OF COURSE THE BOARDS RECENTLY PASSED SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY WHICH IS YOU KNOW REALLY GOOD AFTER ALL THESE YEARS WE DON'T HAVE SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST TITLE. SO, IT'S SLOWLY COMING. THE BOARD RECOGNIZES THAT AND WE'RE WORKING DILIGENTLY IN GETTING THINGS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY AS WELL AS LOOKING AT INDIVIDUAL, GOING OFF TO SCHOOL AND THE STATES THAT THEY ALSO THEIR SPECIALTY ARE BEING RECOGNIZED BY THE BOARD.

SENATOR GUMATAOTAO

AND I THANK YOU FOR MENTIONING INDUSTRIAL PSYCHOLOGY BECAUSE IN 2026 WE THINK ABOUT THE KINDS OF THINGS THAT WE'RE SEEING ACROSS INDUSTRY WHETHER IT'S IN CONSTRUCTION WHETHER IT'S IN THE HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY WHETHER IT'S IN YOU PICK IT THAT THESE THE STUDY THE RESEARCH INTO ALL OF IT IS BEGINNING TO EXPAND AND WHEN WE LOOKED AT I STARTED THIS I THIS WHOLE CONVERSATION WITH A POLICY THAT WAS SET IN 1982 THAT IT IN INDEED TIME THAT WE LOOK AT POLICIES TO MODERNIZE IN THIS CASE SERVICES THAT REACH JUST SO MANY PARTS OF OUR

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COMMUNITY. DR. BALAJADIA AND I CAN I'M SURE THAT AT SOME POINT THAT THE BOARD WILL NOT JUST LOOK AT THIS BUT REMEMBER JUST DOWN THE ROAD THERE'S GOING TO BE AFTER THIS GETS MODERNIZED THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE AND I'M HOPING THAT THERE'LL BE AN OPEN MIND TO CONSIDER HOW WE CAN HELP SUPPORT NOT JUST AGAIN IN THIS CASE LOOKING TO TRYING TO EXPAND FOR CLINICAL BUT IT'S GOT TO BE A LITTLE BIT BROADER AND I DO APPRECIATE YOU ALL FOR BEING HERE TODAY AND KEEPING AN OPEN MIND IN THIS DISCUSSION AND MADAM CHAIR I THANK YOU AGAIN FOR THE TIME THIS MORNING.

SENATOR MATANANE

THANK YOU, SENATOR GUMATAOTAO. SENATOR TAITAGUE.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR, AND GOOD MORNING TO MY COLLEAGUES. OF COURSE, GOOD MORNING TO EVERYONE HERE AND ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO ARE WATCHING THIS PUBLIC HEARING ON SOMETHING I THINK THAT'S IT'S VERY IMPORTANT. I'M GLAD TO SEE WE'RE YES, WE'RE BACK AGAIN AS MAMIE TOLD CAME UP SAYS WE'RE BACK AGAIN AND I GO AND THAT'S A GOOD THING. YOU KNOW, THAT MEANS WE'RE WORKING TOWARD TRYING TO ESTABLISH AN AREA IN WHICH WE LACK A LOT OF THE MANPOWER AND DEFINITELY A VERY IMPORTANT LINE OF WORK FOR OUR COMMUNITY, THEIR HEALTH, FOR THEIR HEALTH, THEIR MENTAL HEALTH. SO, GREATLY APPRECIATE IT. ALWAYS, VANGE, A PLEASURE TO SEE YOU. OH, NOT VANGE, NADINE. I'M THINKING OF YOUR SISTER. I'M SO SORRY. I JUST CALLED HER LAST WEEK FOR SOMETHING ELSE ON THE SCHOOLS. I SWEAR YOUR FAMILY, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION TO TO THE PUBLIC. YOUR FAMILY DOES GREAT THINGS TO GET INVOLVED. SO, I GREATLY APPRECIATE THE YOUR FAMILY AND AGAIN, NADINE, YOU CAME BEFORE US ON A SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY. YOU KNOW, WE'RE WORKING TOWARD THAT. AND BUT DOES THIS BILL JUST YES OR NO, DOES IT REALLY AFFECT ANYTHING THAT WE RECENTLY PASSED INTO LAW?

NADINE CEPEDA

NO, IT DOESN'T.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

OKAY, THAT'S GOOD TO KNOW. OKAY. DID YOU HAVE A CHANCE TO READ DR. BALAJADIA'S TESTIMONY, SPECIFICALLY THE SECTION ON HER LAST PAGE ON PAGE TWO WHERE SHE SAY, "MAY I SUGGEST ADDING A PROVISION OF I SECTION 21B?" AND IN QUOTE IS UNDER THE IMMEDIATE SUPERVISION OF A LICENSED CLINICAL PSYCHIATRIST OR LICENSED PSYCHIATRIST OR OTHER LICENSED PROFESSION WHO IS LOCATED IN THE SAME PREMISES AS THE PATIENT OR CLIENT WHO IS ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE OF THAT AREA.

NADINE CEPEDA

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YES, I DID AND I AGREE WITH THAT. THAT'S CURRENTLY IN OUR LAW. JUST TO ADD A LITTLE MORE, I THINK IT'S VERY CRITICAL BECAUSE IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG, THE SUPERVISOR IS THERE IN THE PREMISES WHO IS ABLE TO GUIDE THEM AND THAT'S PART OF THE TRAINING. IT'LL BE VERY DIFFICULT TO HAVE SOMEBODY WHO'S OFFSITE. DOCTORS DO IT ALL THE TIME, BUT THEY DO IT WITHIN THE PREMISES THAT THEY HAVE RIGHTS TO AGAIN ADMIT AND SO FORTH. SO, I'M DEFINITELY IN SUPPORT OF THAT SUGGESTION.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

OKAY. WHEN IT SAYS OFFSITE, YOU KNOW, OFF PREMISES OR LOCATED IN THE SAME PREMISES AS THE PATIENT, DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH, YOU KNOW, YOU'RE SEEING NOW WITH NEW TECHNOLOGY AND TELE COMMUNICATIONS WITH MEDICAL OPPORTUNITIES TO SEE DOCTORS THROUGH THE WEBSITE ONLINE, ESPECIALLY DOCTORS WHO ARE OFF ISLAND THAT WE LACK THE SPECIALIZED CRITICAL NEEDS HERE. DOES THAT MEAN THAT SITUATION TOO AS WELL? I'M JUST THINKING OF TELE MEDICINE.

NADINE CEPEDA

SO WE SO I KNOW I DO TELE HEALTH EVEN HERE IF A PARENT CAN'T COME IN WE GIVE THEM SO RIGHT I'M A THERAPIST IN THE SCHOOLS AND SO WE GIVE THEM A LOT OF OPTIONS EITHER COME TO OUR WE GO TO THE SCHOOL THEIR HOUSE OUR OFFICE OR IF THEY HAVE ACCESS TO INTERNET EVEN THAT IS A I THINK I'M PRETTY SEASONED AND I LEARNED FROM MY CLIENTS THAT'S VERY DIFFICULT BECAUSE YOU NEED A SEE AN EYEBALL TO DO A MENTAL STATUS EXAMINATION. SO WITH SUPERVISION CURRENTLY WE DON'T HAVE IT AND THIS IS WHY I SAY IT'S VERY IMPORTANT YOU COULD DO SERVICES BUT WITH SUPERVISION I THINK IT'S CRITICAL IT'S IN PERSON AND TWO IT'S BECAUSE YOU SOMETIMES NEED TO LOOK AT THE CLIENT IF YOU'RE THEY'RE SEEKING SOME GUIDANCE AND CONSULTATION YOU'RE ONLY REPORTING WHAT THEIR SYMPTOMS TO YOU BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY I THINK YOU NEED TO ALSO KIND OF SEE AND CHECK YOURSELF IF IT'S IN PERSON IN THE SAME PREMISES. SO, IT DOESN'T HINDER LIKE THE SERVICES YOU'RE PROVIDING. I KNOW I DO TELE HEALTH BUT WHEN YOU'RE ASKING SUPERVISION, I THINK THAT'S ANOTHER ISSUE AND I THINK WE GOT TO BE CAREFUL WITH THAT.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

SO, LET'S GIVE AN EXAMPLE FOR INSTANCE YOU KNOW IT'S FOR THESE INDIVIDUALS TO GO THROUGH A PROCESS OF SUPERVISION RIGHT AND YOU HAVE A FULL-FLEDGED YOU KNOW PSYCHOLOGIST AND THEN THE TRAINEE OR THE PERSON WHO ARE SHADOWING SO LET'S SAY THAT FULL-FLEDGED PSYCHOLOGIST IS OFF ISLAND AND YOU HAVE THAT INDIVIDUAL THAT'S TRAINING OR THOSE WHO ARE RIGHT THERE NEAR THE CLIENT AND ALL THREE ARE IN THE SAME ROOM BUT THROUGH TELE MEDICINE. WOULD THAT STOP THAT FROM HAPPENING THAT SCENARIO BECAUSE OF THE PREMISES?

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

LET ME JUST EMPHASIZE THAT HOW IMPORTANT IT IS FOR THE SUPERVISOR, CLINICAL SUPERVISOR AND THE SUPERVISE TO BE IN THE SAME SETTING. THE REASON WHY MANY FOLKS ONE IS THAT CLINICAL

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SUPERVISOR HAVE A VISION AND ONSITE OF WHAT IS THE PERSON DOING AND THEY CAN RELATE IMMEDIATELY. BUT WHEN I AM I THINK THAT THE ONLINE OR ZOOMING IS OKAY WHEN THE SUPERVISOR ALREADY ESTABLISHED THE TIME. BUT FOR EXAMPLE, IF I'M TO GO OFF ISLAND AND I'M SUPERVISING NADINE BECAUSE I'M AT A MEETING, THEN WE TALKED ABOUT IT. BUT IT SHOULD NOT BE ALL THE TIME AS BEING OFF ISLAND FOR MANY, MANY FOLKS. FOR ONE IS THAT NOW CURRENT FOR EXAMPLE IN GUAM IF I'M THE SUPERVISOR TO ANOTHER AGENCY AND NADINE IS ANOTHER AGENCY HOW IS THAT GOING TO BE DEALING WITH THE NOT ONLY THE COMMUNICATION BUT ALSO THE RECORDKEEPING BECAUSE IF I'M NOT IN THE SAME PREMISE AND I'M FROM ANOTHER AGENCY THERE'S A QUESTION OF THE CONFIDENTIALITY AND THEN THE HIPAA REGULATIONS. SO THAT BECOMES A VERY DIFFICULT ISSUE. BUT IF A RELATIONSHIP BEEN ESTABLISHED IN THE SAME PREMISE AND I HAVE TO GO OFF ISLAND FOR ONE WEEK, THAT'S NO PROBLEM ABOUT ZOOMING. BUT IT SHOULD NOT BE THAT I'M SUPERVISING NADINE AT PUBLIC HEALTH AND SHE'S AT THE SCHOOL BECAUSE THAT CROSSES THE SPECIALTY AND ALSO AGENCY BUT A LOT OF PEOPLE DON'T UNDERSTAND THAT. OKAY. ANOTHER THING THAT SINCE I'M ON THE SUBJECT IS THAT I'M HEARING A LOT OF, FOR EXAMPLE, AUTISM PROVIDING SERVICES. I KNOW THERE ARE OFF ISLAND AGENCY RIGHT NOW PROVIDING SERVICES TO OUR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENT IF WE'RE IN THIS BUSINESS, WE KNOW THAT INDIVIDUAL WITH DISABILITY NEEDS TO HAVE A DIRECT YOU KNOW PROXIMITY AND EVEN TOUCHING YOU KNOW THAT SORT OF THING BUT BEING IN ZOOM I'M NOT A FAN OF ZOOMING UNLESS WE'RE JUST FRIENDS TALKING BUT IN A THERAPEUTIC RELATIONSHIP. IT SHOULD BE A MORE CONTACT, MORE DIRECT INVOLVEMENT, ESPECIALLY CHILDREN WITH DISABILITY THEY NEED A LOT OF INFRONT OF YOU TO BE ABLE TO RECEIVE ZOOMING, THAT IS SOMETHING THAT I DON'T RECOMMEND BECAUSE THAT IS JUST DEFYING ANY THERAPEUTIC SERVICES PROVIDING. I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S THE OPINION OF MY COLLEAGUES HERE YOU KNOW ON THAT.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

I APPRECIATE IT.

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

IT JUST MAKES THINGS EASIER OH ZOOMING YOU KNOW BUT I DON'T THINK SO I THINK WE NEED TO BE ONE-TO-ONE IN FACT THAT IS BEEN WRITTEN IN A RELATIONSHIP ONE-TO-ONE THAT'S SORT OF A THERAPEUTIC WAY OF INSTEAD OF SAYING BUT YOU WE HAVE TO CHART WE HAVE TO DOCUMENT IF I'M HERE. THE RIGHT THING TO DO, I'M IF I'M ON ISLAND AND MY SUPERVISOR IS OFF ISLAND TO ME RECORD KEEPING NEEDS TO SAY ALSO INDICATING I'M ON ISLAND AND MY SUPERVISOR IS OFF ISLAND. THAT'S ONLY THE ETHICAL AND RIGHT THING TO DO BUT NOT ZOOMING. I MEAN WE'RE ZOOMING A LOT. I DON'T WANT TO ZOOM WHEN YOU'RE HAVING A MEETING AND I'M ZOOMING WITH YOU. I MEAN, I LIKE TO, YOU KNOW, WE HAVE THE CONTACT, THE VISUAL, AND WE'RE TOGETHER, BUT ZOOMING, IT'S JUST A BARRIER, RIGHT?

SENATOR TAITAGUE

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OKAY. THANK YOU. THANK YOU, MAMIE, FOR THAT EXPLANATION. I'M SURE THE HUMAN ELEMENT IS SO IMPORTANT, TOUCHING, AND SEEING TECHNOLOGY THOUGH IS COME A LONG WAY, AND WE'RE ACTUALLY SEEING THE NEXT GENERATION FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE ONLINE THAN IN PERSON. UNFORTUNATELY, THAT IS JUST WHERE THINGS ARE ROLLING RIGHT NOW. AND IT'S UNFORTUNATE TO ME BECAUSE I THINK THE HUMAN ELEMENT OF TOUCH AND LOOKING, YOU KNOW, KNOWING YOU'RE THERE AND TO HOLD THAT PERSON'S HAND IS AN ELEMENT THAT'S MOST NEEDED WHEN IT COMES TO PSYCHOLOGISTS AND TRYING TO HELP AN INDIVIDUAL. SO I AGREE WITH YOU. BUT I JUST DON'T WANT TO HINDER OURSELVES BECAUSE YOU KNOW GUAM LACKS A LOT OF PROFESSIONALS IN SPECIALTY AREAS ON THIS ISLAND AND WE NEED TO FIND AN AVENUE. IF WE CAN'T GET IT HERE THEN A LOT OF OUR FAMILIES ON THIS ISLAND CANNOT AFFORD TO GET IN A PLANE AND GO SOMEWHERE ELSE YOU KNOW AND SO THAT'S A CONCERN BUT I'M SURE WE'LL ADDRESS THAT. GO AHEAD MAMIE YOU HAD ONE MORE THING TO SAY.

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

SENATORS, LET ME JUST SAY THIS IS THAT OTHER THAN ESTABLISHING LAWS, RULES AND REGULATION, I THINK THAT THERE NEEDS TO BE SOMETHING A PROGRAM THAT REALLY ATTRACTIVE AND ENTICE OUR OWN PEOPLE TO COME BACK TO THE ISLAND TO SERVE THE PEOPLE.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

THAT WAS ACTUALLY MY NEXT QUESTION WITH REGARDS TO INCENTIVES. SO,

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

I'M A PRODUCT OF A STUDENT TRAINEE AT THAT TIME IT WAS I DON'T KNOW REMEMBER TIME LONG TIME AGO THE GOVERNOR GUAM UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION NOT EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION IN FACT IT WAS FATE DUENAS WHO WAS RUNNING THE PROGRAM THERE WERE 10 INDIVIDUALS CAN APPLY TO BE INTERN AND THE INDIVIDUALS COULD SELECT TO GO TO DIFFERENT AGENCIES TO LEARN WHETHER THEY WANTED TO BE IN THE BUSINESS. I WAS VERY FORTUNATE TO BE ONE THAT WAS SELECTED. I'M SORRY TO TELL YOU DYA DID NOT ACCEPT ME. I WENT TO MENTAL HEALTH. I WAS REJECTED. THAT WAS FINE. HOWEVER, WITH SOME CONNECTION TO THE PSYCHIATRIST, I WAS ACCEPTED AND THAT'S HOW I STARTED MY CAREER. BUT I THINK THAT WE NEED TO LOOK AT HOW GOVERNOR GUAM NEED TO DEVELOP A PROGRAM SUCH AS THE DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION TO COVER THAT OUR LOCAL UP AND COMING PEOPLE AND TO RETURN TO THE ISLAND AND WITHOUT THAT KIND OF A PROGRAM I DON'T THINK I WOULD BE ABLE TO GET INTO THE MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSION AND SUBSTANCE USE TODAY. BUT I WAS VERY FORTUNATE BUT WE DON'T HAVE THAT KIND OF PROGRAM NOWADAYS. I DON'T THINK BUT INDIVIDUAL YOU KNOW I CAN BE YOU KNOW GOING INTO BE UPCOMING TO BE A DIRECTOR OF WHO KNOWS IN THE FUTURE OF DYA OR GMH BUT IT IS UP TO THE INDIVIDUAL TO SELECT WHERE THEY WANT TO GO AND DEVELOP YOU KNOW AND ALSO PEOPLE IN THE AGENCY DEPARTMENT ARE SUPPORTIVE OF SUCH. THE IDEA IS THAT YOU NEED TO PROMOTE YOUR OWN PEOPLE TO COME BACK TO SERVE THIS COMMUNITY AND NOT RELYING ON OFF ISLAND TO COME IN. AND I MUST SAY TO YOU THAT THERE ARE INDIVIDUALS THAT COMING ON ISLAND.

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THEY THINK THEY KNOW BETTER THAN THE LOCAL PEOPLE. AND HAVE SAID THAT TO OUR FACE. THEY THINK THEY KNOW BETTER AND THEY'RE GONE. YOU KNOW, WE DON'T NEED OFF ISLAND PEOPLE TO DICTATE TO THE CLINICIANS WHAT WE'RE SUPPOSED TO DO. WE KNOW HOW TO SERVE THE PEOPLE AND INDIVIDUAL OFF ISLAND THEY KNOW THAT DON'T KNOW THE CULTURAL ASPECT AND THEREFORE THE THERAPEUTIC ALLIANCE AND RELATIONSHIP IS GOING TO BE ALTERED BECAUSE THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND THE CULTURAL VALUE. WELL, I KNOW THAT RIGHT NOW BEFORE YOU GET A LICENSE, YOU HAVE TO GO THROUGH EDUCATION, RIGHT? A CULTURAL, YEAH. BUT THAT'S MORE THAN THAT. THE LEGISLATURE OR THE GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO WRITE A PROGRAM THAT IS GOING TO BE SUPPORTIVE FROM THE BEGINNING TO THE TOP TO BRING PEOPLE TO BE EDUCATED AND TRAINED IN THE AREA THAT THEY DESIRE TO BE IN.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

THANK YOU.

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

AND I THINK WITH MY I WAS FORTUNATE. I DON'T KNOW.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

THANK YOU. IS THERE ANY INCENTIVES TO ENCOURAGE LICENSED PROFESSIONALS TO BE SUPERVISORS? IS THERE ANY INCENTIVES AT ALL?

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

RIGHT NOW, THE SUPERVISORS ARE BEING SELECTED BECAUSE OF THEIR POSITION RIGHT NOW IN THE GOVERNMENT GUAM SYSTEM.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

SO, NOTHING TO INCENTIVIZE THEM TO?

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

NO, BUT THE THING IS THAT IF YOU THAT'S THE REASON WHY THE BOARD NEEDS TO APPROVE THE SUPERVISOR BECAUSE NOT EVERYBODY ARE DESTINED TO BE A SUPERVISOR.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

OKAY.

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

I MEAN I MIGHT BE GOOD IN THE FIELD BUT I MIGHT NOT BE GOOD IN BEING SUPERVISING OTHER PEOPLE. SO THAT RELATIONSHIP ESTABLISHING A ALLIANCE BETWEEN SUPERVISED SUPERVISOR YOU KNOW I'M GOOD BECAUSE I HAVE GOOD SUPERVISOR BUT IF I HAVE A REAL TERRIBLE SUPERVISOR

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DOESN'T KNOW WHAT THEY'RE DOING THEN I BECOME THE SAME THING OF SAYING OH IT'S OKAY AND ALL THAT. SO THE QUALITY OF IT IS VERY IMPORTANT AND THE COMPETENCY OF A SUPERVISOR IS SO IMPORTANT BUT RIGHT NOW YOU KNOW IT'S NOT BEING TALKED ABOUT. SO ANYBODY WHO'S ALREADY MEET THE REQUIREMENT, OH I CAN BE A SUPERVISOR. NO, SOME PEOPLE ARE NOT DESTINED TO BE A SUPERVISOR. I'M JUST TELL YOU THAT WHETHER THEY YOU KNOW I ALWAYS TELL PEOPLE WHERE DID YOU GO TO SCHOOL YOU KNOW AND WHEN THERE'S COMPLAINT OF PATIENTS YOU KNOW ALL THAT I'M LOOKING AT IT WHERE DID YOU GUYS GO TO SCHOOL SO THAT'S VERY IMPORTANT SUPERVISION.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

OKAY, THANK YOU. TO PUBLIC HEALTH, MY LAST QUESTION IS THERE ANYTHING AT PUBLIC HEALTH YOU CAME HERE TO TESTIFY ON BEHALF OF THE DIRECTOR. DOES HPLO HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THIS OR IS IT JUST IS THERE ANYTHING THAT YOU NEED TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON THAT PUBLIC HEALTH HAS REQUIRE THAT IS REQUIRED NOW IF THIS BILL SHOULD PASS THAT A RESPONSIBILITY OF PUBLIC HEALTH?

BREANNA SABLAN

THANK YOU, SENATOR. I I WOULDN'T SAY THERE WOULD BE ANY IMPACT FOR THE HPLO WITH IF THE BILL DOES PASS.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

SO, THERE'S NOTHING THAT PUBLIC HEALTH,

BREANNA SABLAN

NOT FOR THIS BILL.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

DOES AT ALL. NO MONITORING, NO ANYTHING LIKE THAT

BREANNA SABLAN

MONITORING, CAN YOU ELABORATE?

SENATOR TAITAGUE

OR YOU KNOW BASICALLY THESE AS THESE PROGRESS THE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE BEING SUPERVISED OR ANYTHING THAT HAVE TO CHECK IN WITH PUBLIC HEALTH OR PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ANYTHING LIKE THAT

BREANNA SABLAN

WELL, IF IT DOES PASS, WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO CREATE OF COURSE A REQUIREMENT CHECKLIST AND WE DO, DO ALL THE PRELIMINARY THE VETTING HAPPENS BEFORE IT EVEN GOES TO THE BOARD. SO, YES, WE DO ALL THOSE CHECKS AND BALANCES.

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SENATOR TAITAGUE

YEAH, THAT'S WHAT I WAS WONDERING.

BREANNA SABLAN

YES.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

OKAY. SO, YOU WILL DO THAT. AND IS THERE A TIMELINE IN THIS BILL THAT REQUIRES YOU TO DO THAT?

BREANNA SABLAN

I DIDN'T I DON'T HAVE AN ANSWER FOR THAT, BUT I I COULD GET BACK TO YOU AS FAR AS TIMELINE, BUT I'M RIGHT NOW CURRENTLY WORKING ON THE SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST REQUIREMENTS AND THE CERTIFICATION. SO, IT IS COMPLETED. WE'RE JUST AT THE STAGE WHERE WE WOULD HAVE TO OF COURSE HAVE IT HEARD BY THE BOARD. I DON'T THINK IT'LL TAKE MAYBE I WOULD SAY 90 DAYS.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

OKAY. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. YEAH. I JUST WANTED TO MAKE AND EVEN THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE AUTHOR OF THIS LEGISLATION TO INCORPORATE MAYBE AN AMENDMENT INTO TO ENSURE THAT THIS IS DONE IN A TIMELY MANNER AND PUTTING THAT IN LEGISLATION SO THAT WE CAN MAKE SURE THIS BILL IS AGAIN DONE QUICKLY. OKAY. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

SENATOR MATANANE

THANK YOU, SENATOR TAITAGUE. SENATOR TERLAJE.

SENATOR TERLAJE

SI YU'OS MA'ASE, THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR TESTIMONY THIS MORNING. REALLY APPRECIATE IT AND YOUR EFFORTS TO YOU KNOW EXPAND OUR ABILITY TO BRING IN THESE PROFESSIONALS AND HAVE THEM PRACTICE HERE. SO JUST WANT TO CLARIFY DR. MAMIE, YOU SAID YOU KNOW ONLY CERTAIN SUPERVISORS SHOULD BE ALLOWED RIGHT THAT YOU SHOULD AS A BOARD BE ABLE TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY ARE GOOD SUPERVISORS OR NOT. AND THE BILL SAYS SOMETHING ABOUT THAT THEY MUST BE AUTHORIZED IN SUBSECTION 1B AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE SUCH SUPERVISION IN THE UNITED STATES ITS TERRITORIES OR IN A FOREIGN JURISDICTION THAT THE BOARD DETERMINES ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS MAINTAINS LICENSURE AND SUPERVISION STANDARDS SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT TO THOSE OF THE UNITED STATES. IS THIS A STANDARD THAT THEY MUST MEET LIKE AN ACCREDIT LIKE DR. NADINE WAS TALKING ABOUT APA OR APIC OR IS THIS JUST A BOARD YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE YOUR OWN STANDARDS?

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

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THE BOARD WILL GO THROUGH WHAT IS THE BEST MODEL FOR CLINICAL SUPERVISION AND BECAUSE IT'S PSYCHOLOGY, WE WOULD FOLLOW THE APA AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION STANDARD WHICH SOME ELEMENT SOME CRITERIA HAS BEEN ALREADY BEEN SET BY DR. SANTOS. YES, WE WILL DO THAT.

SENATOR TERLAJE

THANK YOU, DR. SANTOS. AND THEN I THANK YOU FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION FOR THE AMENDMENT. I APPRECIATE THAT AND I AGREE. SO CURRENTLY IT LOOKS LIKE THE LAW REQUIRES THAT YOU HAVE A POSTGRADUATE CLINICAL EXPERIENCE. AND IN PLACE OF THAT, WE WANT TO ALSO ALLOW OR ALTERNATIVELY ALLOW INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE, RIGHT? FOR HAVING BEEN GONE THROUGH AN INTERNSHIP. SHOULD THE INTERNSHIP ALSO BE STATED TO BE POSTGRADUATE AND CLINICAL? BECAUSE RIGHT NOW IT JUST SAYS AN APPROVED INTERNSHIP PROGRAM.

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

IF I AM TO GO OBTAIN A CLINICAL SITE TRACK INTO THE MY IN MY AS A PROFESSION THEN YES I THINK THAT MY INTERNSHIP IS VERY IMPORTANT AS WELL BECAUSE THE EXPERIENCE OF BEING IN THE FACILITY ON IN THE CLINIC TO LEARN TO BE PROVIDING SERVICE AS A CLINIC PSYCHOLOGIST AND I THINK HERE IT EMPHASIZING OTHER THAN ME AS A INTERN RECEIVING SERVICES AND LATER ON ALSO AS RESIDENTS AS REQUIRED I MEAN JUST BECAUSE I'M AN INTERN FOR ONE YEAR IS NOT ENOUGH. IT REQUIRES YOU TO HAVE ANOTHER A YEAR OF SUPERVISION. SO THAT IS BEING ALREADY BEEN SPELLED OUT WITH THE BOARD RULES AND REGULATION. SO THAT SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM AS TO YOU KNOW WHAT IS REQUIRED. BUT THE REASON THE BOARD WANTS TO BE APPROVAL BECAUSE THE LOT OF INDIVIDUALS NOT MAY NOT BE UNDER CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY THEY JUST GO YOU KNOW NEARLY WILLING TO SELECT A FRIEND TO BE A SUPERVISOR AND YOU LOOK AT IT IS THAT WHAT QUALITY IT IS AND IN FACT ETHICS SHOWS THAT IF I'M RELATED TO YOU OR IF I AM A FRIEND OF YOURS I SHOULD NOT SELECT YOU AS MY CLINICAL SUPERVISOR BEING IN THIS IN THIS PROFESSION IT SHOULD NOT BE EASY. YOU KNOW, YOU LEARN SO YOU LEARN TO BE THE BEST THAT YOU CAN AS A PSYCHOLOGIST.

SENATOR TERLAJE

ALL RIGHT. SO, I APPRECIATE WHAT YOU'RE SAYING ABOUT THE SUPERVISOR, BUT MY QUESTION IS JUST IT'S KIND OF A TECHNICAL QUESTION. YEAH. SO, THIS JUST SAYS YOU JUST HAVE TO HAVE A BOARD APPROVED INTERNSHIP PROGRAM AND IT'S NOT SPELLED OUT HERE THAT IT HAS TO BE POST-GRADUATE OR CLINICAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM LIKE IT WAS FOR THE POSTGRADUATE CLINICAL EXPERIENCE. DO YOU UNDERSTAND? SO, I MUST THIS SHOULD BE POST-GRADUATE, RIGHT? NOT AN INTERNSHIP WHILE YOU ARE IN SCHOOL.

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

INTERNSHIP IS BEFORE POSTGRADUATE, I THINK IT'S ALREADY BEEN

SENATOR TERLAJE

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SO, IT'S BEFORE GRADUATION? SO, IS THAT WHAT

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

SPELLED OUT.

SENATOR TERLAJE

SO, WE'RE GOING TO ALLOW THE INTERNSHIPS THAT THEY DO BEFORE GRADUATION TO TAKE THE PLACE OF POST-GRADUATE CLINICAL EXPERIENCE.

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

YES.

SENATOR TERLAJE

DO YOU ALL AGREE?

NADINE CEPEDA

SO, IF I MAY, SENATOR THERESE, SO INTERNSHIP IS PRIOR TO GRADUATION AND THEN THIS IS FOCUSING ON POST. SO, THEY HAVE TO DO ONE YEAR AFTER THEY GRADUATE.

SENATOR TERLAJE

OKAY. THAT'S WHAT I WANT. THAT'S WHAT I WANT IT TO BE, RIGHT? SO YOU ALL AGREE THAT THAT'S WHAT IT SHOULD BE IS POST AND ANOTHER INTERNSHIP POST-GRADUATE.

NADINE CEPEDA

YEAH. SO IT'S INTERNSHIP AND THEN POSTGRAD. THAT'S CORRECT.

SENATOR TERLAJE

NO, THIS INTERNSHIP THAT WE ARE ALLOWING TO BE SUPERVISED TO,

NADINE CEPEDA

IT'S POST.

SENATOR TERLAJE

POST OKAY. SO,

NADINE CEPEDA

SO, THE ONE I AT LEAST I'M UNDERSTANDING IT,

SENATOR TERLAJE

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YEAH

NADINE CEPEDA

IS THAT IT'S POST,

SENATOR TERLAJE

ALRIGHT, SO,

NADINE CEPEDA

IT'S AFTER YOU GRADUATE.

SENATOR TERLAJE

SO, ON LINE SEVEN OF THE BILL ON PAGE TWO THAT'S WHAT I'M PROPOSING IS THAT IT SHOULD SAY IN A BOARD APPROVED POSTGRADUATE AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAM SO THAT THERE'S NO DISPUTE YOU KNOW WE ALWAYS HAVE THESE DISPUTES WHETHER A PRIOR INTERNSHIP PROGRAM WILL SATISFY AND I'M ALSO ASKING YOU NOW SHOULD WE ALSO PUT THE WORD CLINICAL DOES IT HAVE TO BE A CLINICAL INTERNSHIP ARE THERE OTHER TYPES OF CLINIC INTERNSHIPS BECAUSE THE POSTGRADUATE CLINICAL EXPERIENCE THAT WAS PREVIOUSLY REQUIRED IS VERY SPECIFICALLY CLINICAL. SO, SHOULD WE ALSO ADD CLINICAL THERE POST-GRADUATE AND CLINICAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM?

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

THAT WOULD BE MORE CLEARER, I MEAN CLEARER IN INDICATING EXACTLY THE DIFFERENT CATEGORIES. INTERNSHIP IT COULD BE BEFORE YOU KNOW,

SENATOR TERLAJE

YES.

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

I MEAN HIGH SCHOOL INTERNSHIP IS GOOD,

SENATOR TERLAJE

YES.

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

AND INTERNSHIP DURING MY UNDERGRAD YEARS BUT A POSTGRAD POST-DOCTORAL ALSO REQUIRE NUMBER OF HOURS THAT YOU HAVE TO OBTAIN AND WHO ARE THE SUPERVISOR IS ALSO IMPORTANT. YEAH, CORRECT.

SENATOR TERLAJE

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ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU. DR. SANTOS, YOU

DR. EDWARD SANTOS

IF I MAY.

SENATOR TERLAJE

YES.

DR. EDWARD SANTOS

SO, THE LANGUAGE USUALLY IS PREDOC INTERNSHIP PRE-DOCTORAL INTERNSHIP AND THAT'S REQUIRED FOR YOUR TO GET YOUR DEGREE AND THEN THERE'S ANOTHER PART CALLED POSTDOC AND IT'S NORMALLY IT CAN BE APA APPROVED SOME OF THEM ARE NOT BUT IT IS IT'S VERY SUPERVISED EXPERIENCE AS WELL SO THOSE ARE PRE-DOC, POSTDOC, AND THEN IT'S X NUMBER OF HOURS FOR THE TOTAL SOMETIMES THEY ACCEPT STUDENT OR A CANDIDATE FOR A PREDOC AND POSTDOC AT THE SAME TIME. THEY'LL GIVE THEM THAT TIME OPPORTUNITY TO DO THE TWO YEARS.

SENATOR TERLAJE

OKAY. APPRECIATE THAT. SO, YOU NO OBJECTION TO IF WE ADDING IN POSTGRADUATE THERE AND CLINICAL AS WELL. ALL RIGHT. SI YU'OS MA'ASE AND OTHER THAN THAT NO QUESTIONS. AND SI YU'OS MA'ASE. THANK YOU.

SENATOR MATANANE

THANK YOU, SENATOR TERLAJE. SENATOR BARNETT.

SENATOR BARNETT

SI YU'OS MA'ASE, MADAM CHAIR AND GOOD MORNING TO THE PEOPLE OF GUAM WATCHING ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL AND MOST ESPECIALLY GOOD MORNING TO THE PANEL DR. SANTOS, DR. BALAJADIA, DR. SABLAN, I JUST PROMOTE YOU.

BREANNA SABLAN

KIDDING.

SENATOR BARNETT

BRI AND NADINE. GOOD MORNING. GOOD MORNING. I WAS JUST THINK IN MY THOUGHTS HERE ABOUT HOW WE'VE MADE SO MUCH PROGRESS IN KIND OF WHITTILING BACK THE STIGMA WITH THE MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES IN OUR SOCIETY. I'M NOT SURE IF THIS KIND OF STARTED IN COVID WHERE WE ALL KIND OF GOT REALLY INTROSPECTIVE AND NOWADAYS IT'S VERY COMMON PLACE FOR PEOPLE TO SAY THAT THEY NEED A MENTAL HEALTH DAY. AND SO, I JUST WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE IN THIS FIELD AND I'M VERY SURE THAT YOU'VE BEEN PART OF KIND OF DIALING BACK THAT STIGMA SO

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THAT WE CAN ALL OPENLY TALK ABOUT WHAT WE'RE GOING THROUGH IN OUR HEADS. SO, I JUST WANTED TO FIRST THANK YOU WITH THAT. BUT IT SOUNDS LIKE WE ALL SUPPORT THE BILL OUTSIDE OF SOME YOU KNOW MINOR TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS. I DID WANT TO ASK DR. BALAJADIA SO ON IN THE BILL IT READS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS NOT COMPLETED ONE YEAR OF POST-GRADUATE CLINICAL EXPERIENCE OR WHO CANNOT DOCUMENT SUCH EXPERIENCE UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST, PSYCHIATRIST OR OTHER LICENSED PROFESSIONAL DEEMED BY THE BOARD TO BE SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT. I KNOW IT WAS BROUGHT UP EARLIER, BUT JUST TO CLARIFY, WOULD THIS INCLUDE THE POSITIONS THAT WE RECENTLY GRANDFATHERED IN FOR THE SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS AND THE LEGISLATION THAT WE PASSED? I BELIEVE IT WAS IN THE LAST SESSION. SO, WOULD THAT INCLUDE THE SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS? I KNOW THAT YOU SAID THE PRIORITY IS THE CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST BUT ARE WE LOOKING AT SOMEWHERE DOWN THE ROAD ALLOWING THIS TYPE OF INTERNSHIP FOR THOSE WHO SERVE AS THE SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS?

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

IT IS UP YOU KNOW FOR DOE I MEAN DOE YEAH TO ESTABLISH THAT BUT I THINK CLINICAL SETTING IN THE CLINIC AND THE HOSPITAL IS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM SCHOOL SETTING THAT'S THE REASON WHY WE HAVE A DELINEATION OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST AND SCHOOL, SO SCHOOL IN ORDER FOR YOU TO TO BE LICENSED SCHOOL THAT ALSO IS ONE ASPECT THAT YOU NEED TO HAVE THE REQUIRED QUALITY SUPERVISION IN ORDER TO FOR YOUR TO BE LICENSED IN THE FUTURE. YES, WE GRANDFATHERED THE LEGISLATURE WISDOM OF GRANDFATHERING THE INDIVIDUALS WHO ALREADY WORKING IN THE SCHOOL TO BE A SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST. SO THAT'S ALREADY, YOU KNOW, WORK IN THE WORKS. AND THEN APPLICATION, I'M, YOU KIND OF LIKE PUSHING FOR INDIVIDUALS TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION. AND THEN THE BOARD THEN ALSO WOULD LOOK AT THE, WHAT DO YOU CALL IT? THE BOARD WILL LOOK AT THE CERTIFICATION BECAUSE THAT IS REQUIRED BY DOE, I WAS TOLD. BUT THE CERTIFICATION WILL COME AFTER LICENSURE. SO THOSE SIX INDIVIDUAL AT DOE CURRENTLY AFTER THEY SUBMIT THE APPLICATION IT WILL BE GO BEFORE THE BOARD TO GET THE LICENSE. CERTIFICATION IS ANOTHER MATTER. CERTIFICATION IS ANOTHER STANDARD ADDITIONAL TO LICENSURE THAT THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE TO MEET. SO THAT WE WE'RE ALREADY WORKING ON THAT TO MAKE SURE THAT THE CERTIFICATION IS HERE AND THE LAST HEARING ON THE SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY THE JOB DESCRIPTION ALREADY INDICATED BY THE DOE YOU KNOW WHO THEY IN GENERAL JOB DESCRIPTION YOU KNOW FOR EVERYBODY TO LOOK AT WHEN YOU APPLY BUT THE POSITION DESCRIPTION IS EXACTLY WHAT YOU DO. SO, IF I'M A SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST AND I MAY NOT DO THE SAME TYPE OF A SERVICES LIKE MAYBE NADINE. SO, IT'S GOING TO BE INDICATED I THINK BY THE I THINK THE MANAGEMENT OF SCHOOL AS TO HOW THEY'RE GOING TO DIVID IT OUT BUT THE THE BOARD'S RESPONSIBILITY TO INDICATE WHAT'S A MINIMUM QUALIFICATION THAT YOU HAVE TO MEET AND THAT'S BEEN SET UP. SO, I MUST REPORT TO YOU TODAY THAT CERTIFICATION IS BEING WORKED ON. BUT APPLICATION IS ALREADY ESTABLISHED. SO, THEY CAN COME YOU KNOW I URGE THEM TO PUT IN THEIR APPLICATION SO THAT THEY CAN GO BEFORE THE BOARD AND WHEN THE APPLICATION IS IN THAT IT WILL BE IN THE BOARD'S AGENDA FOR APPROVAL. SO THAT'S FASTTRACK IN A WAY DEPENDING ON THE PERSON APPLICANT. SOONER THEY GET IN, THE SOONER THEY'RE GOING TO BE ON THE BOARD'S AGENDA. YEAH. SO, I UNDERSTAND THERE'S A

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TIME FRAME FOR THE INDIVIDUALS TO PUT IN THE APPLICATION. SO, WE WE'RE ENCOURAGING TO MOVE IT, YOU KNOW. SO, I THINK WE'RE THANKFUL ACTUALLY THE COMMUNITY THANKFUL FOR THE LEGISLATURE WISDOMS TO SEE THAT ESTABLISHED PSYCHOLOGY IS SO IMPORTANT IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEM. SO THAT'S WORKING AS WELL AS THE OTHER ASPECT OF THINGS. IT MIGHT BE SLOW BUT, IN A WAY, DEPENDING ON YOU KNOW THAT ELEMENT AND WHAT IT IS THAT I THINK IT'S MOVING PRETTY GOOD INTO MAKE SURE THAT OUR INDIVIDUALS ARE PROPERLY TITLED AND THE WORK THAT THEY DO TO REFLECT ON THE TITLE.

SENATOR BARNETT

THANK YOU FOR THAT. NADINE, DID YOU HAVE ANYTHING THAT YOU WANTED TO ADD?

NADINE CEPEDA

YES. I JUST WANT TO THANK THIS BODY WHO ACTUALLY SUPPORTED IT AND TRULY IT'S HELPING MANY PEOPLE. WE'VE WENT DOWN TO 21,000 STUDENTS IN ENROLLMENT. BUT I'M GLAD YOU BRING UP SOMETHING, SENATOR BARNETT, IN REGARDS TO COVID DID BRING UP THE ISSUES OF WHAT'S BEEN WE KNOWN IN THE MENTAL HEALTH FIELD HAS BEEN AN ISSUE, BUT CLEARLY, WE'RE SEEING IT IN OUR SCHOOLS AND WHEN THEY DON'T COME TO SCHOOL AND THEY END UP IN THE LEGAL SYSTEM OR BECAUSE IT'S GENERATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH. AND YOU KNOW, OUR CULTURE IS, HEY, DON'T SAY ANYTHING. BUT THE REALITY IS WE DO. WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT IT. AND SO THAT'S PART OF OUR JOB IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEM. THAT'S WHAT SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS DO IS THEY ARE SPECIALIZED IN THE SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS. AND THAT'S WHY I'M TRULY GRATEFUL FOR ALL THIS BODY WHICH WAS 14 TO 1. TRUST ME, I HAD FAMILIES CALL ME AND I THANK EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU WHO SUPPORTED BECAUSE IT'S NOT ONLY BENEFITING US. THAT MEANS MORE WORK FOR US, BUT WE'RE OKAY. THAT'S OUR JOB. IT'S MORE ABOUT HELPING WHO WE CAN AND CAN'T HELP BECAUSE THEY DO HAVE A CHOICE IF THEY WANT SERVICES, BUT AT LEAST WE CAN DO SOME PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION. SO, THANK YOU.

SENATOR BARNETT

THANK YOU, NADINE. SO, THANK YOU, DOC. SO, IT KIND OF SOUNDS LIKE DOWN THE ROAD WE COULD HAVE A PIPELINE FOR INTERNSHIP UNDER THE ESTABLISHED SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST. OKAY. I GUESS THE OTHER QUESTION I HAD AND THIS IS A YOU KNOW THE TERM SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT WHEN YOU TALK ABOUT LICENSURE AND SUPERVISION STANDARDS SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT TO THOSE OF THE UNITED STATES WHAT'S THE METRIC ON THAT DOC AND THAT SOUNDS LIKE IT'S JUST UP TO THE DISCRETION OF THE BOARD SO HOW SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT ARE WE TALKING ABOUT AND HOW DO YOU KIND OF MATCH SOME OF THESE MAYBE FOREIGN QUALIFICATIONS AND VET THEM AGAINST THE APA RANKS.

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

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CURRENTLY IN THE LAW IN THE PREVIOUS LEGISLATURE GIVE THE AUTHORIZATION TO THE BOARD TO EVALUATE THE APPLICATION IF THEY ARE FOREIGN GRADUATE IS ALREADY IN THE BOOKS AND I THERE ARE FOR EXAMPLE THE PHILIPPINES SANTO TOMAS AND YOU KNOW AND THE TAMAYO THEY'RE GOOD SCHOOL SO IF THE INDIVIDUAL SUBMIT THE APPLICATION AND WE'RE LOOKING AT IT AND IS EQUIVALENT TO THE US STANDARDS YES WE WILL ACCEPT AND THE BOARD WILL GRANT LICENSURE TO INDIVIDUAL SO THEY CAN BE IN THE WORKFORCE THAT'S ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE THAT WE NEEDED ON GUAM. YES.

SENATOR BARNETT

THANK YOU. AND THEN YOU ALSO BROUGHT UP HOW YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO INTERN UNDER A RELATIVE OR A FRIEND BECAUSE OF YOU KNOW THE OBVIOUS ETHICAL CONCERNS. SO, YOU KNOW, WITH THAT BEING SAID, IS THERE ANYTHING INVOLVED IN THE INTERNSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS FOR THE INTERN OR THE SUPERVISING PSYCHOLOGIST IN TERMS OF LIKE DECLARING ANY KIND OF RELATIONSHIP THAT THEY MAY HAVE WITH A POTENTIAL INTERN?

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

WE HAVE COME ACROSS ONE CASE IN WHICH A FRIEND WE SAW THAT ON THE INTERNET, THANK GOD TO ALL THESE THINGS. SO, I DON'T REALLY YOU KNOW LOOK AT THAT ONE I ONLY LOOK AT IT ONCE IN A WHILE BUT IT INDICATED THAT THE PERSON WHO IS A SUPERVISOR IS A FRIEND OR IN THE SAME CORPORATION AS THE LICENSE AS THE INTERN. SO THAT IS SOMETHING THAT IS NOT ALLOWED. THE GUIDELINE I MEAN BEING A FRIEND IS NOT A FRIEND IS A FRIEND BUT IT IS NOT GOING TO BE IN A GOOD SUPERVISION POSITION TO SUPERVISE IF WE'RE FRIENDS I SHOULD NOT BE SUPERVISING YOU AND THE SUPERVISOR THE POTENTIAL SUPERVISOR SHOULD KNOW BETTER SO THE BOARD HAS LOOKED INTO THIS AND THEN HAVE DENIED AND THEN OF COURSE WE HAVE A BACKLASH WHY THIS WHY THAT YOU KNOW TODAY WE HAVE A LOT OF INDIVIDUALS THAT KIND OF LIKE BACKTALKING, YOU KNOW, LIKE THERE'S NO RESPECT. I WAS LIKE, WHERE DID YOU WHO RAISED YOU? YOU KNOW, THEY JUST WANTED TO DO WHAT THE HELL THEY WANT TO DO, YOU KNOW? SO, THE RULES AND REGULATION AND LAW REALLY PUT IT IN PLACE. AND IT IS NOT BECAUSE ONE BOARD MEMBER OR THE BOARD, YOU KNOW, DON'T LIKE THIS PARTICULAR THING YOU SUBMITTED. IS BECAUSE WE HAVE TO FOLLOW THE LAW AS ESTABLISHED AND THE RULES AND REGULATION AND IF PEOPLE READ A LOT OF PEOPLE DON'T READ I'M SORRY TO TELL YOU IF PEOPLE READ THEY KNOW WHAT THEY ARE INSTEAD OF QUARRELING INSTEAD OF FIGHTING THE BOARD IT SAYS YOU KNOW WHY THIS WHY THAT AND WE HAVE PEOPLE EVEN BRING LAWYERS TO YOU KNOW TO QUESTION THE BOARD YOU KNOW BUT REGARDLESS WHEN THE BOARD IS BEING IN THE BATTLEFIELD, WE WILL FOLLOW WHAT IS THE LAW AND RULES AND REGULATION.

SENATOR BARNETT

THANK YOU, DOC. SO, DR. SANTOS.

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DR. EDWARD SANTOS

IF I MAY JUST TO GO BACK ON THAT ONE YOU KNOW THE SUPERVISORS LICENSED SO THEY HAVE ETHICAL STANDARDS THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE TO FOLLOW AND ESPECIALLY THAT FIDELITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO UPHOLD THE TRUST AND THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS. SO AGAIN, THEY HAVE TO FOLLOW THAT ETHICAL STANDARD TO BE A SUPERVISOR. SO, IF THEY'RE GOING AGAINST THAT, THEY'RE GOING AGAINST THEIR ALL THEIR WHOLE TRAINING ANYWAY.

SENATOR BARNETT

RIGHT. THANK YOU FOR THAT, DR. SANTOS. SO, I GUESS WHERE I WAS GOING WITH IT WAS DO WE NEED ARE THERE SUBSTANTIAL SAFEGUARDS AND BESIDES THE OBVIOUS ETHICAL DECLARATIONS, BUT IT KIND OF SOUNDS LIKE EVEN WITH THOSE IN PLACE, YOU STILL HAD A CASE WHERE SOMEONE WAS TRYING TO GET IN UNDER THEIR FRIEND. SO, I'M JUST NOT SURE IF WE NEED TO PUT ANYTHING IN HERE OR IF YOU BELIEVE WHATEVER'S ON THE BOOKS ALREADY IS ADEQUATE.

DR. MAMIE BALAJADIA

SENATOR, YOU KNOW, GUAM IS A SMALL PLACE. I MEAN, WE DO SOMETHING THE NEXT DAY, YOU KNOW, EVERYBODY IN THE COMMUNITY KNOWS. SO, I THINK WE MIGHT MISS SOMETHING, BUT LATER ON IT'S GOING TO BE ESTABLISHED. BUT I THINK IT'S INCUMBENT UPON THE SUPERVISOR WHO SHOULD BE ANOTHER STEP AHEAD TO SAY OKAY I AM NOT ABLE TO PROVIDE YOU THE SUPERVISION BECAUSE WE ARE THE REASON, I'M RELATED TO YOUR GRANDFATHER MAYBE YOU KNOW I MEAN YOU KNOW I DON'T KNOW BUT I JUST THINK THAT THE SUPERVISOR IN A HIGHER LEVEL THAN THE SUPERVISE NEED TO REALLY LOOK AT IS IT APPROPRIATE FOR ME TO SUPERVISE THAT PERSON BECAUSE JUST BECAUSE I'M ASKED BY THIS PERSON'S FATHER SAY HEY MY DAUGHTER NEEDS SUPERVISION COULD YOU PLEASE DO THAT NO YOU HAVE THE STANDARD YOU CAN EXPLAIN WHY I MEAN IF ALL OF US FOLLOW THE STANDARDS AND THE YOU KNOW WHAT IS BEING A COMPETENT SUPERVISOR THEN WE HAVE GOOD CLINICIANS IN THIS COMMUNITY.

SENATOR BARNETT

THANK YOU, DOC. THANK YOU, DR. SANTOS. THANK YOU TO THE PANEL FOR YOUR VERY INSIGHTFUL TESTIMONY. FEEL LIKE MY IQ WENT UP A FEW POINTS JUST LISTENING TO YOU, SI YU'OS MA'ASE. AND THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR, FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO ASK QUESTIONS.

SENATOR MATANANE

THANK YOU, SENATOR BARNETT, AND THANK YOU TO THE PANEL FOR COMING HERE TODAY, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THE AUTHOR OF THIS BILL TO ENSURE SOME OF THE GOALS AND SUGGESTIONS ARE IMPLEMENTED INTO THE BILL WITH RESPECT TO THE AMENDMENT FROM DR. BALAJADIA AS WELL AS ENSURING LIKE YOU MENTIONED NADINE THAT THE LEGISLATION WHEN IT BECOMES LAW STRENGTHENS PUBLIC PROTECTION, SUPPORTS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND

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IMPROVES ACCESS TO QUALITY MENTAL HEALTH CARE. RANKING MEMBER, YOU MAY CLOSE ON YOUR BILL.

SENATOR MUNA BARNES

THANK YOU, SI YU'OS MA'ASE. MADAME CHAIR AND THE WHY TO THIS BILL IS LITERALLY MADAM CHAIR CREATED INTENDED TO CREATE A PATHWAY FOR TRAINEES TO COMPLETE THE REQUIRED SUPERVISION LOCALLY THEREBY STRENGTHENING GUAM'S MENTAL HEALTH WORKFORCE AND AS THE FINDINGS HAD SOME IDENTIFYING FACTORS YOU KNOW OF COURSE MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS CONTINUE TO GROW BOTH GLOBALLY AND LOCALLY CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS PLAY THAT IMPORTANT ROLE IN DIAGNOSING AND TREATING THE MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS. AND THEN THE PSYCHOLOGY GRADUATES OFTEN STRUGGLE TO FIND OPPORTUNITIES TO OBTAIN SUPERVISED POSTDOCTORAL CLINICAL HOURS REQUIRED FOR THE LICENSURE AND BECAUSE WE LACK A CLEARLY DEFINED STATUTORY FRAMEWORK IDENTIFYING WHO MAY SUPERVISE CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY TRAINEES. I BRING IT BACK TO YOU, MADAM CHAIR, FOR HEARING THIS BILL AND WANTING THIS BILL TO GO THROUGH ITS PROCESS OF SUPPORT. AND I WANT TO GIVE CREDIT MORE IMPORTANTLY TO ONE OF OUR LOCALS WHO WANT TO COME BACK HOME. HER NAME IS DR. VERONICA PARIS, WHO NOT ONLY WANTED TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL TO FILL IN THE GAPS IN OUR HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AS A DOCTOR, BUT ALSO TO FIND WAYS TO FURTHER EXPAND THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR MORE STUDENTS TO COME BACK TO GUAM AND TO GET TO WORK. AND HER WORK AS AN INTERN IN THE LEGISLATURE THROUGH THE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE NEW YORK INSTITUTE TO ALLOW HER TO COME BACK HOME AND DO INTERNSHIP AND TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE POLICYMAKING BODY, THE LEGISLATURE THROUGH OUR OFFICE. HER WORK THROUGH THIS BILL CREATES THAT PIPELINE. SO I AGAIN MADAM CHAIR EXTEND MY SI YU'OS MA'ASES TO HER AND I WANT TO THANK THE PANEL FOR YOUR TESTIMONY AND YOUR RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS TO STRENGTHEN THIS BILL AND ALSO MADAME CHAIR I'D BE REMISS IF I DIDN'T INCLUDE THAT YOU DID GET ADDITIONAL TESTIMONY THAT YOU'LL PUT ONLINE AND ALSO ONE THAT COMES FROM WITCHY DENNIS MOHOT AND I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT GETS INCLUDED BUT THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU. IT WAS BROUGHT UP EARLIER TOO WITH ONE OF MY OTHER COLLEAGUES AND NADINE, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR BRINGING THAT BECAUSE DURING THE PANDEMIC AND SOMETHING THAT WE COULDN'T CONTROL, BUT SOMETHING WE DID LEARN ON THE NEED FOR HAVING YOU GUYS HAVING TO BE AROUND AND IN ORDER FOR US TO PROVIDE THOSE SERVICES, WE NEED TO GROW UPON AND THIS IS THE TIME AS WE LOOK AT MODERNIZATION, AS WE LOOK AT OPPORTUNITIES, AS WE LOOK AT CHANGING TIMES, IT CANNOT JUST BE SHOULDERED BY YOU GUYS HERE. WE NEED TO OPEN THAT PIPELINE. AND THIS IS THAT RECOMMENDATION. AND THE YOUNGER GENERATION WANTING TO COME BACK HOME, BUT WE IN ORDER FOR US TO LET THEM COME BACK HOME, THEY HAVE TO HAVE OPPORTUNITIES. AND AGAIN, WORKING CLOSELY WITH YOU GUYS WHO HAVE THE SENORITY HERE, YOU KNOW, AS WE GET OLDER, RIGHT, WE WANT TO EXCHANGE OR GIVE THE BATON TO OUR YOUNGER GENERATION. SO, MADAME CHAIR, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THIS AND I TRULY APPRECIATE IT AND I'M HOPING THAT WE CAN LOOK AT ALL THE RECOMMENDATIONS, SEE HOW WE CAN GET THE AMENDED VERSION FROM THIS COMMITTEE THROUGH YOUR MARKUP AND LITERALLY GET IN THE GET IT TO THE FLOOR SOONER THAN LATER. I KNOW WE HAVE BUDGET IN THE

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MONTH OF JULY, BUT HOPEFULLY BEFORE THE END OF THE TERM THAT THIS BILL WOULD BE PUT ON THE FLOOR AND GET ITS FULL SUPPORT. SO, THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK. GOD BLESS EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU. THANK YOU.

SENATOR MATANANE

THANK YOU, RANKING MEMBER, AND THANK YOU TO THE PANEL FOR JOINING US AND PROVIDING TESTIMONY ON BILL 308. THANK YOU. WE WILL NOW MOVE ON TO BILL 322 INTRODUCED BY SENATOR TELO TAITAGUE. IF THERE IS ANYONE HERE TO TESTIFY ON THIS BILL, PLEASE HAVE A SEAT AT THE TABLE BEFORE US. WE WILL NOW BEGIN WITH THE AUTHOR'S OPENING REMARKS ON HER LEGISLATION. SENATOR TAITAGUE.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. BUENOS AND HABA ADAI, EVERYONE. AND THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR, AGAIN FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT BILL 322-38 COR RELATIVE TO EXPANDING PHYSICIANS PUBLIC PROFILE DISCLOSURES TO INCLUDE PRACTICE CAPACITY AND PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INFORMATION. IT IS CORE THAT BILL 322 IS ABOUT TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND GIVING PATIENTS MEANINGFUL INFORMATION BEFORE THEY CHOOSE A MEDICAL PROVIDER. THIS BILL IS NOT A NEW POLICY CONCEPT. GUAM LAW HAS ALREADY RECOGNIZED THAT PATIENTS SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT PHYSICIANS FROM WHOM THEY RECEIVE CARE. IN 2011, THE LEGISLATURE ENACTED PUBLIC LAW 31-84, THE PATIENT'S PROTECTION THROUGH INFORMATION ACT INTRODUCED BY ACTUALLY SENATOR TINA ROSE MUNA BARNES WHICH ESTABLISHES GUAM'S PHYSICIAN PROFILE DISCLOSURE PROGRAM. IN 2018, THE LEGISLATURE FURTHER EXPANDED THE FRAMEWORK THROUGH PUBLIC LAW 34-79, REQUIRING THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN SEARCHABLE PHYSICIANS PROFILE WEBSITE. THOSE LAWS WERE BASED ON A SIMPLE PRINCIPLE. PATIENTS ARE BETTER ABLE TO MAKE INFORMED HEALTH DECISIONS WHEN THEY HAVE ACCESS TO ACCURATE AND MEANINGFUL INFORMATION ABOUT THEIR PROVIDER. ALTHOUGH THOSE LAWS WERE ENACTED YEARS AGO, IMPLEMENTATION REQUIRED CONTINUED OVERSIGHT AND FOLLOW THROUGH FROM 2019 TO 2022. THE LEGISLATURE CONTINUE TO RAISE CONCERNS AND PUSH FOR THE PHYSICIANS PROFILE SYSTEM TO BE IMPLEMENTED AND INTENDED. TODAY, THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINER'S PHYSICIAN PROFILE WEBSITE IS A MARKED IMPROVEMENT FROM WHERE IT WAS JUST A FEW YEARS AGO. PATIENTS NOW ACCESS PHYSICIANS' LICENSURE SPECIALTY LICENSE STATUS AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION ONLINE. BUT UNFORTUNATELY, THE INFORMATION THAT WAS REQUIRED BY SOME OF THESE PUBLIC LAWS IS STILL HAVE YET TO BE PLACED ON THE WEBSITE AND THIS HAS BEEN BY LAW. NOW, BILL 322 TODAY THAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT BUILDS ON THE EXISTING SYSTEM ALREADY IN EXISTENCE BY REQUIRING TWO ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURES THAT DIRECTLY THAT IS RELEVANT TO PATIENTS. FIRST, WHETHER A PHYSICIAN PRACTICES IN A PRIVATE CAPACITY OR GOVERNMENT CAPACITY OR BOTH. SECOND, WHETHER A PHYSICIAN MAINTAINS PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR SERVICES RENDERED IN PRIVATE PRACTICE. THE BILL ALSO REQUIRES NOTICE TO PATIENTS THAT SERVICES RENDERED IN A GOVERNMENT CAPACITY MAY BE SUBJECT TO THE GOVERNMENT CLAIMS ACT OR STATUTORY CLAIM PROCESS WHICH DIFFER FROM

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CLAIMS INVOLVING PRIVATE PROVIDERS. THIS INFORMATION MATTERS. IT MATTERS VERY MUCH. ESPECIALLY A PATIENT SHOULD BE ABLE TO KNOW WHETHER THEY ARE RECEIVING CARE FROM A PHYSICIAN IN A PRIVATE OR GOVERNMENT CAPACITY OR EVEN BOTH. A PATIENT SHOULD ALSO BE ABLE TO KNOW WHETHER A PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY COVERAGE EXISTS FOR SERVICES RENDERED IN A PRIVATE PRACTICE. THESE ARE BASIC FACTS THAT MAY AFFECT A PATIENT'S UNDERSTANDING OF HEALTHCARE RELATIONSHIP. THE PROTECTION AVAILABLE, THE PROCESS THAT MAY APPLY IF THE CONCERNS ARRIVE. LET ME GIVE YOU AN EXAMPLE. A MOTHER IS LOOKING FOR A DOCTOR FOR THEIR CHILD. THEY HAVE THE ACCESS THROUGH TRANSPARENCY. PUBLIC HEALTH PROVIDES A WEBSITE THROUGH HPLO FOR THAT MOTHER TO LOOK FOR A DOCTOR FOR THEIR CHILD. THE INFORMATION SHOULD BE THERE TO ALLOW THAT MOTHER A CHOICE FOR HER FAMILY. AND WHETHER SHE CHOOSES A DOCTOR WHO DOESN'T HAVE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE OR A DOCTOR THAT DOES HAVE MEDICAL PRACTICE INSURANCE AND WHETHER THAT DOCTOR WORKS BOTH FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE OR JUST FOR PRIVATE OR JUST FOR GOVERNMENT. IT'S VERY SIMPLE. IT BRINGS TRANSPARENCY TO THE FOREFRONT AND IT ALLOWS OUR PEOPLE OF GUAM THE SAME ACCESS AS THOSE IN THE MAINLAND THAT HAVE THAT ABILITY TO LOOK UP DOCTORS IN THEIR STATE AND CHOOSE BASED ON INFORMATION THAT IS PROVIDED. I ALSO WANT TO ADDRESS THE CONCERN THAT THIS BILL WILL CREATE THAT WAS MENTIONED THAT THE BILL WILL CREATE A MAJOR NEW ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN THAT IS ABSOLUTELY NOT TRUE BECAUSE THERE IS ALREADY A WEBSITE UP AND IT'S JUST A MATTER OF INCLUDING TWO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. DURING THE RECENT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH OVERSIGHT HEARING WHICH BREANNA WAS HERE, HPLO CONFIRMED SEVERAL IMPORTANT FACTS THAT SHOULD GUIDE OUR REVIEW OF THIS MEASURE. HPLO CONFIRMED THAT IT ALREADY OVERSEES THE WEBSITE FOR MEDICAL AND PROFESSIONAL BOARDS. HPLO CONFIRMED THAT IT UPDATES ONLINE DATABASES AFTER BOARD APPROVAL. HPLO CONFIRMED THAT THERE IS ALREADY A LIVE DATABASE WHERE THE PUBLIC CAN SEARCH A PHYSICIAN'S NAME, SPECIFIC LICENCY, AND WHETHER THE LICENSE IS ACTIVE OR INACTIVE. HPLO ALSO CONFIRMED THAT AT THIS TIME IT HAS MANPOWER TO UPDATE WEBSITES WITH ITS CURRENT VENDOR. IN FACT, I EVEN ASKED HPLO HOW MANY EMPLOYEES DO THEY EMPLOY TO OVERSEE WEBSITES TO OVERSEE THESE BOARDS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH? AND IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, THERE WAS AT LEAST FIVE. THIS IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE BILL 322 DOES NOT REQUIRE A NEW WEBSITE. IT DOES NOT CREATE A NEW PUBLIC DISCLOSURE PROGRAM EITHER. IT DOES NOT REQUIRE HPLO OR THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS TO BUILD AN ENTIRELY NEW SYSTEM FROM SCRATCH. THE PHYSICIAN PROFILE SYSTEM ALREADY EXISTS. BILL 322 SIMPLY MAKES THE SYSTEM MORE COMPLETE AND MORE USEFUL FOR PATIENTS. HPLO EXPLAINED THE EXPANDING DATABASE AND MAKING LARGER ITP UPGRADES WOULD REQUIRE ADDITIONAL FUNDING. IF YOU LOOK AT TECHNOLOGY TODAY, YOU CAN FIND THERE MORE EASIER ACCESS TO IMPROVE ANY TYPE OF WEBSITE. IN FACT, CODING SYSTEMS THAT AI TECHNOLOGY PROVIDES. I UNDERSTAND AND RESPECT THOSE CONCERNS THOUGH FROM HPLO BUT THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A MAJOR IT EXPANSION AND ADDING NARROW PRACTICAL DISCLOSURE INFORMATION TO EXISTING PHYSICIANS PROFILE FRAMEWORK. THIS BILL IS FOCUSED ON THE LATTER. THE OVERSIGHT HEARING ALSO REVEALED THE CLEAREST REASON THIS LEGISLATURE IS NECESSARY. WHEN ASKED WHETHER HPLO COULD VERIFY WHETHER A PHYSICIAN HAS MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE, HPLO STATED THAT IT IS NOT CURRENTLY ABLE TO PLACE THAT

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INFORMATION ON THE WEBSITE. HOWEVER, HPLO ALSO STATED THAT IF SOMEONE WRITES TO THE OFFICE, THE OFFICE IS ABLE TO RESEARCH AND PROVIDE THAT INFORMATION. WHY SHOULD OUR PEOPLE HAVE TO MAKE A PHONE CALL AND MAYBE NOT EVEN GET THEIR ANSWERS? THAT IS THAT SHOULD NOT BE THE STANDARD FOR PATIENTS SEEKING MEDICAL ASSISTANCE. PEOPLE ARE GOING THROUGH DIRE NEED RIGHT NOW WHEN THEY HAVE TO DEAL WITH A FAMILY THAT IS SICK. PATIENTS SHOULD NOT HAVE TO KNOW THAT THEY MUST WRITE TO HPLO OR WRITE FOR RESEARCH OR REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ONE PERSON AT A TIME. IF THE INFORMATION CAN BE RESEARCHED AND PROVIDED UPON REQUEST, THEN IT IS REASONABLE, FAIR, AND MORE TRANSPARENT TO INCLUDE THIS IN THE PUBLIC PHYSICIANS PROFILE SYSTEM. THE GUAM LAW ALREADY REQUIRES. HPLO ALSO RAISED AN UNDERSTANDABLE CONCERN THAT SOME PHYSICIAN PROFILE INFORMATION SUCH AS DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS OR SETTLEMENTS IS SENSITIVE AND REQUIRES LEGAL REVIEW TO PROTECT DUE PROCESS RIGHTS. I AGREE THAT DUE PROCESS IS IMPORTANT, BUT THE DISCLOSURES REQUIRED BY BILL 322 ARE DIFFERENT, MUCH DIFFERENT. THEY ARE NOT LEGAL CONCLUSIONS. THEY DO NOT REQUIRE HPLO TO WEIGH THE MERITS OF A COMPLAINT OR CHARACTERIZE A SETTLEMENT. THEY ARE BASIC STATUS DISCLOSURES. WHETHER THE PHYSICIAN PRACTICED PRIVATELY IN THE GOVERNMENT OR BOTH OR WHETHER PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY COVERAGE EXISTS FOR PRIVATE AND PRACTICE SERVICES. THESE ARE THE KINDS OF DISCLOSURES THAT CAN BE SUBMITTED BY THE PHYSICIAN, REVIEWED THROUGH THE EXISTING LICENSURE AND REVIEW PROCESS AND POSTED THROUGH THE EXISTING PHYSICIAN PROFILE SYSTEM. THE EXISTING PROFILE SYSTEM. I ALSO WANTED TO ADDRESS A FISCAL NOTE THAT ESTIMATES APPROXIMATELY 173,000 IN REOCCURRING ANNUAL COSTS. I RESPECTFULLY BELIEVE THIS ESTIMATE OVERSTATES WHAT BILL 322 ACTUALLY REQUIRES. MANY OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES IDENTIFIED IN THE PHYSICAL NOTE ARE RESPONSIBILITIES THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS APO ALREADY UNDER EXISTED THAT HAVE ALREADY UNDER EXISTING LAW. CURRENT LAW ALREADY REQUIRES THE BOARD TO MAINTAIN PHYSICIANS' PROFILES. CURRENT LAW ALREADY REQUIRES PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN MEDICAL MALPRACTICE JUDGMENTS, ARBITRATIONS, AWARD, DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS, SETTLEMENTS, HOSPITAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS, CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS, AND OTHER PROFILE INFORMATION. BILL 322 ONLY REQUIRES WHETHER A DOCTOR IS WORKING IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, PUBLIC, OR WHETHER THAT DOCTOR HAS MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE OR NOT. THAT'S A WHOLE LOT DIFFERENT FROM WHAT'S IN CURRENT LAW. THE LEGISLATURE HAS ALREADY DETERMINED THE INFORMATION REGARDING MALPRACTICE SETTLEMENTS. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS. PATIENTS DESERVE ACCESS TO COMPLETE AND ACCURATE INFORMATION ABOUT THEIR PROVIDERS FROM WHOM THEY RECEIVE CARE AND PAY OF SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF MEDICAL BILLS TO BE ABLE TO CHOOSE A DOCTOR THAT THEY FEEL IS WORTHY OF THEIR FAMILY AND THEMSELVES. TRANSPARENCY STRENGTHENS TRUST, SUPPORTS INFORMED CONSENT, AND ALLOWS PATIENTS TO MAKE HEALTH CARE DECISIONS WITH GREATER CONFIDENCE. BILL 322 IS A REASONABLE AND NECESSARY TRANSPARENCY MEASURE. IT DOES NOT PUNISH PHYSICIANS. IT DOES NOT INTERFERE WITH THEIR PRACTICE OF MEDICINE. IT SIMPLY ENSURES THAT PATIENTS ARE NOT LEFT IN THE DARK WHEN MAKING IMPORTANT HEALTH DECISIONS. GUAM ALREADY MADE THE POLICY DECISION THAT PHYSICIAN PROFILE INFORMATION BELONGS IN THE HANDS OF THE PUBLIC. BILL 322 STRENGTHENS THAT POLICY AND MAKES THE EXISTING SYSTEM MORE USEFUL, MORE COMPLETE, AND MORE ACCOUNTABLE. I LOOKED

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FORWARD TO RECEIVING TESTIMONY AND WORKING WITH THE STAKEHOLDERS TO IMPROVE THE BILL WHERE NEEDED WHILE KEEPING ITS CENTRAL PURPOSE CLEAR. PATIENTS, OUR PEOPLE WHO ARE BECOME PATIENTS DESERVE MEANINGFUL INFORMATION BEFORE THEY CHOOSE A PROVIDER. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR, FOR ALLOWING THE ADDITIONAL TIME FOR ME TO SPEAK ON THIS LEGISLATION ON MY OPENING REMARKS. THANK YOU.

SENATOR MATANANE

THANK YOU, SENATOR TAITAGUE. WE WILL NOW BEGIN ACCEPTING PUBLIC TESTIMONY. MISS SABLAN.

BREANNA SABLAN

THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. AGAIN, Hafa Adai to the panel. My name is Breanna Sablan, the Acting Administrator for the Health Professional Licensing Office within the Department of Public Health and Social Services. I read into record the testimony of Director Arriola. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding Bill 322-38 COR, which seeks to mandate expanded disclosures on the Guam Board of Medical Examiners public profiles regarding physicians practice capacities and professional liabilities insurance status. While DPHSS fully supports the intent of the Liheslaturan GUAHAN to ensure transparency, accountability, and informed decision-making for patients on Guam. The Department must bring several critical operational, legal, and financial challenges to the body's attention. Section two of the bill explicitly states that the Health Professional Licensing Office, HPLO of Public Health, shall assist the board in maintaining these expanded, accurate, and current records. To effectively absorb this new mandate into our current scope of work, we must address serious limitations regarding our personnel, legal capacity, and website infrastructure, all of which will introduce additional cost. The HPLO is already operating under severe staffing constraints while managing licensing, administrative support and regulatory compliance for multiple health and medical boards across Guam. Bill 322-38 COR introduced a strict 30-day continuous turnaround timeline where physicians must report changes within 30 days and the board and HPLO must review and update the public database within 30 days of receipt. Manually processing, verifying, and uploading these changes for hundreds of licensed physicians will create an immediate bottleneck. Our current staff absorb the continuous cycle of tracking renewals, policy cancellations, changes in dual private government practices and enforcement actions without neglecting existing licensing duties. To comply with this act, HPLO would require dedicated funding to hire additional administrative personnel specifically tasked with managing compliance, investigating data discrepancies, and processing ongoing database updates. The bill places a heavy administrative and legal burden on the regulatory body to verify the accuracy of the reported liability coverage. If a physician reports that their medical practice insurance is active, but it subsequently lapses without HPLO's immediate knowledge, the government web portal may inadvertently display inaccurate information to the public. This exposes

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THE DEPARTMENT TO POTENTIALLY LIABILITY AND PUBLIC TRUST ISSUES. FURTHERMORE, SECTION TWO REQUIRES THE GBME TO ADOPT RULES FOR INVESTIGATING A VIOLATIONS, HANDLING DUE PROCESS, AND ISSUING ADMINISTRATIVE FINES WITHIN THE 180 DAYS. THE HPLO DOES NOT CURRENTLY POSSESS INTERNAL LEGAL COUNSEL DEDICATED TO NAVIGATING THESE COMPLEX REGULATORY ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES. DEVELOPING THESE RULES, PROVIDING FORMAL WRITTEN NOTICES, VIOLATIONS, AND COORDINATING FAIR HEARINGS WILL REQUIRE A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN LEGAL RESOURCES REPRESENTING AN UNFUNDED MANDATE THAT OUR EXISTING BUDGET CANNOT SUPPORT. THE CURRENT GBME AND HPLO WEBSITE INFRASTRUCTURES WERE BUILT TO HANDLE BASIC STATIC LICENSING VERIFICATION DATA. THEY ARE ENTIRELY UNEQUIPPED TO MANAGE DYNAMIC MULTIFACETED PROFILES REQUIRED BY THE BILL 322-38. TO FULFILL THE POTENTIAL LAW, OUR WEB PORTALS MUST BE SYSTEMATICALLY OVERHAULED TO CAPTURE AND DISPLAY DETAILED SEPARATE CLASSIFICATIONS FOR PRIVATE PRACTICE EXCLUSIVE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM EMPLOYMENT OR DUAL CAPACITY PRACTICES. LIVE TRACKING OF ACTIVE PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE STATUS. CUSTOM STATUTORY DISCLOSURES NOTIFYING PATIENTS THAT CERTAIN SERVICES MAY FALL UNDER THE RESTRICTIVE PROCESSES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM CLAIMS ACT, MODIFYING OUR CURRENT SYSTEMS AND TO ACCOMMODATE THESE COMPLEX VARIABLES WHILE ENSURING STRICT DATA SECURITY AND BUILDING AUTOMATED TOOLS TO ACCEPT DIRECT SUBMISSIONS FROM PHYSICIANS REQUIRE SPECIALIZED IT INFRASTRUCTURE. OUR CURRENT WEBSITE CAPACITY CANNOT SIMPLY BE PATCHED TO MEET THESE MANDATES. IN SUMMARY, IN EXPANDING OUR SCOPE OF WORK TO ACCOMMODATE BILL 32-38 WILL REQUIRE A DEDICATED FISCAL APPROPRIATION. THE ADDITIONAL COST WILL DIRECTLY STEM FROM CONTRACTUAL SERVICES FOR THE WEB DEVELOPERS TO REDESIGN IT THE DATABASE ARCHITECTURE, BUILD SECURE PHYSICIAN PROFILES AND UPDATE THEIR USER INTERFACES. SALARY AND BENEFITS FOR NEW COMPLIANCE PROGRAM COORDINATORS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF WITHIN HPLO TO MANAGE THE 30-DAY PROCESSING CYCLE. FUNDING SUPPORT FUNDING TO SUPPORT THE PROMAGATION OF RULES, PROCESSING OF ADMINISTRATIVE FINES AND REPRESENTATION DURING DUE PROCESS APPEALS. PUBLIC HEALTH COMMENCED THE SPONSORS OF THIS BILL FOR CHAMPIONING PATIENT RIGHTS AND INFORMED CONSENT. HOWEVER, WITHOUT A CORRESPONDING APPROPRIATION TO FUND THE NECESSARY STAFF, TECHNICAL INFRASTRUCTURE, AND LEGAL PROTECTION, THE DEPARTMENT CAN'T SUCCESSFULLY EXECUTE THIS MANDATE. WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING COLLABORATIVELY WITH THE COMMITTEE TO SECURE THE FUNDING MECHANISMS REQUIRED TO TURN THE INTENT OF THIS LEGISLATION INTO OPERATIONAL REALITY. AND AS SENATOR TAITAGUE MENTIONED ON THE FISCAL NOTE IT IS BROKEN DOWN WITH THE IT MAINTENANCE AND HOSTING FOR THE WEBSITE AT 25,000 ENFORCEMENT AND INVESTIGATIONS FOR PERSONNEL AND OPERATIONS AT 20,000 AND THEN FUTURE PERSONNEL OF TWO PROGRAM COORDINATORS ONE AND THEIR FTE COST AT 82,744 PERSONNEL BENEFITS FOR THE PROGRAM COORDINATOR IS 46,110 AND THAT RECURRING COST WOULD BE 173,854. AGAIN, THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND YOUR CONTINUED LEADERSHIP ON THIS CRITICAL ISSUE. SI YU'OS MA'ASE FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP AND CONSIDERATION. THERESA C. ARRIOLA. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

SENATOR MATANANE

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THANK YOU, MISS SABLAN. WE DO HAVE INDIVIDUALS ON ZOOM THAT WOULD LIKE TO TESTIFY VIRTUALLY. WE WILL BEGIN WITH DR. HOA NGUYEN. DR. NGUYEN. WE'RE HAVING AUDIO ISSUES. WE CANNOT HEAR YOU. AV?

DR. HOA NGUYEN

CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?

SENATOR MATANANE

WE CAN HEAR YOU NOW. THANK YOU.

DR. HOA NGUYEN

OKAY. I KIND OF UNMUTE MYSELF. HI. THIS IS DR. NGUYEN. I'M SORRY I CANNOT COME IN PERSON, BUT I'M IN THE CHINA WITH MY FAMILY, SO I NEED TO TESTIFY THAT FOR THIS BILL. AND I READ THE BILL. I HAVE SOME TIME WITH THE BILL KIND OF MOVE ON DAYS. AND WE HAVE A TIME TO READ THE BILL. AND AS MUCH AS I READ THE BILL FROM TOP TO BOTTOM, I REALLY DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE INTENTION OF HOW THIS BILL GOING TO PROMOTE INFORM PATIENT DECISION MAKING. IS REALLY THIS IS WHERE AS A SENATOR WHOEVER WROTE THIS BILL SHOULD REALLY NEED TO SIT DOWN AND DISCUSS WITH PHYSICIAN AND THE MEDICAL COMMUNITY TO SEE WHATEVER YOU WRITE WILL IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF CARE IN GUAM OR NOT YOU KNOW BUT IF YOU WRITE THINGS LIKE THIS AND IT'S REALLY PULLED OUT THE MISTRUST AND BUILD THAT DISPARITY AND MISTRUST WIN THE PUBLIC AND THE PHYSICIAN EITHER PUBLIC OR PRIVATE AND IT'S KIND OF WORN DOWN THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM OF GUAM AND MAKE IT WORSE. YOU KNOW YOU'RE CORRECT YOU KNOW THE GUAM MEDICAL BOARD STANDARD IS TO KEEP TRACK AND POST ON THE LICENSURE OF ALL THE PHYSICIAN IF THEY HAVE ANY DISCIPLINARY ACTION OR NOT. THEY HAVE TO REPORT THAT SO THE PUBLIC WILL KNOW IF THE PHYSICIAN HAVE A CASE OR TO REPORT TO THE NATIONAL DATA PRACTITIONER BANK SO THAT WAY THE PUBLIC WILL KNOW IF THE LICENSE ARE CURRENT OR ANY ACTION TAKEN AGAINST THE PHYSICIAN FOR ANY INCIDENTS YES, I THAT IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR THE PATIENT TO MAKE DECISION IF OBTAINING THE CARE FROM THAT PHYSICIAN OR NOT AND WE HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH THAT. OKAY. NOW AS THE BILL SAY AND THEY SAY IN THE BILL THAT THEY KNOW THAT THERE'S A BIG DISPARITY BETWEEN THE PHYSICIAN WORK FOR THE PUBLIC FOR THE GMH FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE PHYSICIAN WORK IN THE PRIVATE THE BILL STATE THERE'S A BIG DISPARITY AND WE ALL FIGHT FOR THAT WE SAY WE NEED TO HAVE EVERYONE PUBLIC PRIVATE IN THE SAME LEVEL. THE PROBLEM IS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM CLAIM ACT DOESN'T PUT THE PHYSICIAN IN THE PRIVATE AND THE PUBLIC THE SAME LEVEL FIELD. THE PHYSICIAN THAT WORK FOR GOV GUAM ARE FULLY PROTECTED AND TO US THEY ARE NOT ACCOUNTABLE FOR WHAT THEY DO. THEY NOT MANY HEARING ALREADY KEEP SAYING THAT GMH HAVE PROBLEM ACCOUNTABILITY. GMH HAVE PROBLEM REPORTING PHYSICIAN IF THEY MAKE A MISTAKE OR NOT BECAUSE THEY ARE UNDER PHYSICIAN UNDER THE GOVERNMENT PROTECTION CLAIM ACT. YOU KNOW THAT BY RAISING THIS BILL 322 YOU MAKE THE DISPARITY MUCH WORSE. AND YOU'RE GOING TO PUNISH THE PRIVATE ENTITY WHICH ARE THE MAIN HEALTH CARE SYSTEM OF GUAM. GOV GUAM BY ITSELF WITH THEIR SYSTEM THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM CANNOT SURVIVE WITHOUT THE PRIVATE ENTITY.

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IT APPROVED THAT MANY TIME. IT APPROVED THAT DURING COVID TIME AND APPROVE IT MANY TIME THE FUTURE. BUT THIS BILL WILL MAKE IT WORSE AND THE PRIVATE ENTITY WILL SCALE DOWN QUITE A BIT AND WILL HAVE YOU KNOW REALLY IMPACT ACCESS CARE TO GUAM AND YOU KNOW THIS THE MAIN FORCE I TRY TO THINK WHAT'S THIS PRIVATE AND PUBLIC PRACTICE WE HAVE TO DISCLOSE. PERSONALLY, FOR ME, IF YOU WORK FOR GOV GUAM UNDER CONTRACT, YOU NEED TO STAY WITH GOV GUAM UNDER CONTRACT. YOU IF YOU HAVE A PRIVATE PRACTICE, YOU CANNOT HAVE A PUBLIC CONTRACT TO WORK FOR GOV GUAM. YOU'RE ONE PERSON. YOU CANNOT DO BOTH. SO, TO ME, THAT'S A HANDFUL PHYSICIAN TO DO THAT. THEY SHOULD NOT BECAUSE AS YOU DOUBLE DIP THE SYSTEM, YOU WON'T SERVE THE SYSTEM ANY GOOD. BUT THE BIG PART THAT I CAN SEE THIS BILL IS STRICT FOR THE MALPRACTICE LAWYER. YOU KNOW PROTECTION THE GOV GUAM PROTECTION ACT REALLY LIMIT THE CAP FOR ANY KIND OF LAWSUIT AGAINST PHYSICIAN FOR THE GOVERNMENT SIDE UP TO ABOUT 300,000. 300,000 THAT'S ALL YOU CAN GET. WELL FOR PRIVATE YOU HAVE NO CAP. THAT'S MILLIONS THAT YOU CAN GO AFTER. SO BASICALLY, THIS BILL FOR YOU TO DECLARE IF YOU WORK FOR PUBLIC OR PRIVATE IF FOR THE MALPRACTICE INSURANCE LAWYER TO GO AFTER YOU IF YOU REALLY KNOW YOU'RE A PRIVATE ENTITY ONLY AND YOU NOT WORK FOR THE GOVERNMENT IS YOU'RE GOING TO CREATE A HUGE DISPARITY BECAUSE NOW YOU'RE GOING TO PUT THE PRIVATE SIDE AS A TARGET TO BE SUED FOR EVERYTHING YOU DO. AND THAT'S AS PLAIN I CAN SEE IT. IT KNOW THE WORD SPECIAL INTEREST IS COINED BY THE LEGISLATURE, THE SENATOR. THIS IS WHERE THE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP ARE DRIVEN TO PUSH THIS BILL SO YOU CAN HAVE A BIGGER PAYDAY ON ANY INCIDENT THAT HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE. PLAIN SIMPLE. THAT'S WHY PUBLIC AND PRIVATE THE LAW YOU NEED TO KNOW I ENCOUNTER QUITE A FEW CASE OF MY TIME THAT THE GOVERNMENT PHYSICIAN MAKE A BIG MISTAKE AND I DON'T ENCOURAGE MY PATIENT TO SEEK ANY DAMAGE OR LIABILITY OR ANY LAWSUIT BUT YOU KNOW I CALL EVERY LAWYER I KNOW AND NONE OF THEM WANT TO PICK UP BECAUSE IT'S NOT WORTH THAT TIME AND SAD TO SAY IT DOES HAPPEN. THERE'S NO THAT'S THE WHAT THEY SAY. IT'S NOT WORTH THAT TIME. IT'S ONLY 300,000. SO, YOU WANT TO DISCLOSE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE AND WHERE YOU WANT TO WORK. I DON'T UNDERSTAND THAT SHOULDN'T MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE IN THE PATIENT DECISION OF WHO THEY GET CARE FOR. THEY GET CARE FOR PHYSICIAN THAT BE REFERRED BY THEIR FAMILY BECAUSE I WORK OUT HOW GOOD THE PHYSICIAN IS. I DON'T THINK THEY CARE IF THE PHYSICIAN WORK FOR GOV GUAM OR THE PRIVATE THEY DON'T CARE. I NEVER IN 30-YEAR PRACTICE THAT HAVE ONE SINGLE PATIENT THAT ASK ME DOC ARE YOU WORK FOR THE PRIVATE OR YOU WORK FOR GMH OR WHAT? NEVER. NOT EVEN SINGLE ONE PERSON THAT ASKED THAT QUESTION. SO, I'M NOT SURE WHY WE HAVE TO DECLARE DO WE WORK FOR PUBLIC PRIVATE DO WE HAVE A CONTRACT WITH PUBLIC OR NOT YOU KNOW IT DON'T MAKE ANY SENSE FOR PATIENT TO CHOOSE BECAUSE OF THAT. THE SECOND PART IS MALPRACTICE INSURANCE MY GOODNESS GUYS BE INFORMED AS SENATOR YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE TO BE INFORMED YOU CANNOT MAKE THE DECISION BY WHATEVER YOU FEEL AS PRIVATE PERSON OR WHATEVER YOU FEEL BECAUSE YOU HEAR SOMETHING. FEDERAL WISE, FEDERALLY, THERE'S ABSOLUTELY ZERO MANDATE FOR ANY PRIVATE PHYSICIAN OR ANY PHYSICIAN AT ALL FEDERALLY TO REPORT THAT YOU HAVE MALPRACTICE INSURANCE FEDERALLY. THERE'S NO MANDATE AT ALL. I SEARCH THE SYSTEM MAYBE 20 STATE THAT HAVE SOME TYPE OF MANDATE MALPRACTICE INSURANCE OR VERY LIMITED BECAUSE THEY WANT THE BASIC COVERAGE NOT ALL THE STATE MAYBE ABOUT 20, 23 OR

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SOMETHING THAT THE LAST TIME I SEARCH MOST OF THE PHYSICIAN IN THE STATE ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE MALPRACTICE INSURANCE IF THEY HAVE A PRIVILEGE IN ANY HOSPITAL. A LOT OF PRIVATE HOSPITAL WHEN YOU APPLY THE PRIVILEGE THEY REQUIRE BY THE HOSPITAL NOT THE STATE FOR YOU TO CARE TO MY PATIENT BECAUSE YOU HAVE PRIVILEGE IN THE HOSPITAL BUT IT DOESN'T MEAN THAT IT'S MANDATORY FOR ANY STATE TO REQUIRE PHYSICIAN TO HAVE MALPRACTICE INSURANCE AND IT'S NOT MANDATORY FOR ANY STATE OWNER STATE OR MINORITY STATE MAJORITY STATE TO HAVE PHYSICIAN PUT ON THE WEBSITE PUBLICLY TO SAY I HAVE MALPRACTICE INSURANCE. AGAIN 30 PLUS YEARS OF PRACTICE AND SOME OF YOU GUYS ARE MY PATIENT. I NEVER HEAR ANYONE ASK TO SEE DOC YOU HAVE MALPRACTICE INSURANCE PATIENT DON'T CARE I DON'T KNOW WHO WROTE THIS BILL YOU EVER ASK A PATIENT THAT YOU WALK IN AND ASK THE CLINIC DO YOU HAVE MALPRACTICE INSURANCE MY GOOD YOU ASK THEN I WILL TELL YOU PERSONALLY BUT I'M NOT GOING TO PUT ON WEBSITE THAT OH I HAVE MALPRACTICE INSURANCE YOU KNOW THAT'S A BIG BONESAI ON YOUR HEAD FOR THE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE LAWYER TO LOOK FOR IN FRONT OF YOUR HEAD, THE BACK OF YOUR HEAD. IT'S NOT BECAUSE ACCOUNTABILITY IS NOT BECAUSE YOU WANT TO HIDE SOMETHING. IT'S NOT BECAUSE TRANSPARENT. IT'S NOT PATIENT DON'T CARE. THAT'S NOT WHAT THEY LOOKING FOR YOU FOR. NO PATIENT REFER TO US. WE HAVE 46 TO 50,000 PATIENT FOR US AND NOT A SINGLE PATIENT ASK THAT QUESTION. THEY GO TO YOU BECAUSE THEY TRUST YOU AS A FAMILY AND YOU ARE PART OF THE FAMILY. I HAVE FOUR OR FIVE GENERATION UNDER MY CARE BECAUSE YOU'RE PART OF FAMILY AND NONE OF THEM EVER ASKED YOU THAT. SO, SENATOR TAITAGUE, I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ASKING THAT QUESTION FOR, BUT I'M GOING TO NAME YOU DIRECTLY BECAUSE TO ME, YOU WILL DRIVE THIS THE SINGLE HAND THAT DRIVE THIS HEALTH CARE SYSTEM OF GUAM SO MUCH BACKWARD AND YOU WILL SINGLEHANDED IMPACT THE ACCESS TO CARE. I'M TELLING YOU, YOU WILL SINGLE-HANDED ACCESS TO CARE. I WILL HAND OVER ABOUT 20,000 OF MY PATIENT WITH YOUR NAME ON IT TO LET THEM KNOW TO COME AND SIT YOU AND ASK WHY YOU DO THIS. ANY SENATOR THAT VOTE FOR THIS THING WOULD BE FULL RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPACT ACCESS OF CARE. I REALLY, REALLY LOVE MY PRACTICE. I LOVE EVERY PATIENT. I'M 100% FOR ACCOUNTABILITY FOR WHAT WE DO. BUT THIS BILL OF YOURS AND WHOEVER SPONSORED WITH YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AND UNDERSTAND HOW WE DO. IT'S VERY DISCRIMINATORY FOR YOU TO SINGLE-HANDED REQUIRE ONE SINGLE PROFESSION IN GUAM TO DO A REPORT. YES, YOU WE CAN FOLLOW MOST THE STATE AND 100% I HAS TO SAY YOU HAVE TO MAKE SURE YOUR LICENSE UP TO DATE YOU MAKE SURE THE BOARD WILL REPORT YOU HAVE THE ACTION OR NOT SO THAT WAY PATIENT MAKE CONSENT BUT I DON'T THINK PATIENT GIVE A CARE TO CHOOSE YOU AS A PRIMARY PHYSICIAN IF YOU HAVE MALPRACTICE INSURANCE OR NOT OR IF YOU PRACTICE FOR GOV GUAM OR YOU PRACTICE IT FOR YOUR PRIVATE CLINIC. SO I'M ASK EVERYBODY WE ALL LOVE TO IMPROVE HEALTH CARE GUAM BUT BEFORE YOU WRITE ANYTHING TALK TO THE MEDICAL COMMUNITY. WE BE LOVE TO SIT DOWN AND WORK WITH YOU TO TRY TO IMPROVE HEALTHCARE HERE. YOU KNOW WE LOVE TO RECRUIT PHYSICIAN TO GUAM. OKAY. WE LOVE THE ACCOUNTABILITY. YOU MAKE A MISTAKE I WANT YOU TO HOLD RESPONSIBLE FOR. AGAIN, YOU GOT SOMETIME LOOK AT MISTAKE TO SEE IS THAT THE PHYSICIAN MISTAKE HEALTH CARE AND YOUR HEALTH VERY COMPLICATED BOTH THE PHYSICIAN AND THE PATIENT NOT JUST A PHYSICIAN. I ALWAYS TELL MY PATIENT IS 50/50. IF YOU DON'T DO WHAT YOU DO, YOU'RE GOING TO GET SICK BUT DO NOT BLAME ME BECAUSE YOU GOT

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SICK BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T CHOOSE A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE. YOU DON'T TAKE A MEDICATION. SO IT'S NOT JUST A PHYSICIAN. SO, EVERYTHING IS VERY COMPLICATED IN A HEALTH CARE SYSTEM. BUT AGAIN, THIS BILL GUYS, I'M NOT SURE WHAT TO SAY, BUT WHEN YOU COIN THE TERM, YOU KNOW, SPECIAL INTEREST, I TELL YOU THIS IS 100% SPECIAL INTEREST STRICTLY FOR MALPRACTICE INSURANCE LAWYER TO TARGET PEOPLE, NOT FOR ACCOUNTABILITY, FOR EVERYTHING. YOU I'M NOT GOING TO SPEND TIME MANY TIME MANY HOURS IN COURT TO DEFEND THINGS THAT THE THAT THIS NOT A REAL CASE JUST BECAUSE THE MALPRACTICE INSURANCE KNOW THAT YOU HAVE MALPRACTICE INSURANCE AND YOU PRIVATE NAH IT'S NOT GOING TO DO THAT YOU KNOW SO AGAIN WHAT'S THE SINGLE CHOICE WE HAVE A 40 SOMETHING 50,000 PATIENT EASY I JUST SHUT DOWN AMC I TELL YOU THAT IN PUBLIC IT'S NOT WORTH IT. I WORK ALL MY LIFE FOR THIS AND YOU ARE SINGLE-HANDED KILL IT AND YOU AFFECT EVERYONE IN GUAM WITH THE ACCESS TO CARE AND IT'S NOT WORTH OUR TIME LOVING OUR PATIENT AND TAKE CARE OUR PATIENT BECAUSE A SENATOR WHO DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE SYSTEM TRY TO WRITE SOMETHING VERY UNINFORMED AND DOES NOT KNOW WHAT THAT AFFECT THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM OF GUAM. AGAIN, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR GIVING ME SOME TIME TO DO. BUT THIS IS VERY PASSION BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT WE LOVE TO DO FOR MY CAREER. BUT BILL LIKE THIS WILL KIND OF MAKE YOU NOT LOVING YOUR CAREER ANYMORE BECAUSE YOU KNOW YOU DON'T HAVE THE CHANCE TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR PATIENT THE WAY YOU DO BECAUSE OF BILL LIKE THIS. YEAH. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

SENATOR MATANANE

THANK YOU, DR. HOA. I BELIEVE WE HAVE DR. NATHANIEL BERG ALSO ON THE LINE. DR. BERG, ARE YOU STILL WITH US? THANK YOU. PLEASE UNMUTE.

DR. NATHANIEL BERG

THERE WE GO. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR, AND THANK YOU, DR. NGUYEN, FOR YOUR TESTIMONY AND FOR BRI ALSO. I APPRECIATE THE TIME EVERYBODY'S TAKING TO TALK ABOUT THIS BILL. I THINK SO. I HAVE A TIME TODAY THAT I'M SUPPOSED TO ACTUALLY SO REPRESENT THREE PEOPLE BECAUSE DR. SHIEH COULDN'T BE HERE AND HE'S ASKED ME TO READ INTO THE RECORD THE GUAM MEDICAL ASSOCIATION THEIR OPINION PIECE THEIR OPINION FOR THEIR MEMBERSHIP REGARDING THIS BILL AND I WILL DO THAT AND ALSO DR. JOLEEN AGOUN IS OFF ISLAND AND SO DR. EUSEBIO COMMUNICATED THAT THEIR OPPOSITION. I'M GOING TO ACTUALLY PULL HIS THING HIS WHATSAPP. HE IS QUITE BUSY. IT'S REALLY DIFFICULT SOMETIMES FOR US AS DOCTORS TO FIND TIME BUT WE TRY. BUT HE SAID THAT IT'S UNFORTUNATE THAT HE AND DR. AGUON ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE MEETING. HOWEVER, THE TESTIMONY WAS REVIEWED ESPECIALLY THAT BY THE GUAM MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND THEY ARE IN AGREEMENT IN THEY AGREE COMPLETELY THAT THE BILL WILL NOT BENEFIT PATIENT CARE WILL NOT PROVIDE ANY CLARITY TO TREATMENT. IT ACTUALLY SIMPLY LEADS TO MORE CONFUSION, LACK OF CONFIDENCE IN THE LOCAL PHYSICIANS AND THIS IS A TIME WHEN WE ARE SEEKING TO PROVIDE EXPANDED CARE TO THE PEOPLE OF GUAM SO THEY CAN RECEIVE CARE LOCALLY AND THIS DOES NOT ADD TO THAT ENDEAVOR. AND HE'S CONFIDENT THAT DR. AGUON SHARES HIS OPINION, BUT SHE'S OFF ISLAND. SO, AND IF YOU LOOK WHO'S HERE, DR. THOMAS SHIEH, UNFORTUNATELY, HE IS ALSO OFF

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ISLAND DEALING WITH WITH HIS FAMILY. DR. HOA NGUYEN, DR. RICKY EUSEBIO AND I, THE LAST TIME WE WERE HERE, WE COMPLETELY DISAGREED. YOU DON'T FIND THIS WHITE COAT THAT WE ALL AGREE AND ALL SIGN UP TO THE SAME THING EVERY TIME. WE DON'T. WE HAVE VARIED OPINIONS REGARDING CERTAIN ASPECTS OF HEALTH CARE AND REGULATORY MEASURES AND THE LIKE AND WE ACTUALLY WERE PRETTY PASSIONATELY DISAGREEING LAST TIME. HERE IT'S NEAR UNIFORM. YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIND SOMEBODY WHO'S GOING TO BE WHO'S GOING TO GIVE AN OPINION THAT THEY BELIEVE IT BUT IT'S MISDIRECTED.

SENATOR MATANANE

DR. BERG? DR. BERG?

DR. NATHANIEL BERG

YES, MA'AM.

SENATOR MATANANE

ARE YOU TESTIFYING AS THE CHAIR OF THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS?

DR. NATHANIEL BERG

I AM. OKAY. YEAH. SO, BUT I BUT IF YOU DON'T MIND MADAM CHAIR, I APOLOGIZE. I WISH I HAD ASKED YOU IN ADVANCE THAT I COULD READ DR. EUSEBIO'S AND I THINK THAT DR. SHIEH HAS ASKED YOU ALSO I HOPE HE INDICATED TO ME THAT HE ASKED YOU THAT I'D BE ALLOWED TO READ THE GUAM MEDICAL ASSOCIATION BECAUSE HE IT WAS RATHER QUICK THAT HE WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND. I THINK IT WAS WE DIDN'T WE MISUNDERSTOOD THE TIMING. WE THOUGHT THIS WE WERE STARTING AT 8:30 AND WE WERE GOING TO LET HIM GO FIRST. SO, I'LL BUT I'LL GO NOW BACK TO WHERE I WAS. SO THE FUNDAMENTAL QUESTION REGARDING BILL 322-38 IS RATHER STRAIGHTFORWARD. WHAT'S THE LEGISLATIVE PURPOSE OF THE BILL? THAT'S THE QUESTION. AND IF YOU CAREFULLY REVIEW IT, THERE REALLY IS NO APPARENT BENEFIT TO THE PUBLIC. THE SOLE BENEFICIARY, AS DR. NGUYEN HAS INDICATED, THE SOLE BENEFICIARY IS THE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE LITIGATION BAR, IF YOU WILL. THIS BILL DOES NOT ADVANCE PUBLIC HEALTH. IT DOESN'T IMPROVE CARE. AND IN FACT, THE MISSION OF THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS IS TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC. THIS DOESN'T PROTECT THE PUBLIC. IT ACTUALLY IMPAIRS THE PROVISION OF CARE. WE HAVE A CRITICAL PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE SPECIAL OF ESPECIALLY IN REGARDING SPECIALISTS. AND THIS DOESN'T STRENGTHEN REGULATORY OVERSIGHT. NO WAY. THE BOARD HAS TO DO THIS. BUT IT DOESN'T ACTUALLY STRENGTHEN OUR OVERSIGHT. IT ONLY SERVES THE FINANCIAL INTERESTS OF THE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE ATTORNEYS. IT IS INDEED SPECIAL INTEREST. IN LEGAL TERMINOLOGY. I'M NOT AN ATTORNEY, BUT THERE'S I KNOW TWO TERMS. ONE IS CALLED IPSOLOPER. IT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF. THE PURPOSE AND OF THE BILL AND THE BENEFICIARIES ARE INCREDIBLY EVIDENT. THIS DOESN'T REQUIRE A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF ANALYSIS. WE KNOW WHO BENEFITS FROM IT. WE KNOW THE PURPOSE OF IT. SO THE STATED PURPOSE TO PROMOTE TRANSPARENCY AND INFORMED DECISION-MAKING THAT THAT'S ACTUALLY NOT

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ALIGNED, AS DR. HOA SAID, WITH PRACTICAL REALITY. IF PATIENTS SOUGHT INFORMATION REGARDING MY MALPRACTICE INSURANCE STATUS, THEY ASKED THEY COULD ASK IT DIRECTLY. BETWEEN MYSELF, DR. EUSEBIO APPARENTLY DR. NGUYEN, DR. HOA, I'M SORRY, DR. SHIEH, YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT WAY OVER A HUNDRED YEARS OF PROVIDING CARE IN GUAM. NOT ONCE HAS ANYBODY ASKED. NOT ONCE HAS SOMEBODY ASKED ME, DO YOU ALSO WORK OCCASIONALLY DOWN AT IN THE FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM IN AT PUBLIC HEALTH SOUTH? NOBODY. THEY DON'T CARE. IN MY PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE, IN DECADES, THAT IS NOT SOMETHING THAT PATIENTS ARE USING TO MAKE DECISION-MAKING. THEY'RE FREE TO ASK ANY PHYSICIANS ABOUT MALPRACTICE OR ANYTHING ELSE THEY WANT. AND THE IMPLICATION THAT PHYSICIANS ARE NOT TRANSPARENT WITH THEIR PATIENTS. THAT WE DON'T HAVE OPEN AND FRANK DISCUSSIONS REGARDING WHATEVER THEY WANT TO ASK. THAT'S INHERENTLY INSULTING TO OUR PROFESSION TO SAY WE'RE NOT TRANSPARENT. THAT THERE'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BEING TRANSPARENT AND PUBLICIZING EVERYTHING AND MAKING REGULATORY MANDATES. I THINK IT FAILS TO DEMONSTRATE RATHER IT DEMONSTRATES A LACK OF UNDERSTANDING OF HOW PHYSICIANS INTERACT WITH THEIR PATIENTS. EVEN IF YOU ARE PATIENTS, WE SEE PATIENTS ALL DAY LONG. PATIENTS DO NOT BASE THEIR PHYSICIAN SELECTION DECISIONS ON MALPRACTICE INSURANCE. YOU PERSONALLY, ANYBODY LISTENING TO THIS WOULD BE EXTRAORDINARILY FOOLISH TO MAKE YOUR DECISION AS TO WHAT PHYSICIAN YOU'RE GOING TO SEE BASED ON WHETHER THEY WORK PART-TIME OR FULL-TIME OR WHATEVER AT GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL OR AT PUBLIC HEALTH. THE SELECTION IS BASED ON PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE, CLINICAL REPUTATION, AVAILABILITY, AND TRUST. AND ON GUAM, WHERE HEALTH CARE PROVIDER OPTIONS ARE OFTEN LIMITED, MALPRACTICE INSURANCE STATUS IS NEVER A FACTOR IN PATIENT DECISION-MAKING. AND AS I SAID, I THINK WE OFTEN TIMES HAVE SINGLE SPECIALTY. THERE ARE THINGS THAT ONLY I DO. YOU'RE GONNA ASK ME AT MALPRACTICE IF I HAVE MALPRACTICE. THAT'LL MAKE YOUR DECISION AS TO WHETHER YOU'RE GOING TO LET ME BE YOUR PHYSICIAN. NO, THAT'S ONLY PERSON WHO WANTS TO KNOW THAT ARE THE MALPRACTICE ATTORNEYS. SO, THIS BILL MANDATES PUBLIC DISCLOSURE PRECISELY OF INFORMATION THAT IS NOT IMPORTANT TO PATIENTS. IT'S JUST NOT. AND THEY CAN GET THAT INFORMATION BY JUST ASKING. IF SO TRANSPARENCY REGARDING PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY, IF IT WAS TRULY ESSENTIAL IN DECISION-MAKING, RIGHT? IF YOU REALLY THOUGHT THAT THIS WAS CRITICAL, YOU WOULD DO IT ACROSS ALL LICENSED PROFESSIONS. I CAN ASK MY ATTORNEY, "DO YOU HAVE MEDICAL, I'M SORRY, LEGAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE? WHAT ARE YOUR COVERAGE LIMITS? DO YOU PRACTICE SOMETIMES FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM?" I CAN ASK THAT. THEY'LL TELL ME, BUT THAT'S ACTUALLY NOT IMPORTANT IN HOW I ASK AN ATTORNEY. HOW ABOUT A SOCIAL WORKER? MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS, CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS. NOBODY DOES THAT. WHEN I WALK INTO THE LEGISLATIVE HALL, DO I SAY, "OH, I NEED TO KNOW IF I SLIP AND FALL. DO YOU HAVE GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE? WHAT'S THE LIMIT?" NOBODY DOES THAT. YOU DON'T NEXT TIME YOU GO INTO A SUPERMARKET SAY, "WHAT IF I SLIP AND FALL? I BETTER GO AND ASK FIRST." NO. BETTER. THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD MANDATE THAT ALL SUPERMARKETS POST IT ON THEIR WEBSITES. SO, I KNOW IF I SLIP AND FALL THERE, DO THEY HAVE MALPRACTICE INSURANCE? RIGHT? I THINK THE ATTORNEYS ON GUAM WOULD LOVE THAT. RIGHT? HOTELS, DO THEY HAVE MALPRACTICE INSURANCE? NOT, GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE. YOU COULD GO NUTS WITH THIS, BUT YOU'RE NOT. YOU'RE TARGETING ONE PROFESSION. LET ME ASK

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THIS OF THE SENATORS. DO YOU WANT TO KNOW I THOUGHT THIS WAS A BIT CRUDE AND I WASN'T GONNA SAY IT BUT I AM GONNA SAY IT. DO YOU WANT TO KNOW IF YOUR KINDERGARTEN TEACHER WORKS IN THE ADULT INDUSTRY LIKE AS A LET'S CALL IT EXOTIC DANCER? DO YOU WANT TO KNOW IF THAT IF YOUR KINDERGARTENNER IF YOUR CHILD THE TEACHER WHEN THEY'RE DONE IS THEN WORKING IN THAT INDUSTRY? I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOUR IMAGINATION IN WHAT MANNER. YOU MAY WANT TO KNOW. YOU CAN ASK, BUT WHY DON'T YOU PUBLICIZE THAT AND WHEN I WALK IN THE CLASSROOM THAT IT'S RIGHT THERE ON THE CHALKBOARD BECAUSE WE HAVE A RIGHT TO PRIVACY, TOO. AND YOU'RE SAYING, "WHERE DO I WORK? DO I WORK SOMETIMES AT PUBLIC HEALTH?" YOU'RE PUTTING PATIENTS AT IN DANGER. I'M SORRY, PHYSICIANS IN DANGER. HAVE YOU NOT HEARD OF STALKING? I THINK YOU'VE ALL HEARD OF STALKING. IT'S REAL. AND I DON'T NEED TO TELL YOU WHERE I WORK PUBLICLY, RIGHT? PEOPLE COME OUT HERE. SOME ARE COMING OUT HERE TO KIND OF ESCAPE THAT. YOU DON'T WANT IT'S VERY EASY. YOU COULD CALL GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL IF I HAD TO DISCLOSE THAT AND SAY WHERE I WORKED AND WHAT TIME I WORKED. SOMEBODY COULD ASK WHAT TIME DOES HE COME ON? THEY'LL TELL YOU. THAT IS NOT SOMETHING THAT NEEDS TO BE EXPOSED. YOU DON'T DO THAT TO SOCIAL WORKERS. YOU DON'T DO IT TO POLICE OFFICERS. DO THEY WORK PRIVATELY WHEN THEY'RE NOT ON DUTY? YOU DON'T ASK THEM THAT. YOU DON'T ASK WHEN YOU DO WORK PRIVATELY, DO YOU HAVE LIABILITY INSURANCE? WE DON'T DO THAT. THIS IS SELECTIVE APPLICATION OF THE DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENT REVEALS THE TRUE LEGISLATIVE INTENT. IT'S BECAUSE THE ATTORNEYS WANT TO KNOW ARE THERE BIG BUCKS BEHIND THAT PHYSICIAN VERSUS WHEN A PATIENT COMES IN AND SAYS I WANT TO SUE THEY WANT TO KNOW CAN I GET BIG BUCKS OUT OF IT. THAT'S ALL THEY WANT TO KNOW. THE PRACTICAL ENFORCEMENTS I'M TELLING YOU THAT THEY'RE PROFOUND. THE SENATOR IS INCREDIBLY WRONG IN HER EXPLANATION AS TO WHAT WE WOULD DO. YOU DON'T JUST SAY, "OH, WE COULD POST IT." THAT POSTING OF IT IS NOT THAT DIFFICULT. THE ISSUE IS THAT WE WOULD HAVE TO WE WOULD BE REQUIRED TO INVESTIGATE AND ENFORCE COMPLIANCE OF WELL OVER 600 PHYSICIANS. SO, IF A PHYSICIAN WORKS AT GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AND STOPS WORKING FOR 30 DAYS, OH WAIT, I HAVE TO THEY HAVE TO INFORM US. SO THAT THEN CAN YOU IMAGINE THAT YOU WOULD HAVE ME WE DON'T HAVE INVESTIGATORS. SO, YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT PHYSICIANS LIKE MYSELF SAYING YOU NEED TO TRACK THAT PERSON DOWN AND HOLD THEM ACCOUNTABLE FOR NOT UPDATING THAT THEY STOPPED WORKING AT GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL 31 DAYS AGO. AM, I SUPPOSED TO PUNISH THEM IF SOMEBODY DROPS MALPRACTICE INSURANCE BECAUSE IT GETS TOO EXPENSIVE AND SAYS LET ME LOOK FOR ANOTHER ONE. THEY DON'T REPORT TO US THAT THEY DROPPED IT. DO I NEED TO THEN HUNT THEM DOWN? EVEN THOUGH THEY MAY BE WORKING REMOTELY IN THE ICU AND THEY'RE IN FLORIDA, I HAVE TO GO FOR THEM. IT'S INSANE THE AMOUNT OF ADMINISTRATIVE WORK THAT THIS WOULD DO TO NO BENEFIT EXCEPT FOR A VERY FEW PHYSICIANS VERY FEW MED MAL ATTORNEYS. WE WOULD HAVE TO INVESTIGATE THEM, LOCATE THEM, ALL OF THAT. IT'S CRAZY. WE DON'T, AS I SAID, WE DON'T EVEN HAVE OUR OWN INVESTIGATORS AND WE'VE ASKED FOR FUNDING TO GET INVESTIGATORS. WE NEED IT. YOU THE COMPLAINTS I WAS GOING TO SAY IT'S NAM BUT I'LL TELL YOU IT RIGHT NOW THE COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE BOARD THAT YOU HAVE MOST OF WHICH ARE COMPLETELY INACCURATE BUT THE COMPLAINTS THAT YOU HAVE ABOUT US NOT FOLLOWING UP ON THINGS YOU'RE JUST GOING TO MAKE IT DIFFICULT NOW INSTEAD OF

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WORKING ON LEGITIMATE CASES I'D BE TRYING TO TRACK SOMEBODY DOWN BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T REPORT THAT THEY STOPPED WORKING 31 DAYS AGO. SO, THE LEGISLATURE'S APPROPRIATE ROLE THIS IS IN MY OPINION IS IN HEALTH IN HEALTHCARE REGULATION AT LEAST IS TO CREATE LEGISLATION THAT IMPROVES HEALTHCARE QUALITY PROTECTS THE PUBLIC OR PROMOTES PUBLIC SAFETY SUPPORTS THE DELIVERY OF HEALTHCARE AND IMPROVES IT. THAT IS NOT HAPPENING HERE. THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS HAS DEMONSTRATED THAT WE WELCOME AND SUPPORT LEGISLATION THAT SERVES THIS PURPOSE. LOOK AT THE WE STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE PERMITTING OF FOREIGN MEDICAL GRADUATES COMING TO GUAM. THAT'S GOING TO CREATE AN ADDITIONAL BURDEN, BUT IT'S SO GOOD FOR THE PUBLIC THAT WE'RE SAYING WE'LL FIGURE OUT HOW TO DO IT. AND THE LEGISLATURE SAID WE'LL GIVE YOU FUNDING FOR THAT BECAUSE IT IS SO IMPORTANT. THIS IS NOT THAT. DON'T WASTE THE MONEY DOING IT HERE. WE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE LEGISLATION WAS SO GOOD AND WE KNEW THAT IT WOULD BE AN EXTRA BURDEN ON US, BUT WE EVERYBODY WANTED TO SUPPORT THAT AT LEAST AT GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL. OTHERS WANTED TO EXPAND IT TO THE PUBLIC TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR. IN DUE COURSE. BUT THE POINT IS IT BENEFITS THE PEOPLE OF GUAM SO CLEARLY. THIS SO CLEARLY DOES NOT. SO THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE I'M ASKING YOU TO SAY THIS IS AS LOW AS WE CAN GO THAT YOU'RE GOING TO START TARGETING PHYSICIANS IN ORDER TO AS DR. HOA NGUYEN SAID TARGETING THEM SO THAT A FEW PEOPLE CAN BENEFIT. THAT IS NOT WHAT WE WANT. WHAT WE WANT TO SAY IS HOW CAN WE PROTECT THE PUBLIC? CERTAINLY, YOU BY THE WAY YOU'RE NOT TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL THE MEDICAL STAFF OFFICE THERE AND AT DR. NGUYEN'S OFFICE AT MY OFFICE. WE'RE THE ONES THAT KEEP TRACK OF THAT STUFF. SO, YOU'RE ADDING THIS EXTRA BURDEN FOR US TO KEEP TRACK OF WHETHER ONE OF MY ONE OF THE PHYSICIANS THAT WORKS FOR US WORKS PART-TIME DECIDES TO WORK PART-TIME AT PUBLIC HEALTH AT THE REQUEST OF PUBLIC HEALTH. OH, WAIT. WE NEED TO REPORT THAT. OH, THEY STOPPED WORKING THERE. WE NEED TO REPORT THAT THEY DON'T WORK THERE ANYMORE. IT'S RIDICULOUS AND ADDS NO BENEFIT. IT DOES NOT SERVE THE PUBLIC INTEREST AT ALL. WHAT I WOULD ASK IS THAT YOU RESPECTFULLY GET RID OF THIS. THERE'S A SOMETHING CALLED WHAT'S IT CALLED? SUMMARY JUDGEMENT. WHAT I REMEMBER IS THERE'S NO REASON TO EVEN CONSIDER THIS RIGHT OUT OR THE GATE WHEN PEOPLE FILE LAWSUITS OR WHATEVER AND IT'S SO OBVIOUS THEY DON'T HAVE A TRIAL. THIS IS ALMOST LIKE THAT. IT NEVER SHOULD HAVE EVEN GOTTEN TO THIS PUBLIC HEARING. IT'S SO RIDICULOUS IN ITS REAL INTENT. INSTEAD, I WOULD ASK THAT THE LEGISLATURE AND THOSE WHO ARE INTERESTED IN THE HEALTH CARE ARENA IN PARTICULAR THAT YOU ENGAGE IN MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE WITH THE MEDICAL COMMUNITY. THAT'S THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS. ASK US WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP US BE MORE EFFICIENT? WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP US IN HOLDING PHYSICIANS MORE ACCOUNTABLE? NO ONE DOES THAT. WE SHOULD BE DOING THAT. THERE ARE JURISDICTIONS WHERE THE LEGISLATURE AND THE REGULATORY AUTHORITIES WORK HAND IN HAND. NOBODY GOES TO DR. NGUYEN WHO RUNS ARGUABLY CERTAINLY THE BIGGEST OUTPATIENT FACILITY IN GUAM AND SAYS, "HOW DO WE HELP YOU WITH RECRUITING? WHAT CAN WE DO?" THAT'S NOT TO SAY, "HOW DO I HELP MAKE YOU MORE MONEY? HOW DO I MAKE IT SO NOBODY CAN SUE YOU?" WE'RE NOT ASKING FOR THAT. WE'RE JUST SAYING, "MAYBE THERE ARE THINGS THE LEGISLATURE COULD DO THAT WOULD HELP US IN RECRUITING SO THAT YOU'D HAVE MORE SPECIALISTS." SO, WHEN YOU GO TO DR. NGUYEN'S

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OFFICE, MAYBE YOU'LL FIND AN ALLERGIST. WE DON'T HAVE ONE. MAYBE YOU'LL FIND A PEDIATRIC ENDOCRINOLOGIST. WE DON'T HAVE ONE. WELL, WE NEED THEM. AND MAYBE THE LEGISLATURE CAN SAY, "LET'S STOP THIS THESE I ALMOST WOULD SAY SHENANIGANS OF FOCUSING ON THINGS THAT DON'T IMPROVE HEALTH CARE ON GUAM AND DO THINGS THAT REALLY DO." SO, THAT'S THE END OF MY LEGISLATION OF MY PUBLIC TESTIMONY. AND I AM AVAILABLE TO SOMEONE JUST HAS TO CALL ME AND SAY, "LET'S MEET AND LET'S REALLY TALK ABOUT WHAT WE CAN DO JOINTLY." I'M SURE THAT DR. NGUYEN WOULD JOIN ME. WE SIT IN VERY DIFFERENT ARENAS. I'M SURE THAT DR. EUSEBIO WOULD JOIN US TO SAY HOW DO WE IMPROVE THINGS AND HAVE A ROUND TABLE TO LOOK AT REAL INTENT, REAL LEGISLATION. AND WHAT I WOULD ASK, MADAM CHAIR, IS IF YOU DON'T MIND AT THE REQUEST OF THE GUAM MEDICAL ASSOCIATION THAT I CAN READ INTO THE RECORD THE THEIR WRITTEN TESTIMONY.

SENATOR MATANANE

PLEASE PROCEED.

DR. NATHANIEL BERG

OKAY, THANK YOU SO MUCH. OKAY, LET ME OPEN IT. IT TAKE ME HALF A SECOND. WE'LL DO THAT RIGHT NOW. OKAY, GIVE ME ONE SECOND. I'LL TRY TO, IT IS OPENING. I HOPE THERE IT IS. OKAY, LET ME GET IT TO WHERE I CAN SEE IT AND READ AND OKAY. SO, ALL RIGHT. THIS IS FROM THE GUAM MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND IT'S A STATEMENT OF THE GUAM MEDICAL ASSOCIATION REGARDING BILL 322-38. DEAR HONORABLE SENATOR, HONORABLE SENATORS OF THE 38TH GUAM LEGISLATURE, THE GUAM MEDICAL ASSOCIATION REPRESENTS SEVERAL HUNDRED HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS, PREDOMINANTLY PHYSICIANS PRACTICING IN GUAM. WE'VE CONSULTED A LARGE PORTION OF OUR MEMBERSHIP REGARDING BILL 322-38 AND WE ARE PROVIDING THIS STATEMENT TO THE LEGISLATURE. OUR POSITION, THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE GUAM MEDICAL ASSOCIATION IS UNIFORMLY OPPOSED TO BILL 322-38. NO MEMBER POLED EXPRESSED SUPPORT OF THIS LEGISLATION. CONTEXT. BEFORE DISCUSSING THE SPECIFICS OF THE BILL, IT'S IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND THE REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH GUAM PHYSICIANS ALREADY OPERATE. GUAM PHYSICIANS FACE REGULATORY AND FINANCIAL BURDENS THAT DON'T EXIST IN OTHER US JURISDICTIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, GUAM REQUIRES PHYSICIANS TO MAINTAIN A SEPARATE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE REGISTRY CSR REGISTRATION. THIS HAS TO DO WITH REGULATED MEDICATIONS. AND WE MUST PAY AN ADDITIONAL FEE OF \$500 PER PHYSICIAN IN ADDITION TO THE FEDERAL DEA REGISTRATION. THIS REQUIREMENT ESSENTIALLY DUPLICATES THE FEDERAL DEA REGISTRATION. THE CSR FEE DID NOT EXIST FOR YEARS AND SUDDENLY WAS RAISED WITHOUT CONSULTING THE MEDICAL COMMUNITY REGARDING ITS IMPACT. MOST OTHER STATES, INCLUDING HAWAII, DO NOT IMPOSE THIS SEPARATE REQUIREMENT. THIS IS A BACKGROUND. THE PHYSICIANS IN THOSE JURISDICTIONS ONLY PAY THEIR FEDERAL DEA. THE GUAM CSR REQUIREMENT HAS NOT DEMONSTRATED ANY BENEFIT TO GUAM'S REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT, PATIENT SAFETY, AND IT SIMPLY HAS ADDED AN ADDITIONAL COST. ADDITIONALLY, GUAM PHYSICIANS ARE SUBJECT TO THE BRT, BPT RATHER, BUSINESS PRIVILEGE TAX, A GROSS RECEIPTS THAT APPLIES TO MEDICAL COLLECTIONS IN WAYS THAT DIFFER SIGNIFICANTLY FROM OTHER JURISDICTIONS. THIS TAX CANNOT BE PASSED ON TO

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PATIENTS OR INSURANCE COMPANIES. AS A RESULT, GUAM PHYSICIANS RECEIVE THE LOWEST MEDICARE AND MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT RATE IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY AS THIS TAX COMES OFF THE TOP. IS THIS SOMETHING THAT HELPS IMPROVES HEALTHCARE IN GUAM? GUAM MEDICAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERS DO NOT BELIEVE SO. GUAM IS ALREADY AN EXPENSIVE PLACE TO PRACTICE MEDICINE. WE FACE A PERSISTENT SHORTAGE OF SPECIALISTS. THESE EXISTING REGULATORY AND FINANCIAL BURDENS MAKE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF QUALIFIED PHYSICIANS EXTREMELY CHALLENGING. NOW THE LEGISLATURE PROPOSES TO ADD YET ANOTHER BURDEN. THE CONTRADICTION IS WE NOTE THAT ONE OF THE PRIMARY SPONSORS OF THE BILL WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN AUTHORIZING LEGISLATION TO BRING FOREIGN PHYSICIANS TO GUAM AND ALLOW THEM TO PRACTICE. THAT IS THE SAME LEGISLATURE THAT IS NOW SUPPORTING A BILL THAT WILL MAKE IT HARDER FOR US TO RECRUIT PHYSICIANS. THESE POSITIONS ARE IN DIRECT CONFLICT WITH ONE ANOTHER. AND THEN HE GOES OVER THE KEY CONCERNS. EXCESSIVE AND CONTINUOUS REPORTING BURDEN. THE BILL REQUIRES PHYSICIANS TO NOTIFY THE BOARD WITHIN 30 DAYS OF ANY CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT STATUS OR MALPRACTICE INSURANCE STATUS. THIS INCLUDES ABSENCES FOR AS LITTLE AS 30 DAYS FOR PHYSICIANS WHO WORK IN MULTIPLE CAPACITIES. PRIVATE PRACTICE, PARTTIME AT GMH, PART-TIME AT OTHER FACILITIES. THIS CREATES A CONSTANT STREAM OF NOTIFICATION AND UPDATES. THE REPORTING BURDEN FALLS ENTIRELY ON PHYSICIANS, CONSUMING TIME AND RESOURCES THAT COULD BE DEVOTED TO PATIENT CARE. PHYSICIANS INVASION OF PRIVACY AND MANDATORY PUBLIC DISCLOSURE. PHYSICIANS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PUBLICLY DISCLOSE WHERE THEY WORK. FOR THOSE EMPLOYED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM, THIS MEANS DISCLOSING SPECIFIC LOCATIONS WHERE THEY WORK. A SMALL NUMBER OF FACILITIES THAT CAN EASILY BE IDENTIFIED. MANY PHYSICIANS HAVE LEGITIMATE REASONS FOR NOT WANTING THEIR EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION MADE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE. AND THIS INCLUDES SAFETY CONCERNS. IT'S AN THERE'S THIS IS AN UNPRECEDENTED INTRUSION INTO THE PRIVACY OF PROFESSIONAL PHYSICIANS ACTING PRACTICING ON GUAM. AND IT IS SELECTIVE TARGETING AS WE BOTH MENTIONED. THIS BILL TARGETS ONLY PHYSICIANS. IT DOESN'T APPLY TO TEACHERS. THAT'S WHAT I SAID ALSO WHO ARE NOT REQUIRED TO PUBLICLY DISCLOSE WHERE THEY WORK PART-TIME AS BARTENDERS, TUTORS, OR IN OTHER CAPACITIES. POLICE OFFICERS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DISCLOSE PUBLIC WEBSITE ON PUBLIC WEBSITES WHETHER THEY WORK PART-TIME AS PRIVATE SECURITY GUARDS. GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ARE NOT REQUIRED TO MAKE NOTICE OF THEIR OUTSIDE PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT, NOT PUBLICLY LISTED ON WEBSITES. WHY ARE PHYSICIANS UNIQUELY SUBJECT TO THIS REQUIREMENT? THIS SELECTIVE APPLICATION RAISES SERIOUS CONCERNS ABOUT THE LEGISLATIVE INTENT. SAFETY AND STOCKING. PUBLIC PUBLICLY DISCLOSING THEIR PHYSICIAN'S SPECIFIC WORKPLACE OR PLACES PARTICULARLY GOVERNMENT FACILITIES CREATES A POTENTIAL SAFETY RISK. PHYSICIANS LIKE ALL PROFESSIONALS FACE STALKING BOTH ONLINE AND IN PERSON. COMPILING EASILY ACCESSIBLE INFORMATION ABOUT A PHYSICIAN'S LOCATION AND SCHEDULE MAKES STALKING MORE FEASIBLE. THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD BE AWARE THAT STALKING IS A DOCUMENTED PROBLEM ONLINE AND IN THE PHYSICAL WORLD AND ON GUAM. NO CONSIDERATION HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE SAFETY IMPLICATIONS OF THIS MANDATORY PUBLIC DISCLOSURE. NO DEMONSTRATED PATIENT BENEFIT. NOT A SINGLE MEMBER OF THE GUAM MEDICAL ASSOCIATION THAT WAS PULLED REPORTED THAT A PATIENT HAS EVER ASKED WHETHER THEY MAINTAIN MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE. NOT ONE. PHYSICIANS DO

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NOT CHOOSE, I'M SORRY. PATIENTS DO NOT CHOOSE PHYSICIANS BASED ON THIS INFORMATION. AS PART OF THE SELECTION OF A PHYSICIAN, NO MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE HAS IN ALL LIKELIHOOD EVER ASKED A PHYSICIAN, "DO YOU HAVE MALPRACTICE INSURANCE? DO YOU WORK PART-TIME AT GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AS A METHOD OF CHOOSING WHETHER OR NOT THEY WILL SEEK THE CARE OF THAT PHYSICIAN?" AND EVEN IF THEY DID ASK THAT, THE ANSWER CERTAINLY WOULD NOT IMPACT THEIR DECISION. THE BILL DOES NOTHING TO IMPROVE PATIENT DECISION-MAKING OR HEALTHCARE OUTCOMES. IT BENEFITS ONLY MALPRACTICE ATTORNEYS. THE ONLY PARTIES WHO BENEFIT FROM THIS ARE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE ATTORNEYS. THIS INFORMATION MANDATED BY THIS BILL, THE EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND MAL MEDICAL MALPRACTICE IS EXACTLY WHAT MED MAL ATTORNEYS WANT TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT TO GO AFTER LITIGATION, WHETHER OR NOT TO MAKE CLAIMS, WHETHER THEY TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY WILL BE COVERED UNDER THE GOVERNMENT VERSUS PRIVATE LIABILITY. THIS BILL IS A THINLY DISGUISED MECHANISM TO ENRICH MEDICAL MALPRACTICE ATTORNEYS. WE'VE SEEN THIS BEFORE, BY THE WAY. IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH PATIENT TRANSPARENCY OR INFORMED CONSENT. IS CONTRADICTORY TO THE LEGISLATIVE POSITION. IRONICALLY, THE SAME SPONSORS ARE AMONG THOSE WHO CONSTANTLY COMPLAIN ABOUT THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS FALLING BEHIND IN ITS WORK. BUT THIS BILL, SPONSORED BY THE VERY SAME LEGISLATORS, PROPOSES TO ADD SIGNIFICANT ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN. THIS IS INTERNALLY CONTRADICTORY. COMPLAINT ABOUT THE GBME'S PERFORMANCE WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY MAKING IT MORE DIFFICULT AND STRAINING THEIR CAPACITY. IF THE LEGISLATURE BELIEVES THE GBMA IS UNDERPERFORMING, ADDING MORE ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS THAT DOES NOT HELP PATIENTS WILL NOT SOLVE THAT PROBLEM. NO INPUT FROM THE MEDICAL COMMUNITY. THE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HAS NEVER BEEN CONSULTED ABOUT WHAT WOULD GENUINELY HELP OUR MEMBERS PRACTICE ON GUAM, RECRUIT SPECIALISTS OR IMPROVE HEALTH CARE AND OR IMPROVE THE HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENT. INSTEAD, THE LEGISLATURE PROPOSES LEGISLATION SUCH AS THIS AND MAKES IT HARDER TO RECRUIT PHYSICIANS, ADDS TO THE REGULATORY BURDEN WITHOUT ANY DEMONSTRATED BENEFIT TO PATIENTS. THIS IS BACKWARDS. THE GUAM MEDICAL ASSOCIATION'S CALL TO THE LEGISLATURE, STOP TARGETING PHYSICIANS WITH SELECTIVE REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS THAT DO NOT APPLY TO OTHER LICENSED PROFESSIONALS. STOP PROPOSING LEGISLATION DESIGNED TO BENEFIT PRIVATE ATTORNEYS AT THE EXPENSE OF EVERYONE ELSE, INCLUDING PHYSICIAN RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION. INSTEAD, REACH OUT TO THE GUAM MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. WE ARE READY TO WORK WITH THE LEGISLATURE TO IDENTIFY GENUINE BARRIERS TO PHYSICIAN RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION. WE ARE READY TO WORK TOGETHER TO IMPROVE THE HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENT AND THE LIVES OF ALL GUAMANIAN. THAT CANNOT WORK WITHOUT THE LEGISLATION, I'M SORRY, THAT BEGINS WITH LEGISLATION THAT MAKES IT HARDER FOR US TO ATTRACT PHYSICIANS. BILL 322-38 DOES NOT SERVE PATIENTS. IT DOES NOT ENHANCE HEALTH CARE. IT DOES NOT HELP THE LEGISLATURE UNDERSTAND ANYTHING MEANINGFUL ABOUT THE ACTUAL PHYSICIAN PRACTICE ON GUAM. IT ONLY SERVES THE FINANCIAL INTERESTS OF MEDICAL MALPRACTICE ATTORNEY ATTORNEYS. WE RESPECTFULLY URGE THE LEGISLATURE TO WITHDRAW THIS BILL AND ENGAGE IN GENUINE COLLABORATIVE GENUINE COLLABORATION WITH THE MEDICAL COMMUNITY. SO, AND THAT'S FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE GUAM MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. THAT CONCLUDES

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MY TESTIMONY. I WILL ALSO BE SUBMITTING WRITTEN TESTIMONY AND I APPRECIATE THE HARD WORK OF THE LEGISLATURE, BUT I HOPE THAT WE CAN TURN A CORNER HERE AND WORK COLLABORATIVELY TOWARDS REAL IMPROVEMENT IN HEALTHCARE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MADAME CHAIR. I APPRECIATE YOUR TIME.

SENATOR MATANANE

THANK YOU, DR. BERG. PLEASE STAY ON THE LINE. DR. HOA, I HOPE YOU'RE STILL THERE. WE WILL NOW BEGIN WITH QUESTIONS AND WE'LL START WITH THE AUTHOR, SENATOR TAITAGUE.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR EVERYBODY WHO CAME TO TESTIFY TODAY. APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS THAT YOU'RE MADE THAT WERE MADE. BUT UNFORTUNATELY, WELL WITH DR. NGUYEN. PARTICULARLY YOU KNOW TO MAKE THREATS THAT YOU'RE GOING TO TELL EVERY PATIENT THAT YOU HAVE THAT YOU KNOW I PUT THIS BILL OUT FOR TRANSPARENCY PURPOSES IS IRONIC BECAUSE MANY OF THEM ARE YOUR PATIENTS THAT ARE CALLING ME FOR MORE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY WITH OUR DOCTORS. WE WENT THROUGH THE WHOLE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE ARBITRATION LAW AND LISTENED TO MANY PHYSICIANS. AND YOU WOULD THINK THAT THIS IS NOT REQUIRING DOCTORS TO HAVE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE LIKE QUITE A BIT OF STATES ACTUALLY REQUIRE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE FROM OUR DOCTORS. THIS BILL DOESN'T DO THAT. IT JUST TELLS US WHETHER YOU HAVE INSURANCE OR NOT. I'M PRETTY SURE THAT A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO ARE DRIVING VEHICLES AND THEY'D LIKE TO KNOW IF IN MOTORISTS HAVE INSURANCE BECAUSE IF THEY GET HIT BY THEM, THAT'S ONE THING THAT THEY'RE HOPING THE MOTOR VEHICLES HAVE IS INSURANCE. I MEAN, THE OTHER DRIVERS HAVE INSURANCE. SO, THIS IS JUST A TRANSPARENCY AND I HAVE TO ASK DR. BERG A LAW THAT WAS PASSED RECENTLY THAT REQUIRES INFORMATION AND YET IT WAS IN THE 31ST IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN AS WELL AS LATER ON LEGISLATION THAT REQUIRED INFORMATION THAT WAS THAT'S BEYOND YOU KNOW WHETHER A DOCTOR HAS MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE OR WHETHER THEY WORK IN THE PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SECTOR. SO CAN YOU TELL ME WHY THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS HAVE YET TO PUT THAT INFORMATION THAT IT WAS REQUIRED BY PUBLIC LAW 31-84.

DR. NATHANIEL BERG

WELL, I THINK OKAY SO THERE ARE TWO DIFFERENT PORTIONS OF THE HEALTH PROFESSIONAL LICENSING OFFICE AND I THINK BREANNA HAD GONE OVER THAT BREANNA SABLAN THE ACTING DIRECTOR HAD INDICATED THE THAT THIS IS AN ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUE WE I DEAL DIRECTLY WITH PHYSICIANS AND REGULATORY ASPECTS OF PHYSICIANS PRACTICE. I DON'T MAINTAIN THE WEBSITE,

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RIGHT? SO, I DON'T KNOW WHO IN THE LEGISLATURE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING THE WEBSITE, BUT I DOUBT INDIVIDUAL SENATORS PLAY THAT ROLE. I WOULD IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO

SENATOR TAITAGUE

OKAY, NO PROBLEM, DR. BERG.

DR. NATHANIEL BERG

THAT I AS THE CHAIR HAVE MAINTAINED THE WEBSITE AND POST WHAT'S ON THE WEBSITE. THAT'S NOT FEASIBLE.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

OKAY. SO, YOU'RE SAYING THAT THE BOARD DOES NOT DO THE WEBSITE. SO, I'M GOING TO GO TO BREANNA. SO, BREANNA, THERE WAS A PUBLIC LAW AS I MENTIONED EARLIER 31-84 THAT REQUIRED INFORMATION AND THEN ANOTHER PUBLIC LAW 34- I MEAN 31-84 AND ONE THAT WAS 34-79 AND IT HAD YET TO PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION ON THE WEBSITE.

BREANNA SABLAN

THANK YOU, SENATOR, FOR THE QUESTION. I'M ONLY GOING TO SPEAK AGAIN FOR MY TENURE HERE IN THE HPLO. WHEN I DID COME INTO THE HEALTH PROFESSIONAL LICENSING OFFICE, THE WEBSITE NEVER EXISTED. I DID HAVE YOU KNOW TO KIND OF JUST HIT THE GROUND RUNNING WHEN I CAME INTO THE OFFICE. THERE WAS A LOT OF MANDATES THAT THE HPLO HAD TO REALLY ESTABLISH AND CREATE. DURING THE TIME OF COVID, I WAS ABLE TO KIND OF DEVELOP THE SCOPE. THE SCOPE TO REALLY INITIATE THE WEBSITE THAT ALL FELL THROUGH. DURING COVID I ACTUALLY GSA ISSUED A PURCHASE ORDER TO A SPECIFIC VENDOR. UNFORTUNATELY, THAT VENDOR'S PURCHASE ORDER HAD TO BE CANCELLED BECAUSE THERE WAS A TECHNICAL ISSUE. SORRY, I DIDN'T DO THAT. THERE WAS A TECHNICAL ISSUE WITH THE WEBSITE PROVIDER HAVING TO HAVE THE CLOUD BASE IN THE US VERSUS THE PHILIPPINES OR ANY IN SOMEWHERE IN ASIA. SO THAT REALLY WAS OVERLOOKED. SO THAT PURCHASE ORDER HAD TO BE CANCELLED. AND YOU ASKED WHY THOSE INFORMATION ARE NOT HERE. I FEEL THAT WE ARE DOING AT LEAST FOR ME PROVIDING THAT WEBSITE IS A BIG, I KNOW IT'S A BIG NEED FOR THE COMMUNITY OF GUAM. AND WE'RE IN A BETTER PLACE TODAY THAN WE WERE 10 YEARS AGO. IT'S A WORK IN PROGRESS WITH HAVING TO CREATE ALL THESE DIFFERENT TABS IN THE WEBSITE. AND RIGHT NOW IT, IS SEARCHABLE. YOU COULD SEARCH THE PHYSICIAN. AND SO, YOU'RE YOU STATE WHY HASN'T IT BEEN DONE? AGAIN, IT REQUIRES MONEY. IT REQUIRES FUNDING. FOR THE HPLO ITSELF FOR THE 26 BUDGET A LITTLE OVER 300,000 WAS AWARDED OR WAS GRANTED THROUGH SPECIAL FUND, WHICH IS INCLUSIVE OF THE NINE BOARDS. IT CAN BE DONE. IT'S SOMETHING CAN BE DONE BUT AGAIN IT'S A DIFFERENT FIELD AND THAT IS ONE OF MY STRATEGIC GOALS IN HPLO IS TO BE ABLE TO HAVE ALL THE ABILITY TO DO THAT BUT AT THE END OF THE DAY IT DOES COST MONEY AND THEN THAT WILL JUST ADD ON A DIFFERENT SCOPE FOR THE WEBSITE DEVELOPERS. I DID HAVE A CONVERSATION ALREADY WITH THE WEBSITE DEVELOPERS AND IT CAN BE DONE BUT OF COURSE

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INCREASING THAT OPTION WOULD COST MONEY BUT ON THE BRIGHTER SIDE I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT THAT THE PHYSICIAN THEMSELF PUT THAT INFORMATION SO THAT'S WHAT I'M BUILDING I'M HOPING TO ROLL OUT A PHYSICIAN DASHBOARD SOON AND IN THAT DASHBOARD THE PHYSICIAN MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE THAT INFORMATION BECAUSE IT IT'S A LOT OF WORK AND I HAVE TO SAY YOU STATED WE HAVE FIVE STAFF. YES, THAT FIVE STAFF INCLUDES ME. WE HAVE 10 BOARDS WITH FIVE STAFF AND EVERY SINGLE ONE OF MY EMPLOYEES HAVE MORE THAN THREE BOARDS. SO, AND THEN I HAVE A BOARD MYSELF. SO, IT BECOMES TAXING ON HAVING TO MANUALLY LOOK AT THESE INFORMATION. IT'S DOABLE BUT AGAIN IT'S IF WE GET THE PHYSICIAN TO REPORT ALL THIS INFORMATION ON THE DASHBOARD THEN WE CAN SIMPLY TURN ON THAT FUNCTION ON THE WEBSITE BUT AGAIN IT DOES COST MONEY AND I'M ALMOST CERTAIN WE'LL BE IN A BETTER PLACE ONCE WE CREATE THAT DASHBOARD TO BE ABLE TO HAVE THE PHYSICIAN OKAY THEY HAVE MALPRACTICE THEN IF WE TURN ON THAT FUNCTION THEN ON THE FRONT END OF THE WEBSITE EVERYONE ON GUAM MAY BE ABLE TO SEE THAT INFORMATION. SO,

SENATOR TAITAGUE

OKAY. I HAVE A QUESTION THOUGH WITH REGARDS TO THIS DASHBOARD. NOW, IT IT'S MAKING IT SOUND LIKE IT'S A TOTAL RESPONSIBILITY OF YOURSELF TO GET THAT INFORMATION, BUT LIKE THIS BILL PARTICULARLY REQUIRES THAT THE DOCTORS PROVIDE YOU THAT INFORMATION AND THAT YOU PUT IT ON THE POSTED ON THE WEBSITE ON THIS SO-CALLED DASHBOARD. SO IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'RE GOING OUT SEARCHING IF THEY DO HAVE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE AND WHETHER THEY ARE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE. ALSO THE INFORMATION THAT WAS REQUIRED ALMOST 10 YEARS AGO FOR THE POSTING OF THESE DOCTORS AND THEIR INFORMATION. I WAS HEARING THAT IT WAS BECAUSE THERE WAS PUSH BACK FROM THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS PROVIDING YOU THAT INFORMATION THAT THEY REFUSED TO PROVIDE IT TO YOU. SO, I'M CURIOUS. HAVE YOU HAD ANY PUSH BACK FROM THE BOARD TO PROVIDE YOU THE EVEN THOUGH YOU DON'T HAVE THE WEBSITE UP RIGHT BECAUSE BY LAW PUBLIC HEALTH IS REQUIRED TO GET THIS INFORMATION BY LAW. NOW WHETHER YOU PUT IT ON THE WEBSITE OR NOT AT LEAST YOU HAVE IT. SO IN THE EVENT LIKE IT WAS MENTIONED, SOMEONE CAN CALL UP AND ASK YOU KNOW DOES THIS DOCTOR HAVE ANY ISSUES OR WHERE IS THEIR LOCATION THEIR CLINIC SO THAT I YOU KNOW IF I WANT TO GO TO THEIR CLINIC WHERE ARE THEY LOCATED DO THEY SPECIALIZE IN THIS FIELD SO DO YOU HAVE THAT INFORMATION THAT WE SHOULD HAVE HAD PUT UP 10 YEARS AGO OR

BREANNA SABLAN

I'LL ANSWER YOUR FIRST QUESTION IS THERE PUSH BACK FROM THE MEDICAL BOARD. NO, THE THERE'S AT LEAST IN MY TENURE IN THE HPLO, THERE'S BEEN NO PUSH BACK. THE PUSH BACK REALLY IS ON THE LEGAL COUNCIL BECAUSE WE DID HAVE A REALLY LONG CASE THAT WE HAD TO THAT BASICALLY WAS ADJUDICATED, BUT WE WERE IN THE PROCESS OF REVIEWING AGAIN. AND WE HAVE TO MANUALLY PULL OUT THE PHYSICIAN'S FILE, REVIEW IT, AND TAKE A LOOK AT ALL OF THE PHYSICIAN PUBLIC PROFILE REQUIREMENTS AND THEN WE COME UP WITH THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENT AND THEN THERE ARE DISCLOSURES THAT WE NEED TO PUT UP THERE. BUT AGAIN, FROM THE PRELIMINARY

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REVIEW, I THINK WE REVIEWED A LITTLE OVER A HUNDRED OR 200 AT THE TIME WHEN WE DID HAVE LEGAL COUNSEL. MANY OF THEM DIDN'T MEET THE THRESHOLD OF THE WEBSITE OR THE PUBLIC LAW. SO AGAIN, IN OUR OVERSIGHT HEARING, I DID STATE THAT IT'S REALLY JUST FOR ME TO GET GUIDANCE FROM THE AG'S OFFICE TO BE ABLE TO GET AN ASSIGNED ATTORNEY TO HELP ME ON THIS BECAUSE WE DO HAVE, WE WANT TO PUT THE INFORMATION ON THE WEBSITE, BUT AGAIN, WE CAN'T BECAUSE LIKE YOU STATED WITH THE PRIVACY AND DUE PROCESS. SO, WE WANT TO PROTECT THE PHYSICIAN, BUT THEN WE ALSO WANT TO DO OUR DUE DILIGENCE AND PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION ON THE WEBSITE. AND I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT 322. I'M TALKING ABOUT THE PUBLIC LAW, RIGHT, WITH THE PHYSICIAN BECAUSE THERE'S SO MANY THE DISCLOSURES, THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENT THE MANDATES THE BOARD TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A SEARCHABLE WEBSITE THAT AND THEN THE SUBSECTION OF CURRENT STATUS OF DISCLOSURES. THAT'S WHAT I'M REFERENCING REQUIRES THE DISCLOSURE OF THE POSTING OF THE BACKGROUND AND DISCIPLINARY HISTORIES HELD BY THE BOARD. SO, ALL OF THOSE REQUIREMENTS, YES, THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE THAT'S WHAT I'M REFERENCING. WE CAN DO IT. AND WE DID DO A PRELIMINARY REVIEW WHEN WE HAD AN ASSIGNED ATTORNEY. AND BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE ONE, I'M JUST CONTINUOUSLY HAVING TO FOLLOW UP WITH THE AG'S OFFICE.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

WELL, I'M SURPRISED BECAUSE YOU KNOW, FOR ONE, YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT ONE PARTICULAR CASE AND THAT IT SEEMS TO STOP EVERYTHING FROM HPLO TO GET ALL THE INFORMATION FROM OTHER DOCTORS. THAT SHOULDN'T BE THE CASE. NUMBER ONE, YOU KNOW, NUMBER TWO, THIS IS BY STATUTORY LAW. YOU KNOW, THERE IS NOTHING IN THE LAW THAT WOULD BE DISCRIMINATORY BECAUSE IT WENT THROUGH THE PROCESS AND IT WOULD HAVE STATED FOR THE RECORD, BUT THAT'S OKAY. I'M THE OVERSIGHT CHAIR OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE AND I'LL REACH OUT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO LOOK CLOSELY AT THE LAW SO THAT YOU HAVE SOME GUIDANCE, TOO.

BREANNA SABLAN

THANK YOU.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

AND ALSO, HOPEFULLY THEY'LL ASSIGN AN ATTORNEY UNTIL YOU GUYS CAN HAVE ONE. THAT WE ASSISTED. THE OTHER QUESTION I HAVE IS THE COMMENTS THAT WERE MADE THIS IS GOING TO THE PRIVATE IS GOING TO BE PUNISHED. THE PRIVATE DOCTORS WILL BE PUNISHED. HOW IS THAT THEY'RE GOING TO BE PUNISHED? THIS WAS TO DR. NGUYEN FOR ASKING FOR THIS INFORMATION.

DR. HOA NGUYEN

OKAY. YOU KNOW AGAIN I MENTIONED THAT THERE'S HUGE DISPARITY WITH THE PUBLIC AND THE PRIVATE OKAY PUBLIC ONE I ASKED MANY, MANY LAWYER TO TAKE OVER A CERTAIN CASE FOR THE PUBLIC SIDE AND NONE OF THEM WILL TAKE THEM MOST OF THE LAWSUIT AND YOU CAN RESEARCH THIS IS FROM THE PUBLIC SIDE VERY, VERY LITTLE I CAN REMEMBER MAYBE JUST TWO OR THREE ON

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TOP MY HEAD OVER THE LAST 30 YEARS IN THE PRIVATE SIDE. OKAY. SO WHEN YOU PUT ALL THIS INFORMATION OUT AGAIN THE PRIVATE SIDE WILL BE HUGE RISK OF GET LAWSUIT. IS THAT VALID LAWSUIT OR NOT? IS THAT INVALID OR VALID? BUT AGAIN, YOU'LL BE PUNISHED BECAUSE YOU SPEND MOST YOUR TIME IN COURT RATHER THAN TAKE CARE OF YOUR PATIENT OR TRY TO DEFEND YOURSELF BECAUSE YOU KNOW THERE'S NO LIMIT ON THE MALPRACTICE CARE ON THE PRIVATE SITES. YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT YOU CAN SUE SOMEONE FOR MILLIONS. SO WHAT'S THAT WORTH FOR THE PRIVATE SIDE PRACTICE? NO, IT'S NOT WORTH IT. SO YES, YOU WILL PUNISH THE PRIVATE SIDE FOR ALL THE MISTAKE THAT THE PUBLIC SIDE DO RIGHT AGAIN TO FIX THIS THING. SENATOR GO AND AND GET RID OF THE GOV GUAM PROTECTION CRIME ACT AND YOU WILL FIX EVERYTHING ON THIS.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

DR. NGUYEN, I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW THIS, YOU KNOW, PUNISHES ANYBODY. BUT JUST PROVIDE THE PUBLIC WITH INFORMATION. AND IT'S THE PUBLIC'S CHOICE WHETHER THEY WANT TO GO WITH A DOCTOR ON THE PUBLIC OR THE PRIVATE SIDE. IT'S THEIR CHOICE AND WE WANT TO GIVE THEM TO THE NUMBER ONE. NUMBER TWO, THE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE REQUIREMENT WHETHER A DOCTOR HAS MEDICAL MALPRACTICE OR NOT, LIKE MOST STATES, THEY ARE MANDATED TO HAVE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE. GUAM DOESN'T MANDATE IT, BUT IT THIS LAW WOULD JUST BASICALLY SAY WHETHER THEY HAVE IT OR NOT. AND WHEN YOU WORK FOR THE PUBLIC SECTOR, WE ALL KNOW THAT MOST OF THESE DOCTORS FALL UNDER THE CLAIMS ACT. SO IT WOULD EXPLAIN WHY THEY DON'T HAVE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE BECAUSE THEY'RE PROTECTED UNDER THE GUAM CLAIMS ACT. HOWEVER, DO YOU HAVE A PROBLEM IF T WAS MENTIONED EARLIER IF A PATIENT ASKS YOU, DO YOU HAVE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE OR NOT? DO YOU HAVE A PROBLEM IF A PATIENT ASKS YOU THAT DIRECTLY?

DR. HOA NGUYEN

I ABSOLUTELY WILL 100% HONEST MY PATIENT I HAVE OR NOT EVER ASKED 30 YEAR PRACTICE SENATOR, I HAVE NO ONE EVER ASKED FOR THAT ONE.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

OKAY CAN I, YEAH, BUT THAT WASN'T MY QUESTION DR. HOA, THAT WASN'T MY QUESTION, MY QUESTION WAS

DR. HOA NGUYEN

YOU KNOW, BUT LET ME FINISH MY ANSWER FIRST I HAVEN'T FINISHED MY ANSWER OKAY SO IT'S VERY IMPORTANT IF A PATIENT COME MY IN MY PRACTICE AND ASK ME DO I HAVE MY QUESTION YES, I WOULD TELL THEM YOU SAY YES OR NO, AND THAT'S WHAT IT IS. AND BUT YOU KNOW TO ME IF THE PATIENT CHOOSE ME OR ANY PHYSICIAN FOR TO TAKE CARE OF THEIR THEMSELVES OR THEIR FAMILY AND THE DECISION TO CHOOSE THE PHYSICIAN BASED ON THEY HAVE MALPRACTICE INSURANCE OR NOT I TELL YOU THAT'S A WRONG DECISION PATIENT CHOOSE YOU BECAUSE OF REFERRAL FROM THEIR

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FAMILY OR THEY TRUST YOU OR THEY HEAR THING FROM YOU BUT THEY DON'T CHOOSE YOU BECAUSE YOU HAVE MALPRACTICE INSURANCE OR NOT 100%. I'M NOT SURE WHERE THAT COMING FROM, BUT THAT'S NOT THE DECISION THAT PATIENT WILL EVER MAKE TO CHOOSE A PHYSICIAN.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

DO YOU HAVE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE, DR. HOA?

DR. HOA NGUYEN

YOU KNOW, IF YOU'RE MY PATIENT, I WOULD TELL YOU. YOU'RE NOT MY PATIENT, SO NO, I WOULD NOT TELL YOU.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

DR. BERG, DO YOU HAVE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE?

DR. NATHANIEL BERG

I DON'T THINK SEE, THIS IS THE THING. LET ME ASK YOU, DO YOU HAVE MALPRACTICE DO YOU HAVE INSURANCE IF I SLIP AND FALL WHEN I COME IN THE LEGISLATURE?

SENATOR TAITAGUE

CAN YOU CAN YOU REPEAT THAT? I'M SORRY I DIDN'T HEAR IT.

DR. NATHANIEL BERG

I SAID IF I WALK INTO THE LEGISLATURE TODAY, DO YOU HAVE MALPRACTICE LIABILITY INSURANCE IN CASE I SLIP AND FALL?

SENATOR TAITAGUE

DO I HAVE? NO, I DON'T HAVE ANY

DR. NATHANIEL BERG

YEAH, WELL, HEY, WAIT, WAIT, WAIT. WHY CAN'T I KNOW THAT?

SENATOR TAITAGUE

I HAVE AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE.

DR. NATHANIEL BERG

I WANT TO MAKE THE DECISION. I WANT THAT DECISION AS TO WHETHER YOU ARE OFFERING A SAFE ENVIRONMENT. WHETHER YOU'RE THE SENATOR. I WANT TO WALK INTO YOUR OFFICE. DO YOU HAVE LIABILITY INSURANCE IN CASE I SLIP AND FALL BECAUSE YOU SPILLED WATER ON THE FLOOR AND DIDN'T CLEAN IT UP QUICKLY ENOUGH?

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SENATOR TAITAGUE

WELL, I CAN TELL YOU. I HAVE AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE.

DR. NATHANIEL BERG

WELL, THEN, I'M NOT GOING TO TELL YOU

SENATOR TAITAGUE

I ALSO HAVE HOUSE INSURANCE.

DR. NATHANIEL BERG

UNTIL YOU TELL ME. LET'S MAKE IT FAIR.

SENATOR MATANANE

THANK YOU, SENATOR TAITAGUE. THANK YOU, DR. BERG.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

MR. BERG. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

DR. NATHANIEL BERG

YOU TELL ME FIRST.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

IF HE CAN LET ME ANSWER THAT QUESTION

DR. NATHANIEL BERG

WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME?

SENATOR MATANANE

DR. BERG, LET'S HAVE SENATOR TAITAGUE ANSWER AND THEN WE'LL PROCEED TO THE NEXT SENATOR.

DR. NATHANIEL BERG

SORRY.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

THANK YOU. DR. BERG, I HAVE CAR INSURANCE. I HAVE HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE. SO, I DO HAVE SOME KIND OF INSURANCE AND IF I NEED INSURANCE FOR SO I'LL BE HAPPY TO EXPOSE.

DR. NATHANIEL BERG

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SORRY, I HAVE CAR INSURANCE

SENATOR TAITAGUE

THANK YOU.

DR. NATHANIEL BERG

AND I HAVE HOME INSURANCE.

SENATOR MATANANE

THANK YOU

DR. NATHANIEL BERG

I HAVE CAR AND HOME INSURANCE TOO. YEAH

SENATOR MATANANE

THANK YOU, DR. BERG. SENATOR TAITAGUE, I'M SO SORRY. SENATOR TERLAJE.

SENATOR TERLAJE

THANK YOU. THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR TIME. SOMEBODY'S ZOOM, MAYBE YOU COULD JUST PUT YOURSELF ON MUTE FOR NOW. THANK YOU. YEAH, IT'S VERY CONCERNING TO ME THE TESTIMONY THAT WE'RE GETTING IN RESPONSE TO THIS BILL. THEY'RE TRYING TO SAY THAT AGAIN PHYSICIANS ARE BEING SINGLED OUT FOR DISCLOSURE OF WHETHER THEY HAVE MALPRACTICE INSURANCE OR NOT. AND THEY WANT TO EQUATE THAT TO WHETHER TEACHERS HAVE INSURANCE AND IT'S REALLY CONCERNING BECAUSE THE WHOLE POINT OF THIS BILL IS BECAUSE THE DOCTORS ARE PROTECTED UNDER THE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE ARBITRATION ACT. NO ONE CAN SUE THEM FOR ANY HARM UNLESS THEY GO THROUGH EXPENSIVE ARBITRATION. NO ONE. NOT LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE ON GUAM. AND SO, THE BILL DOES NOT AFFECT WHETHER THEY ARE PROTECTED OR CONTINUE TO BE PROTECTED BY THE MEDICAL ARBITRATION ACT WHERE NO ONE CAN SUE THEM UNLESS THEY GO THROUGH THAT ARBITRATION PROCESS FIRST. IT REALLY JUST SAYS DISCLOSE, TELL THE TRUTH TO THE PUBLIC WHETHER YOU HAVE INSURANCE OR NOT. IT DOESN'T EVEN TELL YOU. IT DOESN'T EVEN REQUIRE THAT YOU HAVE TO SAY THE AMOUNT. IT DOESN'T REQUIRE THAT YOU HAVE TO SAY REALLY ANYTHING ABOUT YOUR INSURANCE EXCEPT WHETHER YOU HAVE ANY OR NOT AND WHETHER YOU WORK IN PRIVATE PRACTICE OR PUBLIC IN A PUBLIC AGENCY. AND IF I COULD JUST ASK YOU, BREANNA, IS THAT PUBLIC INFORMATION? DO YOU REQUIRE THIS OF YOUR LICENSY TO TELL YOU WHERE THEY ARE PRACTICING?

BREANNA SABLAN

YES.

SENATOR TERLAJE

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ALL RIGHT. AND YOU ARE REQUIRED ALREADY TO PUT EXTENSIVE AMOUNTS OF INFORMATION ON THE WEBSITE AND YOU'RE SAYING THAT THAT'S NOT COMPLETED YET. STILL PENDING SOME

BREANNA SABLAN

THAT'S CORRECT. IT'S STILL IN WORKING PROGRESS.

SENATOR TERLAJE

ALL RIGHT. AND THAT SOME OF THAT IS BECAUSE OF LEGAL. YOU NEED A LAWYER? WHY DO YOU NEED A LAWYER TO JUST COMPLY WITH IT SAYS TO PUT THIS INFORMATION UP THEN YOU PUT THIS INFORMATION UP.

BREANNA SABLAN

SO, SENATOR, WE'VE PUT IT UP. I DON'T KNOW IF ANYONE WAS ABLE TO SEE THAT INFORMATION. WE HAD SOME PHYSICIANS ALREADY WITH A DISCIPLINE. DO THEY HAVE A DISCIPLINE? YES OR NO? YES. AND SO, TYING THAT INTO THE FRONT END OF THE WEBSITE TO BE ABLE FOR THE PUBLIC TO SEE WHAT THAT IS. WE DID. WE HAD SOME PHYSICIANS WHERE WE PUT THAT INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE. OUR LEGAL COUNSEL HAD US TAKE IT DOWN. I THINK IT WAS BECAUSE OF THAT PHYSICIAN HAVING THEIR LEGAL COUNSEL CONTACTED OUR LEGAL COUNSEL. THERE WAS JUST A WHOLE WE WERE ACTUALLY TRYING TO CREATE WHAT WE CAN USE INTERNALLY TO BE ABLE TO MANUALLY PUT THAT INFORMATION IN OUR DATABASE. SO AGAIN, BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE LEGAL COUNSEL, WE NOT CONTINUED INPUTTING THAT INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE.

SENATOR TERLAJE

ALL RIGHT. DO YOU THINK IT WOULD THAT'S FOR CLAIMS? THAT WAS WHERE DID YOU GET STUCK ON REPORTING CLAIMS? BECAUSE DO YOU NEED A LAWYER TO REPORT A YES OR NO WHETHER YOU HAVE INSURANCE OR NOT?

BREANNA SABLAN

NO.

SENATOR TERLAJE

NO. RIGHT.

BREANNA SABLAN

NO.

SENATOR TERLAJE

I WOULDN'T THINK SO. YOU DON'T NEED A LAWYER TO REPORT WHETHER THEY'RE LICENSED OR NOT, WHICH JURISDICTIONS,

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BREANNA SABLAN

CORRECT.

SENATOR TERLAJE

NOTHING. RIGHT. SO, THERE ARE THERE IS INFORMATION THAT CAN BE PUT UP THERE WITHOUT A LAWYER. I WAS REALLY SHOCKED AT PUBLIC HEALTH'S THE DIRECTOR'S TESTIMONY AS TO THE PROPOSED COST. IT REALLY SEEMS EXCESSIVE TO ME THAT SHE'S SAYING THIS IS WHAT WE NEED TO DO WHAT WE'RE PRETTY MUCH ALREADY REQUIRED TO DO BY LAW AND IT'S REALLY JUST TO GET THE PHYSICIANS HAVE TO SAY YES OR NO. THEY HAVE TO SAY PRIVATE OR PUBLIC. THAT'S IT. AND YOU REQUIRE THEM TO DO THIS ALL THE TIME. YOU'RE REQUIRED TO THEM TO REPORT CHANGES WITHIN 30 DAYS FOR OTHER THINGS FOR CHANGES IN STATUS IN OTHER JURISDICTIONS WITHIN 30 DAYS YOU'RE REQUIRED TO REPORT THOSE. IT'S VERY, VERY SIMILAR AND I FEEL FOR YOU WITH THE STAFF THAT YOU NEED AND I HAVE NO OBJECTION TO THAT. YOU SHOULD HAVE MORE STAFF GENERALLY, BUT TO SAY THAT THAT'S THE REASON WHY WE CAN'T GET THIS INFORMATION SEEMS SO, IT'S NOT THAT COMPLEX. THEY SAID IT'S A COMPLEX REGULATORY ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES. IT'S THE EXACT SAME REGULATORY ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES THAT YOU HAVE NOW FOR ANY PARTS THAT THEY ARE NOT COMPLYING WITH ANY INFORMATION THAT THEY HAVEN'T GIVEN YOU THAT IS ALREADY REQUIRED BY LAW. AND THEN THE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION'S TESTIMONY AGAIN IS VERY CONCERNING BECAUSE THEY'RE SAYING IF SOMEBODY, THEY HAVE TO REPORT WITHIN 30 DAYS AND THEY'RE SAYING THAT'S AN EXCESSIVE BURDEN ON THEM TO REPORT WHETHER THEY ARE NO LONGER ON THE STAFFING PATTERN OF A PUBLIC AGENCY OR NO LONGER ON A CONTRACT WITH THAT AGENCY THAT THEY WOULD HAVE TO REPORT THAT THEY'RE PRACTICING IN PRIVATE PRACTICE ONLY. THAT SEEMS LIKE A VERY SMALL BURDEN TO ME TO JUST REPORT THAT CHANGE IN STATUS. AND I THINK THAT THEY, YOU KNOW, BECAUSE YOU HAVE TO HAVE THAT INFORMATION ALL THE TIME ANYWAYS BECAUSE OF THEIR LICENSE, IT'S VERY, VERY CONSISTENT. THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT AN INVASION OF PRIVACY AND MANDATORY TO TELL US WHERE THEY WORK IS AN INVASION OF PRIVACY. I DISAGREE. I THINK YOU ARE ALREADY AUTHORIZED, THE BOARD'S ALREADY AUTHORIZED TO GET ALL OF THAT INFORMATION AND ANYONE WHO WANTS TO ASK ABOUT IT IS ENTITLED TO IT. PUBLIC IS ALREADY PUT ON THEIR STAFFING PATTERNS. INSURANCE CONTRACTS ARE ALREADY SUPPOSED TO BE PUT UP ON WEBSITES. INSURANCE COMPANIES DIRECTORIES ALREADY PROVIDE FOR WHERE A PROVIDER IS PRACTICING INCLUDING ADDRESSES SOMETIMES HOURS AND BUT REALLY THIS SAFETY AND STALKING CONCERN BECAUSE WE'RE GOING TO TELL THEM WHERE OUR PHYSICIAN PRACTICES OR A SELECTIVE TARGETING OF PHYSICIANS IS A DISCRIMINATORY BECAUSE WE'RE NOT REQUIRING POLICE OFFICERS. POLICE OFFICERS ARE NOT PROTECTED EXCEPT UNDER THE GOVERNMENT CLAIMS ACT LIKE GOVERNMENT DOCTORS. EXACTLY THE SAME, BUT THEY'RE NOT PROTECTED FROM CIVIL LAWSUIT OR LIKE THE DOCTORS ARE. THEY'RE NOT PROTECTED BY A MEDICAL ARBITRATION ACT THAT PREVENTS ANYONE FROM SUING THE DOCTORS UNLESS THEY GO THROUGH THAT EXPENSIVE ARBITRATION ACT. THERE WAS A EDITORIAL IN THE CANDID THAT I THINK IS REALLY ON POINT AND IT POINTS OUT HOW THEY'RE NOT REQUIRED OR YOU KNOW WE'RE PROTECTING THEY'RE PROTECTED AND ALL WE'RE ASKING NOW IS THAT THEY JUST

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DISCLOSE WHETHER HAVE THEY HAVE MALPRACTICE INSURANCE OR NOT. AND NOW THIS BIG OBJECTION AND IT IT'S KIND OF THE LEAST THAT WE CAN ASK WHEN THEY HAVE SUCH A GREAT PROTECTION THAT IS NOT PROVIDED BY ANY OTHER STATE. NONE. SO COMPARING US ASKING THIS INFORMATION TO ANY OTHER STATE THAT DOES NOT PROTECT THEM FROM HARM PROTECT PATIENTS FROM HARM THE WAY GUAM YOU KNOW STATUTES SEEM TO PROTECT DOCTORS FROM ANSWERING TO THAT. THAT'S THOSE ARE APPLES AND ORANGES.

SENATOR MATANANE

IF YOU COULD WRAP UP, SENATOR.

SENATOR TERLAJE

YES. THANK YOU. SO AGAIN, I JUST THINK IT IT'S THERE'S NOTHING CONTRADICTORY AND YOU KNOW THIS THING AGAIN THEY GET VERY PERSONAL TO ATTACK THE SENATOR WHO SPONSORED THE BILL TO SAY THAT OH SHE HAS A SPECIAL INTEREST, A SPECIAL INTEREST TO SUPPORT MALPRACTICE ATTORNEYS. WELL, THERE AREN'T VERY MANY, IF ANY, LEFT ON GUAM, ESPECIALLY ONES THAT WILL GO AFTER DOCTORS AND HAVE TO PAY THE COST OF THE ARBITRATION. THERE ARE I CAN'T EVEN THINK OF ANY. AND IT'S REALLY, IT'S SO, I DON'T KNOW. I HOPE THE PEOPLE OF GUAM ARE NOT FOOLED BY THAT. THAT WE THE LAW PROTECTS DOCTORS WITH THIS SPECIAL LAW NOWHERE ELSE IN THE NATION. AND YET THEY CAN'T DISCLOSE TO US WHETHER THEY HAVE INSURANCE OR NOT. YES OR NO. THAT'S IT. THERE'S NO PENALTY IF YOU DON'T HAVE IT. YOU ONLY HAVE TO SAY WHETHER YOU HAVE IT OR NOT. AND WHETHER YOU WORK IN THE GOVERNMENT OR YOU WORK IN PRIVATE, IT IS SO SIMPLE. AND YET THE PROTECTION THAT THEY HAVE IS SO GREAT AND I THINK THAT'S THE VERY LEAST THAT WE CAN ASK FOR. THIS IS JUST A TELL THE TRUTH BILL REALLY. SI YU'OS MA'ASE.

SENATOR MATANANE

THANK YOU, SENATOR TERLAJE. SENATOR BARNETT.

SENATOR BARNETT

SI YU'OS MA'ASE, MADAM CHAIR. MANA SI YU'OS AGAIN MS. SABLAN. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TESTIMONY. SINCE WE'RE READING OFF A TESTIMONY, I WANTED TO READ THE TESTIMONY OF MR. CARLOS PANGELINAN INTO THE RECORD PARTIAL OF A BIT OF HIS TESTIMONY. HE WRITES, "LEGISLATIONS SUCH AS BILL 322 IS NOT NOVEL. THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, STATE LEGISLATURES HAVE AND CONTINUE TO ENACT LAWS TO STRENGTHEN TRANSPARENCY THROUGH PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE. FOLLOWING AN INJURY LATE LAST YEAR IN THE STATES, I WAS PLACED IN A VERY PRECARIOUS SITUATION IN WHICH MY PROVIDERS WERE ARGUING OVER A DIAGNOSIS. AN INFORMED CONSTITUENCY IS THE KEY TO BUILDING CONFIDENCE IN AN ALREADY CHALLENGED HEALTH CARE SYSTEM. THE SAME WAY A MOTORIST DRIVES KNOWING THAT OTHER DRIVERS ARE SUBJECT TO A UNIVERSAL LAW REQUIRING EVERYONE TO HAVE BASIC MINIMAL AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE. PATIENTS SHOULD KNOW OR AT LEAST HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW WHETHER THE PHYSICIANS THEY SEE OR ARE

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REFERRED TO HAVE SOME KIND OF COVERAGE. THIS BILL DOES WORK TO THAT GOAL. THAT'S FROM CARLOS PANGELINAN AND DAVID LUBOVSKI ALSO SUBMITTED TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF THE BILL. PORTION OF HIS TESTIMONY READS THAT THE BILL STRENGTHENS PHYSICIAN PROFILES BY REQUIRING REPORTING OF PRACTICE CAPACITY, INSURANCE STATUS, GOVERNMENT LIABILITY INFORMATION, AND BY ENSURING THAT THIS INFORMATION IS MAINTAINED IN A TIMELY AND ACCURATE MANNER, REFLECTING THE CORE PURPOSE OF THE BILL. ACCOUNTABILITY IMPROVES HEALTHCARE. TRANSPARENCY SUPPORTS PATIENT CHOICE. NATIONAL STUDIES FROM JOHN HOPKINS, THE INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE, AND STATE MEDICAL BOARDS SHOW THAT WHEN PATIENTS HAVE ACCESS TO CLEAR INFORMATION ABOUT THEIR PROVIDERS, OUTCOMES IMPROVE. HOSPITALS RESPOND FASTER, ENSURES NATIONALLY INTERVENE SOONER, PATIENTS AVOID HIGH-RISK PROVIDERS. TRANSPARENCY REDUCES REPEAT NEGLIGENCE. ACCOUNTABILITY REDUCES PREVENTABLE HARM. I TAKE OFFENSE TO THE ALLEGATION THAT THE AUTHOR AND THE CO-SPONSORS OF THIS BILL WERE SOMEHOW INVOLVED IN A SPECIAL INTEREST, MOVEMENT. IT'S HIGHLY OFFENSIVE BECAUSE I'M SUPPORTING THE BILL TO INCREASE ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY FOR OUR PATIENTS, HERE ON GUAM. YOU KNOW, FULL DISCLOSURE, I'M A PATIENT OF DR. HOA NGUYEN. HE TREATS MY CHILDREN. WE HAVE A GOOD RELATIONSHIP BUT ONE THING I'VE NOTICED ABOUT THE DOCTORS ON THIS ISLAND IS THEY VEHEMENTLY OPPOSE ANY MEASURE TO INCREASE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THE PATIENTS. IN FACT, IT SEEMS LIKE THE ONLY LEGISLATION THEY SUPPORT IS TAX BREAKS, WHETHER THAT'S THE BPT OR THE TAX BREAK FOR THE MEDICAID. AND AS FAR AS THIS TESTIMONY FROM THE GUAM MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, RESPECTFULLY, IT'S FULL OF RED HERRINGS, DEFLECTIONS, AND DISTRACTIONS. YOU KNOW, THIS IDEA THAT WE'RE SELECTIVELY TARGETING PHYSICIANS AND WE'RE NOT TRYING TO ASK IF KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS HAVE AN ONLY FANS IS FRANKLY RIDICULOUS BECAUSE KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS CANNOT HARM, MAIM, OR KILL THEIR PATIENTS THE WAY THAT DOCTORS CAN. AND AS FAR AS THE ALLEGATION THAT THIS BILL HAS INTRODUCED FOR MALPRACTICE ATTORNEYS, DR. HOA IN HIS TESTIMONY WAS CORRECT. THERE'S ONLY BEEN JUST A COUPLE OF LAWSUITS BECAUSE OUR EXISTING MEDICAL MALPRACTICE LAW MAKES IT VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR OUR PATIENTS TO SEEK REDRESS, ACCOUNTABILITY OR TRANSPARENCY FROM THE PHYSICIAN COMMUNITY ON GUAM. AND MY DEAR PEOPLE OF GUAM, THIS BILL DOES NOT REQUIRE DOCTORS TO TAKE ACTION ON ANYTHING. ALL IT REQUIRES IS A DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION THAT IS REQUIRED IN MANY STATES. AND WE'RE JUST TALKING ABOUT A DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION. THE TESTIMONY SAYS THAT DOCTORS ARE WORRIED ABOUT BEING STALKED BECAUSE THEY'RE GOING TO BE REQUIRED TO DISCLOSE WHERE THEY WORK. THAT'S ABSOLUTELY FALSE. THE BILL ONLY REQUIRES THE DOCTORS TO DISCLOSE WHETHER THEY WORK IN A PUBLIC SETTING LIKE THE GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL OR A PRIVATE SETTING LIKE A PRIVATE CLINIC. AND I JUST WOULD LIKE TO ALSO STATE THAT EXISTING LAW PROVIDES PATIENTS AND INTERESTED PARTIES, THE ABILITY TO ACCESS MORE DETAILED INFORMATION THAN THIS BILL PROVIDES. TO INCLUDE ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE OFFICES MAINTAINED BY THE PRACTITIONER, OFFICE HOURS REGULARLY MAINTAINED BY THE PRACTITIONER, AFFILIATIONS WITH HOSPITALS OR CLINICS, WHETHER A LICENCY PROVIDES SERVICES UNDER A SPECIFIED PRIVATE OR PUBLIC INSURANCE PLAN OR HEALTH CARE PLAN. SO ALREADY UNDER EXISTING LAW THE BOARD IS REQUIRED TO FURNISH THIS INFORMATION TO INTERESTED MEMBERS OF THE

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PUBLIC WITHIN FOUR WORKING DAYS. SO, WHILE THE DOCTOR AND THE GUAM MEDICAL ASSOCIATION ARE WORRIED ABOUT THE DEPTH OF INFORMATION THAT'S GOING TO BE PROVIDED, THERE'S ALREADY STATUTES ON THE BOOKS THAT GIVE PATIENTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ACCESS TO A LOT MORE INFORMATION THAN THIS BILL REQUIRES. AND SO, YOU KNOW, I FIND IT DEEPLY DISAPPOINTING THAT ANYTIME WE TRY TO MAKE INROADS WITH PATIENT TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY, WE ARE MET WITH THREATS THAT, YOU KNOW, THE DOCTORS ARE GOING TO LEAVE OR THE CLINICS ARE GOING TO CLOSE. AND YOU KNOW, IF I HAD A DOLLAR FOR EVERY TIME A DOCTOR THREATENED TO LEAVE ISLAND BASED ON A PIECE OF LEGISLATION, YOU KNOW, I PROBABLY WOULDN'T BE HERE, YOU KNOW, AND IN FACT, WE PASSED LEGISLATION AND SOME OF THESE DOCTORS WHO THREATENED TO LEAVE ARE STILL HERE SERVING OUR COMMUNITY. AND FOR THAT WE ARE GRATEFUL MADAM CHAIR BUT I'M JUST NOT GOING TO APOLOGIZE FOR TRYING TO INCREASE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THE PEOPLE AND THE PATIENTS OF GUAM WITH ALL THE RESPECT DUE SI YU'OS MA'ASE MADAM CHAIR FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK ON THE MEASURE AND THANK YOU AGAIN TO THE DOCTORS FOR THEIR TESTIMONY THIS MORNING.

SENATOR MATANANE

THANK YOU, SENATOR BARNETT. SENATOR TAITAGUE YOU MAY CLOSE ON BILL 322.

SENATOR TAITAGUE

THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR, AND AGAIN, THANK YOU FOR HOLDING THIS PUBLIC HEARING. AND OF COURSE, I'M VERY GRATEFUL FOR THOSE WHO CAME TO TESTIFY BECAUSE THE PEOPLE OF GUAM CAN HEAR FOR THEMSELVES THEIR COMMENTS AND WHETHER THEY BELIEVE SOME OF THE ACCUSATIONS THEY MADE IS WELL TRUE TO FORM OR IF THEY REALLY HAVE SOMETHING TO HIDE FOR SOME REASON, I DON'T UNDERSTAND. BUT MADAME CHAIR, THE LAST TESTIMONY THAT I HAVE HERE, I ASKED THAT I READ IT INTO THE RECORD BECAUSE THIS IS ONE TESTIMONY OF A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS WHO SUBMITTED WRITTEN TESTIMONY AND PROBABLY THIS IS THE MOST COURAGEOUS DOCTOR ON THIS ISLAND TO DO SO. AND AGAIN, HE IS A BOARD MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS. IT'S THE GUAM MEDICAL CARE LLC. AND THE WRITTEN TESTIMONY THAT HE PROVIDED WHEN WE FIRST HAD THE PUBLIC HEARING, BUT IT WAS CANCELLED DUE TO YOUR ILLNESS. AND THEN, FROM THAT TIME, THAT WEEK AND A HALF, YOU KNOW, HE WAS GETTING PRESSURED BY DOCTORS TO RETRACT HIS TESTIMONY. BUT FOR THE COURAGEOUS DOCTOR HE IS, HE SAID NO. JUNE 2026 WRITTEN TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF BILL 233, I MEAN 2 322-38. MY NAME IS DR. JEFFREY P. GALLO. I'M A BOARD CERTIFIED PHYSICIAN AND A FELLOW IN FAMILY MEDICINE. ALTHOUGH I SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS, I AM SUBMITTING THIS WRITTEN TESTIMONY SOLELY IN MY PRIVATE CAPACITY AS A PARTICIPATING PHYSICIAN IN FAMILY MEDICINE. I HAVE PROVIDED CARE TO THE PEOPLE OF GUAM FOR THE PAST 28 YEARS. I'M WRITING IN STRONG SUPPORT OF BILL 322-38. THIS LEGISLATION PROMOTES GREATER TRANSPARENCY FOR PATIENTS. WHEN PATIENTS LOOK UP PHYSICIANS PROFILE ON THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINER'S WEBSITE UNDER THE PHYSICIANS PROFILE SECTION, THEY WILL NOW BE ABLE TO CLEARLY SEE WHETHER THAT PHYSICIAN PRACTICES IN THE PRIVATE CAPACITY UNDER GOVERNMENT OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT OR BOTH OR WHETHER

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THEY MAINTAIN PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE OR ARE COVERED UNDER THE GUAM GOVERNMENT OF GUAM CLAIMS ACT. THIS INFORMATION ALLOWS PATIENTS TO MAKE TRULY INFORMED DECISIONS ABOUT THEIR HEALTH CARE AND PROVIDES THEM WITH IMPORTANT PROFESSIONAL ASSURANCE REGARDING LIABILITY PROTECTION. FOR THESE REASONS, I RESPECTFULLY URGE THE GUAM LEGISLATURE TO PASS BILL 322-38. GREATER TRANSPARENCY BUILDS PUBLIC TRUST AND STRENGTHENS OUR HEALTH CARE SYSTEM. THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT THIS TESTIMONY. I HAVE TO SAY, MADAM CHAIR, IN MY CLOSING, I HAVE BEEN BULLIED BY DOCTORS, ESPECIALLY WHEN IT CAME TO THE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE ARBITRATION ACT AND TRIED TO REPEAL THAT AND FIND A CONSENSUS. AND IT WAS AND TODAY I'M STILL IT SOUNDS LIKE I'M STILL GETTING BULLIED BECAUSE THEY'RE SAYING I HAVE A SPECIAL INTEREST. WELL, YES, I DO. AND THAT SPECIAL INTEREST IS THE PEOPLE OF GUAM. AND I WANT THEM TO BE ABLE TO MAKE THEIR DECISION ON WHAT IS BEST FOR THEMSELF AND THEIR FAMILY WHEN IT COMES TO HEALTH CARE. YOU KNOW, I'VE EVEN LOST MADAM CHAIR. WELL, I RECEIVED A DEAR JOHN LETTER FROM A DOCTOR WHEN I WAS GOING THROUGH THE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE BILL WHEN THE DOCTORS DID NOT AGREE THAT THEY SENT ME A DEAR JOHN LETTER AND REFUSED TO CONTINUE MY CARE WHILE I WAS DEALING WITH A MAJOR, MAJOR ILLNESS. BUT THAT'S NOT GOING TO STOP ME. PEOPLE OF GUAM PUT ME IN THIS POSITION TO FIGHT FOR THEM, FIGHT FOR THEIR RIGHTS AND FIGHT TO BE TRANSPARENT AND ACCOUNTABLE. AND WHETHER IT COSTS ME TO LOSE MY DOCTOR BECAUSE OF IT. BECAUSE WE HAVE DOCTORS HERE ON THIS ISLAND WHO CONTINUE TO NOT ONLY BULLY OTHER DOCTORS WHO WANT TO COME FORWARD, BUT PATIENTS TRYING TO FORCE THEM TO DO WHAT THEY WANT. WHAT ARE THEY HIDING? IT MAKES YOU WONDER. A SIMPLE BILL LIKE THIS, JUST LIKE MY COLLEAGUES, I'D LIKE TO THANK THE CO-SPONSORS OF THIS BILL, SENATOR BARNETT, SENATOR THERESE TERLAJE, WHO MADE A LOT OF SENSE, AND OF COURSE, SENATOR PEREZ FOR THEIR SUPPORT ON THIS LEGISLATION. MADAM CHAIR, I'D LIKE TO WORK WITH YOUR COMMITTEE TO ENSURE THAT NOT ONLY THIS BILL GETS THROUGH, BUT THE LAW THAT WAS ALREADY PASSED 10 YEARS AGO TO PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION ON THE WEBSITE OF A DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SERVICES, WHICH PROVIDES A WHOLE LOT MORE INFORMATION THAN JUST WHETHER YOU WORK FOR THE PRIVATE OR THE PUBLIC SECTOR AND WHETHER YOU HAVE INSURANCE OR NOT. THIS IS A DISSERVICE TO OUR PEOPLE AND I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO FOLLOWING THROUGH WITH THIS ON PUBLIC HEALTH TOO AS WELL. WHAT I CAN DO TO ASSIST THEM TO GET THIS INFORMATION THROUGH AND I DON'T THINK IT'S GOING TO COST \$170,000 TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS. EVEN AI IS FREE. SO, OTHER THAN THAT, MADAM CHAIR, AGAIN, I THANK YOU FOR HEARING THIS PUBLIC HEARING AND LOOKING FORWARD TO TRYING TO MOVE THIS THROUGH THE PROCESS TO HAVE ITS TIME ON THE SESSION FLOOR. AND I THANK ALL THOSE WHO CAME TO WHO TESTIFIED AND THOSE WHO PROVIDED WRITTEN TESTIMONY AND LOOKING FORWARD TO ANY ADDITIONAL TESTIMONY THAT MAY COME UP. I KNOW THAT KANDIT JUST POSTED SOMETHING ON KANDIT NEWS AND ASKED THE PEOPLE TO READ THAT TESTIMONY FROM THEM. IT'S VERY CLEAR AND PRECISE THAT THE PEOPLE DO COME FIRST. THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

SENATOR MATANANE

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THANK YOU, SENATOR TAITAGUE. AND OF COURSE WE WILL WORK WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH BECAUSE IT IS CONCERNING THAT THE PATIENT PROTECTION THROUGH INFORMATION ACT WHICH WAS SPEARHEADED BY SENATOR TINA ROSE MUNA BARNES SEVERAL YEARS AGO MORE THAN A DECADE AGO I WANT TO SAY AND TO HEAR THAT IT IS NOT FULLY IMPLEMENTED TO HEAR THAT DISCIPLINED DOCTORS ARE NOT POSTED ONTO THE WEBSITE THAT IS CONCERNING BECAUSE THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A TOOL FOR PATIENTS AND THE PEOPLE OF GUAM TO BE ABLE TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT THEIR PHYSICIANS HAVE EVER BEEN DISCIPLINED. SO HOPEFULLY WE CAN GET THAT TURNED ON WHOEVER THIS WEBSITE VENDOR IS THAT YOU HAVE AT PUBLIC HEALTH. SO AGAIN, THANK YOU TO EVERYBODY THAT HAS COME TO TESTIFY ON THIS BILL AS WELL AS THE PREVIOUS BILL INTRODUCED BY THE RANKING MEMBER. THIS CONCLUDES TODAY'S PUBLIC HEARING BY THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTHCARE AND VETERANS AFFAIRS. THE TIME IS NOW 11:35. BE SAFE EVERYBODY.

III. Findings and Recommendations

Findings

- Bill 308-38 seeks to create a clearer statutory framework for local supervision and training of post-doctoral clinical psychology trainees seeking licensure on Guam.
- Testimony generally supported the bill as a way to address Guam’s behavioral health workforce shortage, expand local training opportunities, and help retain homegrown mental health professionals.
- Witnesses emphasized that clinical supervision must be structured, competency-based, ethical, and subject to Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners approval to protect patients and ensure quality care.
- Stakeholders identified limited access to supervised post-doctoral hours on Guam as a barrier that often forces local graduates to complete training off island.
- Concerns were raised regarding the need for immediate or same-premises supervision, especially where patient safety, confidentiality, documentation, and telehealth limitations are involved.
- Committee discussion also identified the need to clarify bill language so that the supervised experience is expressly post-graduate, clinical, and board-approved.

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Recommendations

- Amend the bill to specify that qualifying supervised training must be a board-approved post-graduate clinical internship or post-doctoral supervised clinical experience.
- Include language requiring supervision to occur under the immediate supervision of a licensed clinical psychologist, licensed psychiatrist, or other board-approved licensed professional who is on the same premises and ultimately responsible for services rendered.
- Require the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners to approve supervisors and training programs using clear standards aligned with nationally recognized psychology supervision guidelines.
- Establish a practical implementation timeline for HPLO and the Board to develop checklists, procedures, and review criteria after enactment.
- Consider workforce incentives or funded residency pathways to encourage qualified Guam residents and graduates to return, train, and practice locally.
- Preserve patient protection as the primary objective while expanding Guam’s capacity to train and retain qualified clinical psychologists.

The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs hereby reports- out on [Bill No. 308-38 \(COR\)](#) - Tina Rose Muña-Barnes. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.” With the recommendation TO REPORT OUT ONLY .

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

Bill No. 308-38 (COR)

Introduced by:

Tina Rose Muña-Barnes 

**AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 121202(b)(1), GUAM CODE
ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE
TRAINING OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS TO
ALLOW FOR SUPERVISION IN GUAM.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that clinical psychologists are crucial in providing care in mental and behavioral health and wellbeing for people on our island. Over one billion people globally are living with mental health disorders, and the island of Guam is not excluded from this count. Clinical psychologists aid in the diagnosis and treatment of these disorders.

I Liheslaturan Guåhan further finds that it is difficult for interns in clinical psychology to find opportunities to complete post-doctorate training before licensure. Throughout the states, in compliance with national guidelines for psychology, licensed clinical psychologists are able to supervise students and interns of psychology so that they may obtain the clinical hours required for licensure.

It is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to establish a clear framework for training of post-doctorate interns of clinical psychology under the Guam Board of Allied Health by adding Article 12, Chapter 12, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated to define who can supervise these interns.

1 **Section 2.** A new § 121202(b)(1) is added to Article 12, Chapter 12, Title 10,
2 Guam Code Annotated, to read:

3 “(1) An individual who has not completed one (1) year of post-graduate
4 clinical experience, or who cannot document such experience under the supervision
5 of a Clinical Psychologist, Psychiatrist or other licensed professional deemed by the
6 Board to be substantially equivalent, may satisfy supervision requirement in a board-
7 approved internship program.

8 (A) The internship program must be approved by the Board prior to the
9 applicant’s participation;

10 (B) Supervision shall be provided by a licensed Clinical Psychologist,
11 Psychiatrist, or other licensed professional deemed by the board to be
12 substantially equivalent, who is authorized to provide such supervision in the
13 United States, its territories, or in a a foreign jurisdiction that the Board
14 determines, on a case by case basis, maintains licensure and supervision
15 standards substantially equivalent to those of the United States; and

16 (C) Any individual providing supervision within Guam shall:

17 (i) hold a current and valid license as a Clinical Psychologist or
18 other licensed profession deemed by the Board to be substantially
19 equivalent;

20 (ii) have held such license for a minimum of three (3) years; and

21 (iii) be approved by the Board to provide supervision.”

22 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Act shall take effect upon enactment.



COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

April 30, 2026

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

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

Subject: **Fiscal Note Waiver for Bill No. 308-38 (COR)**

Håfa Adai!

Find the attached, Fiscal Note Waiver for the following bill:

Bill No. 308-38 (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

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LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
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JOSHUA F. TENORIO
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LESTER L. CARLSON, JR.
DIRECTOR

APR 29 2026

Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada
Chairperson, Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Thirty-Eighth Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Hafa adai, Vice Speaker Ada:

The Bureau requests that Bill No. 308-38 (COR) be granted a waiver pursuant to Public Law 12-229 as amended for the following reason(s):

Bill No. 308-38 (COR) is an act to add a new § 121202(b)(1), Guam Code Annotated, relative to regulating the training of clinical psychologists to allow for supervision in Guam. The proposed legislation intends to establish a clear framework for training of post-doctorate interns of clinical psychology under the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners (GBAHE) by adding Article 12, Chapter 12, Guam Code Annotated, to define who can supervise these interns.

Per correspondence with the Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS), the proposed amendments will have no fiscal impact on its current administrative operations as the regulatory framework will be managed within the existing operational capacity and administrative functions of the GBAHE. As such, this bill is administrative and regulatory in nature and poses no fiscal impact upon any funds of the Government of Guam.

Senseramente,

LESTER L. CARLSON, JR.