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
366-38 (LS)	Sabrina Salas Matanane	AN ACT TO *ADD* A NEW § 28611 TO ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND TO AMEND §§ 28602, 28603, 28604, 28605, 28608, 28609, AND 28610 OF ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE NURSING TRAINING PROGRAM TO NURSING STUDENTS AT THE GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE.	9/28/26 4:23 p.m. ^10/9/26 10:25 a.m.	10/9/26	Committee on Education, Libraries and Public Broadcasting.	Request: 10/9/26 10/26/26	10/27/26 9:00 a.m.	11/19/26	

Office of Senator
Vincent A. V. Borja
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

DNA BUILDING
SUITE 502
238 ARCHBISHOP FLORES ST.
HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96910
TEL 671-969-8423

CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, LIBRARIES
AND PUBLIC
BROADCASTING

November 19, 2026

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

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

RE: Committee Report on Bill No. 366-38 (LS)

Buenas yan Håfa Ådai Speaker,

Transmitted herewith for your consideration is the Committee Report on **Bill No. 366-38 (LS), *As Introduced*** – Sabrina Salas Matanane – "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 28611 TO ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND TO AMEND §§ 28602, 28603, 28604, 28605, 28608, 28609, AND 28610 OF ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE NURSING TRAINING PROGRAM TO NURSING STUDENTS AT THE GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE."

Committee votes are as follows:

2 TO DO PASS

_____ TO NOT PASS

4 TO REPORT OUT ONLY

_____ TO ABSTAIN

_____ TO PLACE IN ACTIVE FILE

COMMITTEE ON RULES
RECEIVED:
November 19, 2026 11:54 a.m.
Marie Crisostomo

Best Regards,

Senator Vincent A.V. Borja
Chairman, Committee on Education, Libraries, and Public Broadcasting
I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Office of Senator
Vincent A. V. Borja
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

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CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, LIBRARIES
AND PUBLIC
BROADCASTING

COMMITTEE REPORT

BILL NO. 366-38 (LS)

Introduced by: Sabrina Salas Matanane

"AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 28611 TO ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND TO AMEND §§ 28602, 28603, 28604, 28605, 28608, 28609, AND 28610 OF ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE NURSING TRAINING PROGRAM TO NURSING STUDENTS AT THE GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE."

Office of Senator
Vincent A. V. Borja
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

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HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96910
TEL 671-969-8423

CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, LIBRARIES
AND PUBLIC
BROADCASTING

November 18, 2026

MEMORANDUM

To: **All Members**
Committee on Education, Libraries, and Public Broadcasting

From: **Senator Vincent A.V. Borja**
Chairperson, Committee on Education, Libraries, and Public Broadcasting

Subject: **Committee Report on Bill No. 366-38 (LS)**

Transmitted herewith for your consideration is the Committee Report on **Bill No. 366-38 (LS),** ***As Introduced*** – Sabrina Salas Matanane – "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 28611 TO ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND TO AMEND §§ 28602, 28603, 28604, 28605, 28608, 28609, AND 28610 OF ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE NURSING TRAINING PROGRAM TO NURSING STUDENTS AT THE GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE."

This report includes the following:

- Copy of COR Referral of Bill No. 366-38 (LS)
- Notices of Public Hearing
- Copy of the Public Hearing Agenda
- Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet
- Copies of Submitted Written Testimony & Other Correspondence
- Committee Vote Sheet
- Committee Report Digest
- Copy of Bill No. 366-38 (LS), *As Introduced*
- Fiscal Note/Fiscal Note Waiver

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

Best Regards,

Senator Vincent A.V. Borja
Chairman, Committee on Education, Libraries, and Public Broadcasting
I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan

COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

October 9, 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. 366-38 (LS)**

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. 366-38 (LS)** - Sabrina Salas Matanane.– "AN ACT TO ADD A *NEW* § 28611 TO ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND TO AMEND §§ 28602, 28603, 28604, 28605, 28608, 28609, AND 28610 OF ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE NURSING TRAINING PROGRAM TO NURSING STUDENTS AT THE GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE."

Please ensure that the subject bill is referred to the Committee on Education, Libraries, and Public Broadcasting chaired by Senator Vincent A.V. Borja. 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.

Gmail

Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>

FIRST NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – OCTOBER 27, 2026

2 messages

Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com> Tue, Oct 20, 2026 at 6:30 AM
To: phnotice@guamlegislature.gov, Ed Pocaigue <sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov>
Bcc: newsdirector@guamnewsnetwork.com, "news@kanditnews.com" <NEWS@kanditnews.com>

October 20, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL SENATORS, STAKEHOLDERS, MEDIA

FROM: SENATOR VINCENT A.V. BORJA
CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, LIBRARIES, AND PUBLIC BROADCASTING

RE: FIRST NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – OCTOBER 27, 2026

Håfa Adai! The Committee on Education, Libraries & Public Broadcasting will conduct a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, October 27, 2026, beginning at 9:00 A.M.,** in the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building.

The Committee will hear and accept testimony on the following:

I. Doc. No. 38GL-26-2711 – The Appointment of Richard P. Sablan to serve as a Member (Business Industry - Representative), Board of Trustees, Guam Community College – Five (5) Years; From Date of Confirmation.

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How to Participate: Written testimony may be delivered to the Office of Senator Vincent A. V. Borja, DNA Building Suite 502, 238 Archbishop Flores Street, Hagåtña, Guam 96910, or via email to contact@senatorvinceborja.com. The Committee requests that testimonies be submitted at least forty-eight (48) hours before the scheduled hearing.

Please confirm your attendance by contacting the office of Senator Vincent A. V. Borja via email at contact@senatorvinceborja.com or by voice call at (671) 969-8423.

Special Accommodations: All government activities, programs, and services are accessible for people with disabilities in compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). For assistance or special accommodations to fully participate in this public hearing, please contact the office of Senator Vincent A.V. Borja at (671) 969-8423 or via email at contact@senatorvinceborja.com.

Watch Live/Record: The hearing will be broadcast live 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.

Respectfully,

Office of Senator Vincent A.V. Borja

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

FIRST NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - OCTOBER 27, 2026.pdf
257K

Ed Pocaigue <sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov> Tue, Oct 20, 2026 at 7:35 AM
To: Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>

Hafa Adai,

Posted on calendar.
[Quoted text hidden]
--

Edward S. Pocaigue, Jr.
Sergeant-at-Arms

I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Guam Congress Building, 1st Floor
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

1-671-969-3514
sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov

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Office of Senator
Vincent A. V. Borja
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

DNA BUILDING
SUITE 502
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HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96910
TEL 671-969-8423

CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, LIBRARIES
AND PUBLIC
BROADCASTING

October 20, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL SENATORS, STAKEHOLDERS, MEDIA

FROM: SENATOR VINCENT A.V. BORJA
CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, LIBRARIES, AND PUBLIC BROADCASTING

RE: FIRST NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – OCTOBER 27, 2026

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FIRST NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – OCTOBER 27, 2026

PRINT

FIRST NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – OCTOBER 27, 2026

PUBLIC HEARING

Posted on: 10/20/2026 07:43 AM

Posted by: Caden Poblete

Public Hearing Date: 10/27/2026 09:00 AM

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

Division(s):
OFFICE OF SENATOR VINCE BORJA (/notices?division_id=297)

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

October 20, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL SENATORS, STAKEHOLDERS, MEDIA

FROM: SENATOR VINCENT A.V. BORJA
CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, LIBRARIES, AND PUBLIC BROADCASTING

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II. **Bill No. 366-38 (LS) (https://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20366-38%20(LS)%20Referred%20Version.pdf)** - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 28611 TO ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND TO AMEND §§ 28602, 28603, 28604, 28605, 28608, 28609, AND 28610 OF ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE NURSING TRAINING PROGRAM TO NURSING STUDENTS AT THE GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

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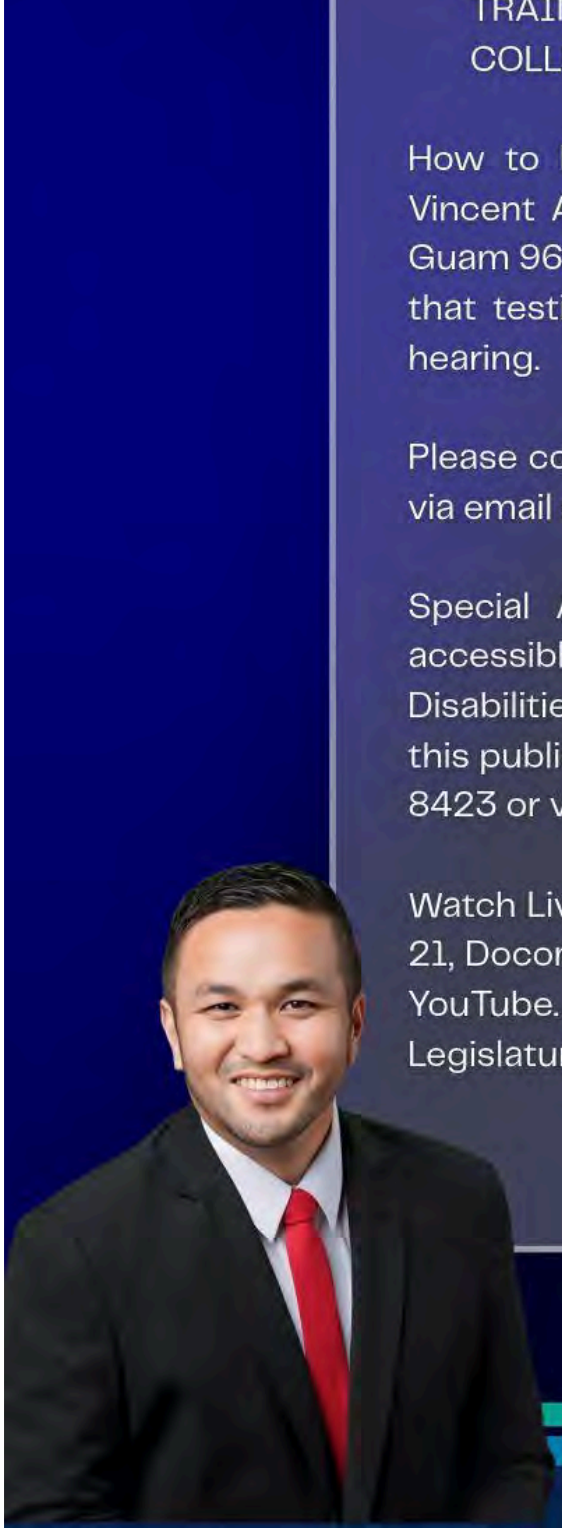

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PUBLIC NOTICES VINCE BORJA

Gmail

Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>

SECOND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – OCTOBER 27, 2026

1 message

Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com> Sun, Oct 25, 2026 at 6:30 AM
To: phnotice@guamlegislature.gov, Ed Pocaigue <sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov>
Bcc: newsdirector@guamnewsnetwork.com, "news@kanditnews.com" <NEWS@kanditnews.com>

October 25, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL SENATORS, STAKEHOLDERS, MEDIA

FROM: SENATOR VINCENT A.V. BORJA
CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, LIBRARIES, AND PUBLIC BROADCASTING

RE: SECOND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – OCTOBER 27, 2026

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Respectfully,

Office of Senator Vincent A.V. Borja

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

SECOND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - OCTOBER 27, 2026.pdf
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Office of Senator
Vincent A. V. Borja
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

DNA BUILDING
SUITE 502
238 ARCHBISHOP FLORES ST.
HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96910
TEL 671-969-8423

CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, LIBRARIES
AND PUBLIC
BROADCASTING

October 25, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL SENATORS, STAKEHOLDERS, MEDIA

FROM: SENATOR VINCENT A.V. BORJA
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SECOND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – OCTOBER 27, 2026

PRINT

SECOND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – OCTOBER 27, 2026

PUBLIC HEARING

Posted on: 10/24/2026 09:43 PM

Posted by: Caden Poblete

Public Hearing Date: 10/27/2026 09:00 AM

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

Division(s):
OFFICE OF SENATOR VINCE BORJA (/notices?division_id=297)

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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October 25, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL SENATORS, STAKEHOLDERS, MEDIA

FROM: SENATOR VINCENT A.V. BORJA
CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, LIBRARIES, AND PUBLIC BROADCASTING

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to **contact@senatorvinceborja.com (mailto:contact@senatorvinceborja.com)**. The Committee requests that testimonies be submitted at least forty-eight (48) hours before the scheduled hearing.

Please confirm your attendance by contacting the office of Senator Vincent A. V. Borja via email at **contact@senatorvinceborja.com (mailto:contact@senatorvinceborja.com)** or by voice call at **(671) 969-8423 (tel:(671)%20969-8423)**.

Special Accommodations: All government activities, programs, and services are accessible for people with disabilities in compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). For assistance or special accommodations to fully participate in this public hearing, please contact the office of Senator Vincent A.V. Borja at **(671) 969-8423 (tel:(671)%20969-8423)** or via email at **contact@senatorvinceborja.com (mailto:contact@senatorvinceborja.com)**.

Watch Live/Record: The hearing will be broadcast live 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.

Notice of Public Hearing

The Committee on Education, Libraries, and Public Broadcasting will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday, October 27, 2026, beginning at 9:00 A.M., in the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building.

The Committee will hear and accept testimony on the following:

1. Doc. No. 38GL-26-2711 – The Appointment of Richard P. Sablan to serve as a Member (Business Industry - Representative), Board of Trustees, Guam Community College – Five (5) Years; From Date of Confirmation.
2. Bill No. 366-38 (LS) - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 28611 TO ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND TO AMEND §§ 28602, 28603, 28604, 28605, 28608, 28609, AND 28610 OF ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE NURSING TRAINING PROGRAM TO NURSING STUDENTS AT THE GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

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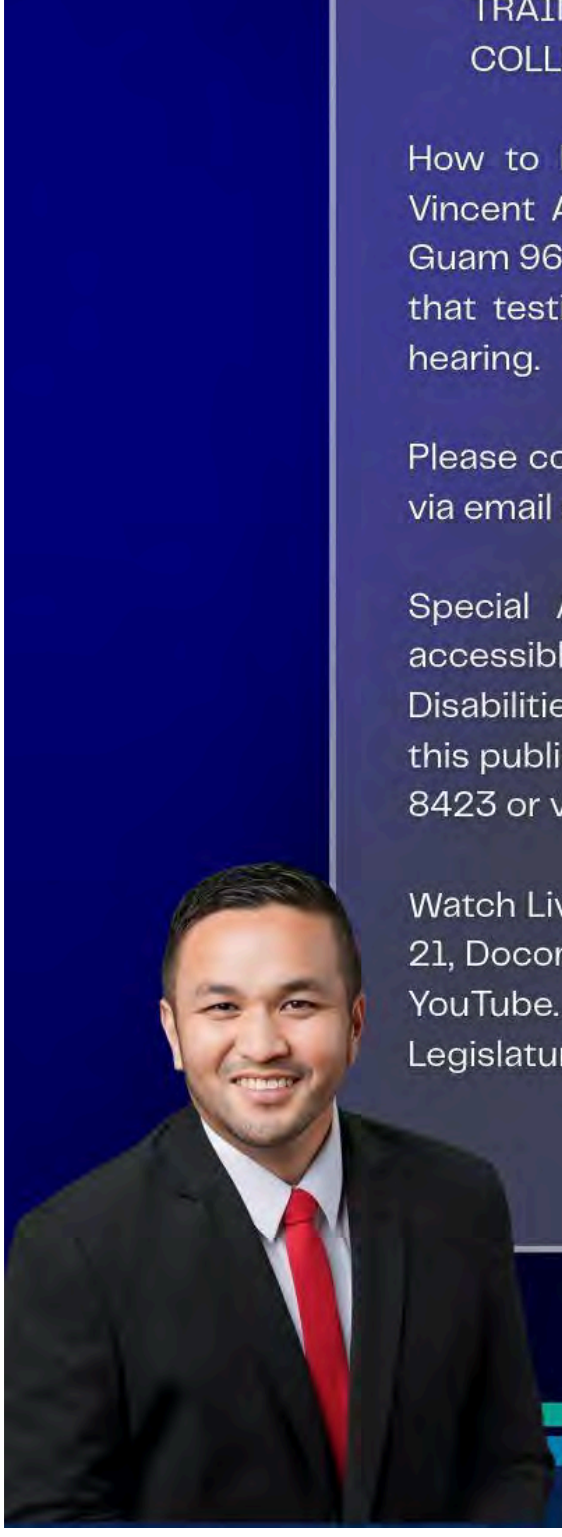

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PUBLIC NOTICES VINCE BORJA

Gmail

Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>

Invitation to Provide Testimony for Doc. No. 38GL-26-2711 and Bill No. 366-38 (LS)

1 message

Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com> Tue, Oct 20, 2026 at 7:50 AM
To: Virginia Tudela <virginia.tudela@guamcc.edu>

October 20, 2026

Dr. Virginia Tudela
Interim President, Guam Community College
1 Sesame Street
Mangilao, Guam, 96923
VIA EMAIL: virginia.tudela@guamcc.edu

Subject: Invitation to Provide Testimony for Doc. No. 38GL-26-2711 and Bill No. 366-38 (LS)

Dear Dr. Tudela,

As part of my commitment to engaging stakeholders in the legislative process, I am writing to invite your agency to participate in a public hearing regarding **Doc. No. 38GL-26-2711** and **Bill No. 366-38 (LS)** for **October 27, 2026, at 9:00 A.M.**

I. Doc. No. 38GL-26-2711 – The Appointment of Richard P. Sablan to serve as a Member (Business Industry - Representative), Board of Trustees, Guam Community College – Five (5) Years; From Date of Confirmation.

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Your agency's insights and expertise are invaluable in shaping the discussion around these important topics.

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Thank you for considering this invitation. I look forward to your positive response and to an engaging discussion on **October 27, 2026, at 9:00 A.M.**

Respectfully,

Office of Senator Vincent A.V. Borja

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

Invitation to Provide Testimony for Doc. No. 38GL-26-2711 - GCC President.pdf
341K

Office of Senator
Vincent A.V. Borja
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

DNA BUILDING
SUITE 502
238 ARCHBISHOP FLORES ST.
HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96910
TEL 671-969-8423

CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, LIBRARIES
AND PUBLIC
BROADCASTING

October 20, 2026

Dr. Virginia Tudela
Interim President, Guam Community College
1 Sesame Street
Mangilao, Guam, 96923
VIA EMAIL: virginia.tudela@guamcc.edu

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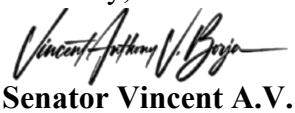
Sincerely,



Senator Vincent A.V. Borja
Committee on Education, Libraries, and Public Broadcasting
I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Gmail

Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>

Invitation to Provide Testimony for Doc. No. 38GL-26-2711 and Bill No. 366-38 (LS)

3 messages

Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com> Tue, Oct 20, 2026 at 7:50 AM
To: GCC Board of Trustees <boardoftrustees@guamcc.edu>

October 20, 2026

Mr. Carlo Leon Guerrero
Chairperson, Guam Community College Board of Trustees
1 Sesame St.
Mangilao, Guam, 96923
VIA EMAIL: boardoftrustees@guamcc.edu

Subject: Invitation to Provide Testimony for Doc. No. 38GL-26-2711 and Bill No. 366-38 (LS)

Dear Mr. Leon Guerrero,

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Respectfully,

Office of Senator Vincent A.V. Borja

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

Invitation to Provide Testimony for Doc. No. 38GL-26-2711 - GCC Board.pdf
340K

GCC Board of Trustees <boardoftrustees@guamcc.edu> Tue, Oct 20, 2026 at 11:46 AM
To: Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>

Hafa Adai,
Acknowledging receipt.
Thank you,
~Bertha Guerrero
Administrative Secretary
Guam Community College
(671)735-5636
[Quoted text hidden]

GUAMCOMMUNITYCOLLEGE

E-mail administered by Guam Community College

GCC Board of Trustees <boardoftrustees@guamcc.edu> Wed, Oct 21, 2026 at 7:57 AM
To: Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>
Cc: Barbara Blas <barbara.blas4@guamcc.edu>

Hafa Adai,
Please note GCC will be in attendance.
Thank you again,
~Bertha Guerrero
Administrative Secretary
Guam Community College
(671)735-5636
[Quoted text hidden]

Office of Senator
Vincent A.V. Borja
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

DNA BUILDING
SUITE 502
238 ARCHBISHOP FLORES ST.
HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96910
TEL 671-969-8423

CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, LIBRARIES
AND PUBLIC
BROADCASTING

October 20, 2026

Mr. Carlo Leon Guerrero
Chairperson, Board of Trustees, Guam Community College
1 Sesame Street
Mangilao, Guam, 96923
VIA EMAIL: boardoftrustees@guamcc.edu

Subject: Invitation to Provide Testimony for Doc. No. 38GL-26-2711 and Bill No. 366-38 (LS)

Dear Mr. Leon Guerrero,

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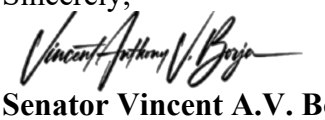
Thank you for considering this invitation. I look forward to your positive response and to an engaging discussion on **October 27, 2026, at 9:00 A.M.**

Sincerely,



Senator Vincent A.V. Borja
Committee on Education, Libraries, and Public Broadcasting
I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Gmail

Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>

Invitation to Provide Testimony for Bill No. 366-38 (LS)

1 message

Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com> Tue, Oct 20, 2026 at 7:50 AM
To: Breanna.sablan@dphss.guam.gov

October 20, 2026

Ms. Breanna B. Sablan
Acting Administrator, Guam Health Professional Lincensing Office/EMS Office
Terlaje Professional Building, Suite 213
194 Hernan Cortez Avenue
Hagatña, Guam 96910
VIA EMAIL: Breanna.sablan@dphss.guam.gov

Subject: Invitation to Provide Testimony for Bill No. 366-38 (LS)

Dear Ms. Sablan,

As part of my commitment to engaging stakeholders in the legislative process, I am writing to invite your agency to participate in a public hearing regarding **Bill No. 366-38 (LS)** for **October 27, 2026, at 9:00 A.M.**

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Respectfully,

Office of Senator Vincent A.V. Borja

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

Invitation to Provide Testimony for Bill No. 366-38 (LS) - GPHLO Administrator.pdf
342K

Office of Senator
Vincent A.V. Borja
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

DNA BUILDING
SUITE 502
238 ARCHBISHOP FLORES ST.
HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96910
TEL 671-969-8423

CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, LIBRARIES
AND PUBLIC
BROADCASTING

October 20, 2026

Ms. Breanna B. Sablan
Acting Administrator, Guam Health Professional Licensing Office/EMS Office
194 Hernan Cortez Avenue
Hagatña, Guam 96910
VIA EMAIL: Breanna.sablan@dphss.guam.gov

Subject: Invitation to Provide Testimony for Bill No. 366-38 (LS)

Dear Ms. Sablan,

As part of my commitment to engaging stakeholders in the legislative process, I am writing to invite your agency to participate in a public hearing regarding **Bill No. 366-38 (LS)** for **October 27, 2026, at 9:00 A.M.**

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Sincerely,

Senator Vincent A.V. Borja
Committee on Education, Libraries, and Public Broadcasting
I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Gmail

Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>

Invitation to Provide Testimony for Bill No. 366-38 (LS)

2 messages

Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com> Tue, Oct 20, 2026 at 7:50 AM
To: "Dr. Anita Enriquez" <abe@triton.uog.edu>

October 20, 2026

Dr. Anita Borja Enriquez
President, University of Guam
303 University Drive, UOG Station
Mangilao, Guam, 96023
VIA EMAIL: abe@triton.uog.edu

Subject: Invitation to Provide Testimony for Bill No. 366-38 (LS)

Dear Dr. Enriquez,

As part of my commitment to engaging stakeholders in the legislative process, I am writing to invite your agency to participate in a public hearing regarding **Bill No. 366-38 (LS)** for **October 27, 2026, at 9:00 A.M.**

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Respectfully,

Office of Senator Vincent A.V. Borja

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

Invitation to Provide Testimony for Bill No. 366-38 (LS) - UOG President.pdf
343K

Dr. Anita Enriquez <abe@triton.uog.edu> Tue, Oct 20, 2026 at 10:38 AM
To: Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>
Cc: Sharleen Santos-Bamba <sbamba@triton.uog.edu>, Artemio Hernandez <ahernandez@triton.uog.edu>, GENA A ROJAS <rojasg@triton.uog.edu>, Yvette Cepeda Paulino <paulinoy@triton.uog.edu>

Si Yu'os ma'ase' for this reminder. UOG plans to submit testimony.

Mås rikuetdo (With respect),

Anita Borja Enriquez, D.B.A.
President
UNIVERSITY OF GUAM
Unibetsedat Guåhan: "*Ina, Diskubre, Setbe* - To Enlighten, to Discover, to Serve"
Phone: (671) 735-2990, www.uog.edu

"The University of Guam is a U.S. Land Grant and Sea Grant Institution accredited by the WASC Senior College and University Commission. UOG is an equal opportunity provider and employer committed to island wisdom values of *inadahi yan inagofli'e*: respect, compassion, and community."

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From: Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2026 9:50 AM
To: Dr. Anita Enriquez <abe@triton.uog.edu>
Subject: Invitation to Provide Testimony for Bill No. 366-38 (LS)

[EXTERNAL EMAIL - Please use caution when opening attachments or clicking links.]

[Quoted text hidden]

Office of Senator
Vincent A.V. Borja
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

DNA BUILDING
SUITE 502
238 ARCHBISHOP FLORES ST.
HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96910
TEL 671-969-8423

CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, LIBRARIES
AND PUBLIC
BROADCASTING

October 20, 2026

Dr. Anita Borja Enriquez
President, University of Guam
303 University Drive
Mangilao, Guam, 96923
VIA EMAIL: abe@triton.uog.edu

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Senator Vincent A.V. Borja
Committee on Education, Libraries, and Public Broadcasting
I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Office of Senator
Vincent A. V. Borja
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

DNA BUILDING
SUITE 502
238 ARCHBISHOP FLORES ST.
HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96910
TEL 671-969-8423

CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, LIBRARIES
AND PUBLIC
BROADCASTING

PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA
Tuesday, October 27, 2026
Guam Congress Building, Public Hearing Room

AGENDA FOR 9:00 A.M:

I. Doc. No. 38GL-26-2711 – The Appointment of Richard P. Sablan to serve as a Member (Business Industry - Representative), Board of Trustees, Guam Community College – Five (5) Years; From Date of Confirmation.

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How to Participate: Written testimony may be delivered to the Office of Senator Vincent A. V. Borja, DNA Building Suite 502, 238 Archbishop Flores Street, Hagåtña Guam 96910, or via email to contact@senatorvinceborja.com. 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 Vincent A. V. Borja via email at contact@senatorvinceborja.com or via voice call at (671) 969-8423

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Chairperson on Education, Public Broadcasting & Libraries
Vincent A.V. Borja
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

DNA BUILDING
SUITE 502
238 ARCHBISHOP FLORES ST.
HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96910
TEL 671-969-8423

PUBLIC HEARING SIGN-IN SHEET
Tuesday, October 27, 2026 – 9:00 AM
Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building

Bill No. 366-38 (LS) - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 28611 TO ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND TO AMEND §§ 28602, 28603, 28604, 28605, 28608, 28609, AND 28610 OF ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE NURSING TRAINING PROGRAM TO NURSING STUDENTS AT THE GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

NAME:	AGENCY/ ORGANIZATION	POSITION	TESTIMONY	CONTACT INFORMATION
1. John Dela Rosa	GCC	SUPPORT ☑ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☐	[redacted]
2. Virginia Tudela	GCC	SUPPORT ☑ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☑	[redacted]
3. Carlo Leon Guerrero	GCC	SUPPORT ☑ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☑	[redacted]
4. Zennia Pecina	GCC	SUPPORT ☑ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☑	[redacted]
5. Tamara Therese Hinsa	GCC	SUPPORT ☑ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☐	[redacted]
6. Margarita Gay	DPHSS	SUPPORT ☐ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☐	[redacted]
7. Duenas, Bobbie	GCC	SUPPORT ☑ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☐	[redacted]
8. Rich Sablan	GCC	SUPPORT ☐ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☑ ORAL ☑	[redacted]
9. Jacqueline Song	GCC	SUPPORT ☑ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☑ ORAL ☑	[redacted]

Chairperson on Education, Public Broadcasting & Libraries
Vincent A.V. Borja
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

DNA Building
Suite 502
238 Archbishop Flores St.
Hagåtña, Guam 96910
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NAME:	AGENCY/ ORGANIZATION	POSITION	TESTIMONY	CONTACT INFORMATION
1. BARBARA MAFNAS	GCC	SUPPORT ☒ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☒ ORAL ☐	[redacted]
2. Veronica Fruge	GCC	SUPPORT ☒ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☐	[redacted]
3. GENA ROTAS	UOG	SUPPORT ☐ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☒	[redacted]
4. Anna Vaughn	UOG	SUPPORT ☐ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☒ ORAL ☐	[redacted]
5. Katrina Suing	GCC	SUPPORT ☒ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☐	[redacted]
6. Camille Mendiola	GCC	SUPPORT ☒ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☐	[redacted]
7. Janize Leonen	GCC	SUPPORT ☒ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☐	[redacted]
8. Navasca, Gr GCC	GCC	SUPPORT ☒ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☐	[redacted]
9. DE TORRES, KARLA J.	GCC	SUPPORT ☒ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☐	[redacted]

Chairperson on Education, Public Broadcasting & Libraries
Vincent A.V. Borja
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NAME:	AGENCY/ ORGANIZATION	POSITION	TESTIMONY	CONTACT INFORMATION
1. Mark Duart	UOG/FPO	SUPPORT ☒ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☐	[redacted]
2. Ysabel Buasuwan	GCC	SUPPORT ☑ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☐	
3. Cassandra Garrido	GCC	SUPPORT ☑ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☐	[redacted]
4. Edelisa Francisco	GCC	SUPPORT ☑ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☐	[redacted]
5. Jasmine Riglos	GCC	SUPPORT ☑ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☐	[redacted]
6. Ryan Mandapat	GCC	SUPPORT ☑ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☐	[redacted]
7. Billyas Otwell	GCC	SUPPORT ☑ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☐	[redacted]
8. KYLE AIMOITE	GCC	SUPPORT ☑ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☐	[redacted]
9. ARNIELA GAIL DIMABUYU	GCC	SUPPORT ☑ OPPOSE ☐	WRITTEN ☐ ORAL ☐	[redacted]
10. CRIZZIA PASATA	GCC	SUPPORT ✓		[redacted]
11. LYKA GAMBOA	GCC	SUPPORT ✓		[redacted]

GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Virginia C. Tudela, Ph.D.

October 27, 2026

The Honorable Vincent A.V. Borja
Senator, 38th Guam Legislature
Chairperson, Committee on Education, Libraries, and Public Broadcasting
DNA Building Suite 502
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Subject: Bill No. 366-38 (LS), *Relative to Extending the Nursing Training Program to Nursing Students at Guam Community College*

Håfa Adai, Chairman Borja and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of Guam Community College (GCC), I am pleased to express our strong support for Bill No. 366-38 (LS), introduced by Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane, which seeks to extend the benefits of Guam's Nursing Training Program to eligible nursing students at Guam Community College.

We commend Senator Matanane for recognizing the important role GCC plays in preparing Guam's healthcare workforce and for advancing legislation that promotes greater educational opportunities and equitable access to financial assistance for students pursuing nursing careers.

For nearly 50 years, Guam Community College has remained committed to providing accessible, affordable, and relevant education and training that responds directly to the workforce needs of our island. Our nursing and allied health programs reflect this commitment by preparing students with the knowledge, technical skills, and clinical experience necessary to enter professions essential to the health and well-being of our community.

As Interim President, I recognize that our responsibility extends beyond providing educational opportunities. We must ensure that our programs maintain high academic and professional standards, prepare students for successful careers, and remain responsive to the changing needs of Guam's workforce.

Guam's continuing shortage of qualified nurses remains a significant challenge for our healthcare system. Addressing this shortage requires a sustained and coordinated effort among our educational institutions, healthcare providers, and government partners to develop locally trained professionals who are prepared to serve our community.

Nursing Training Program. As the College's chief executive officer, I recognize the importance of ensuring that effective administrative procedures, institutional coordination, and appropriate accountability measures are established to support the successful implementation of this program.

We also support the legislation's service obligation, which encourages recipients to apply their professional skills within Guam's healthcare system. This provision reinforces the public purpose of the program by helping ensure that investments in nursing education produce lasting benefits for our community.

GCC stands ready to work with our Board of Trustees, the University of Guam, and the appropriate government agencies to establish the necessary procedures and ensure that the program is administered effectively and in accordance with available resources.

Honorable Chairman and Members of the Committee, Guam's future healthcare workforce depends upon our willingness to invest in our people and provide them with opportunities to succeed. Every qualified resident who is able to pursue and complete a nursing education represents another opportunity to strengthen our hospitals and clinics, reduce our dependence on off-island personnel, and improve access to quality patient care throughout our island.

Bill No. 366-38 (LS) represents a positive and practical step toward these goals. It recognizes the contributions of both public institutions of higher education, supports the success of our students, and advances our shared responsibility to strengthen healthcare services for the people of Guam.

For these reasons, Guam Community College strongly supports Bill No. 366-38 (LS), respectfully recommends the proposed enhancement to § 28608, and urges the Committee to report the measure out with a favorable recommendation for passage.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse' for the opportunity to provide testimony and for your continued support of Guam Community College, our students, and the healthcare needs of our island community.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia C. Tudela, Ph.D.
President
Guam Community College

Department of Public Health and Social Services
GUAM BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS
Health Professional Licensing Office

October 26, 2026

Honorable Senator Vincent A.V. Borja
Committee on Education, Libraries, and Public Broadcasting
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagatna, Guam 96910

RE: **BILL NO. 366-38 (LS)** AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 28611 TO ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND TO AMEND §§ 28602, 28603, 28604, 28605, 28608, 28609, AND 28610 OF ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE NURSING TRAINING PROGRAM TO NURSING STUDENTS AT THE GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

Hafa Adai Chairperson and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Guam Board of Nurse Examiners (GBNE), I respectfully submit this letter expressing support for Bill No. 366-38 (LS), which seeks to expand the Nursing Training Program to include eligible nursing students attending Guam Community College (GCC).

The GBNE recognizes that a strong, competent, and sustainable nursing workforce is essential to protecting public health, promoting patient safety, and ensuring access to quality healthcare services throughout Guam. As the regulatory body responsible for matters relating to nursing licensure and the protection of the public through the regulation of nursing practice, the Board acknowledges the importance of supporting initiatives that strengthen nursing education, encourage professional development, and contribute to the long-term sustainability of Guam's healthcare workforce.

Supporting Nursing Education and Workforce Development
Nursing education represents a significant commitment of time, effort, and financial resources for students pursuing a career in the profession. The demands of nursing programs require students to develop a comprehensive foundation of theoretical knowledge, clinical judgment, technical skills, ethical responsibility, and professional accountability. These competencies are essential to preparing graduates to provide safe, competent, and effective nursing care.

Expanding the Nursing Training Program to include eligible GCC nursing students would provide an opportunity to broaden access to educational support and strengthen the pathway toward professional nursing practice. By recognizing students enrolled in qualifying nursing programs at

Guam Community College, this legislation may help reduce financial barriers, support educational persistence, and encourage more individuals to pursue and complete their nursing education.

The Board recognizes that investments in nursing education can have benefits that extend beyond individual students. Supporting the development of qualified local nursing professionals contributes to the broader healthcare system by helping cultivate a workforce that understands the needs, values, and circumstances of the communities it serves.

Strengthening Guam's Local Nursing Workforce

Guam's healthcare system depends on the availability of qualified nurses across hospitals, community health programs, long-term care facilities, outpatient services, and other healthcare settings. Developing and retaining local nursing talent is an important component of maintaining continuity of care and responding to the evolving healthcare needs of our island.

By extending eligibility for the Nursing Training Program to GCC nursing students, Bill No. 366-38 (LS) presents an opportunity to strengthen the connection between nursing education and workforce development. Providing appropriate support to eligible students may help encourage program completion and facilitate their transition from academic preparation to professional employment.

Furthermore, expanding opportunities for students pursuing nursing education locally may help strengthen Guam's capacity to develop future generations of nurses within the community. A sustainable local workforce can contribute to greater continuity of services, stronger community relationships, and improved capacity to respond to changing healthcare demands.

While educational assistance alone cannot resolve every nursing workforce challenge, it represents one potential component of a broader strategy to promote nursing education, recruitment, and retention. The GBNE recognizes the value of coordinated efforts among the Legislature, educational institutions, healthcare employers, regulatory agencies, and community partners in advancing these shared objectives.

Promoting Equitable Access to Nursing Education

The Board also recognizes the importance of ensuring that qualified individuals have meaningful opportunities to pursue nursing education, regardless of the educational institution through which they undertake their professional preparation.

Including eligible GCC nursing students in the Nursing Training Program would broaden the program's potential reach and recognize the role of Guam Community College in preparing individuals for careers in nursing. Access to appropriate educational support may be particularly meaningful for students who must balance tuition and other educational expenses with family

responsibilities, employment obligations, transportation costs, and the demands of clinical training.

Providing eligible students with access to a consistent and appropriately administered support program may help reduce avoidable financial obstacles and encourage continued participation in nursing education. Such support can help students focus on acquiring the knowledge, skills, and professional competencies required for entry into the nursing profession.

The GBNE believes that initiatives designed to strengthen nursing education should be implemented in a manner that is transparent, equitable, and consistent with established eligibility requirements. Program requirements should be clearly communicated so that students understand their responsibilities and the conditions associated with receiving assistance.

Maintaining Nursing Standards and Protecting the Public

Although the GBNE supports efforts to strengthen nursing education and workforce development, the Board emphasizes that public protection must remain central to all initiatives affecting the nursing profession.

Financial assistance and educational support programs should complement established educational, examination, and licensure requirements. Individuals seeking licensure must continue to satisfy all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, including the standards necessary to demonstrate the qualifications and competencies required for lawful nursing practice in Guam. The expansion of educational assistance should not be interpreted as a modification or reduction of the professional standards required for nursing licensure. Rather, it should be viewed as a means of supporting eligible students as they undertake the rigorous academic and clinical preparation necessary to enter the profession.

The Board further recognizes the importance of appropriate program oversight, accountability, and coordination among the agencies and institutions responsible for administering the Nursing Training Program. Clear implementation guidelines, appropriate monitoring, and compliance with applicable laws will help ensure that the program achieves its intended objectives while maintaining public confidence and responsible stewardship of public resources.

Investing in Guam's Long-Term Healthcare Capacity

The development of a qualified nursing workforce requires sustained collaboration and investment. Nursing students represent a future source of professional expertise that will be needed to support healthcare delivery, respond to emerging public health concerns, and provide care to individuals and families throughout their lives.

Measures that strengthen access to nursing education can contribute to the long-term capacity of Guam's healthcare system. By supporting eligible students enrolled in Guam Community College nursing programs, the Legislature has an opportunity to reinforce the importance of local education as part of the island's broader workforce development strategy.

The GBNE recognizes that the success of such initiatives depends on effective implementation and continued evaluation. Where appropriate, program administrators may consider monitoring participation, educational progression, program completion, and subsequent entry into the nursing workforce to assess whether the intended benefits are being realized. These measures can help inform future policy decisions and support responsible improvements to the program.

A coordinated approach that supports nursing students while preserving professional standards will help ensure that workforce development efforts remain aligned with the fundamental responsibility of protecting the public.

Conclusion and Recommendation

In view of the foregoing, the Guam Board of Nurse Examiners recognizes the potential value of Bill No. 366-38 (LS) in expanding access to nursing education support, strengthening local workforce development, and encouraging the continued preparation of qualified nursing professionals for Guam.

The proposed inclusion of eligible Guam Community College nursing students in the Nursing Training Program represents an opportunity to broaden educational support and reinforce the connection between nursing education and the healthcare needs of our island community.

Accordingly, on behalf of the Guam Board of Nurse Examiners, I respectfully express support for Bill No. 366-38 (LS) and encourage the Committee to give the measure favorable consideration, subject to the applicable statutory requirements, appropriate program oversight, and continued adherence to nursing education and licensure standards.

The GBNE appreciates the Legislature's continued attention to initiatives that support the development of a competent and qualified nursing workforce. We remain committed to fulfilling our regulatory responsibilities, protecting the public, and supporting collaborative efforts that promote safe, ethical, and professional nursing practice throughout Guam.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and commitment to strengthening Guam's healthcare workforce.

Respectfully submitted,



Phillip J.B. Calalo DNP, MSN, RN, WSOC
Executive Officer
Guam Board of Nurse Examiners

UNIVERSITY OF GUAM
MARGARET PEREZ HATTORI-UCHIMA
SCHOOL OF HEALTH

Office of the Dean

October 27, 2026

The Honorable Vincent A. Borja
Senator, 38th Guam Legislature
Chairperson, Committee on Education, Libraries, and Public Broadcasting
DNA Building Suite 502
238 Archbishop Flores Street
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Subject: Testimony on Bill 366-38 (COR)

Buenas yan Håfa Adai Chairperson Senator Borja and Members of the 38th Guam Legislature!

On behalf of the Margaret Perez Hattori-Uchima School of Health of University of Guam, we submit this testimony on Bill 366-38 (COR) relative to extending the Nursing Training Program to nursing students at the Guam Community College (GCC). Thank you for the opportunity.

We appreciate the intent of Bill 366-38 in addressing our island's healthcare workforce shortages. A few years ago, led by President Enriquez, UOG joined the Governor's Health and Social Services Workforce Development Collaborative established through Executive Order No. 2023-10. The University supported the Collaborative's efforts, including strategies to recruit and retain nurses, social workers, and other healthcare professionals. Working groups were formed within the Collaborative. The Nursing Workforce Group, which was co-facilitated by UOG's School of Health and GCC, worked collaboratively to develop and prioritize the creation of pathways for nursing educational and professional advancement.

As an educational institution, UOG remains committed to growing Guam's nurses and collaborating with partners to achieve this common goal. To do this, we aligned our nursing program plans with the Collaborative's priorities. We are delighted to share the following updates on the progress on these alignments.

- To grow Guam's nursing workforce and in commitment to a grant from the U.S. Economic Development Authority, UOG increased its nursing program admission by 67% (30 to 50 students) over a three-year period with an anticipated 100% increase (30 to 60 students) by Spring 2027. During this growth process, the quality of UOG's Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) Program was reaffirmed

with another eight years of accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing.

- To create educational pathways, UOG worked closely with GCC while they developed their Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) Program. The result is an articulation between GCC's ADN and UOG's BSN programs, thereby creating a one-year ADN to BSN pathway in higher education for nursing professionals.
- To grow nurse educators, UOG is developing its first graduate program – Master of Science in Nursing. According to the Guam Board of Nurse Examiners, a Master of Science in Nursing is the minimum degree requirement for a nurse educator teaching in a program leading to the Registered Nurse license and credential. Therefore, the Master of Science in Nursing is critical to growing the island's nurse educators to support UOG and GCC nursing programs.

These ongoing collective efforts generate up to 30 additional students per year for the BSN Program and up to 20 new students per cohort for the Master of Science in Nursing Program. The anticipated 50 additional students per year are likely applicants to UOG's Student Financial Assistance Program, therefore, we urge the committee and members of the Guam Legislature to consider these increases in future budget requests. Additionally, the consideration of the Manpower Development Fund as another potential source of financial support was suggested previously, and we support this suggestion. UOG-trained nurses comprise a significant proportion of the workforce powering the island's healthcare system.

In closing, the Margaret Perez Hattori-Uchima School of Health appreciates the intent of Bill 366-38 (COR). Recognizing the anticipated increase in new undergraduate and graduate nursing students at UOG, we welcome the committee's consideration of how these changes impact the level and source of nursing professional financial support for the University.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase',

Yvette C. Paulino

Yvette C. Paulino, PhD, CPH
Dean
Margaret Perez Hattori-Uchima School of Health
University of Guam

UNIVERSITY OF GUAM
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

October 26, 2026

The Honorable Vincent A. Borja
Senator, 38th Guam Legislature
Chairperson, Committee on Education, Libraries, and Public Broadcasting
DNA Building Suite 502
238 Archbishop Flores Street
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Subject: Testimony on Bill 366-38 (COR)

Buenas yan Håfa Adai Senator Borja and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on Bill 366-38 (COR), An Act to Add a New § 28611 to Article 6 of Chapter 28 of Title 17, Guam Code Annotated; and to Amend §§ 28602, 28603, 28604, 28605, 28608, 28609, and 28610 of Article 6 of Chapter 28 of Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, Relative to Extending the Nursing Training Program to Nursing Students at the Guam Community College (GCC).

The University of Guam (UOG) supports the intent of Bill 366-38 and recognizes the importance of expanding educational pathways for individuals pursuing careers in nursing. Guam's continued need for qualified healthcare professionals requires a coordinated effort among our educational institutions, healthcare providers, and government partners. Expanding financial assistance opportunities to nursing students attending government of Guam-funded institutions of higher education is consistent with this shared workforce development objective.

The University has also taken meaningful steps to expand its own nursing education capacity. UOG's Nursing Program has increased its admissions capacity from 30 to 50 students and intends to further expand to 60 students, consistent with commitments made in connection with the University's acceptance of U.S. Economic Development Administration funding for the construction of the Margaret Perez Hattori-Uchima School of Health Nursing Hub. This expansion reflects UOG's continued commitment to strengthening Guam's healthcare workforce and increasing opportunities for qualified students to pursue nursing careers.

Further reflecting the University's commitment to excellence in nursing education, UOG's Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program recently received an eight-year reaffirmation of accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), extending through spring 2034. The reaffirmation was granted with no findings, demonstrating the program's continued adherence to rigorous national standards for nursing education. Combined with the University's investment in expanded facilities and student capacity, this achievement reinforces UOG's commitment to preparing highly qualified nurses to meet Guam's growing healthcare workforce needs.

Our principal consideration relates to the funding necessary to support the proposed expansion. The University annually requests approximately $4.5 million for its Student Financial Assistance Program to support the various scholarship and financial assistance programs authorized under

Chapter 28 of Title 17 GCA. However, UOG has historically received an appropriation of $3,565,285.

Given these existing funding constraints, expanding eligibility to additional students without a corresponding increase in available resources could place further pressure on the financial assistance programs already administered by the University. We believe the legislation's objectives would be better served by identifying a supplemental funding source to support the expanded program, rather than relying upon existing appropriations intended to meet current scholarship obligations.

One potential source for consideration is the Manpower Development Fund, given the direct relationship between nursing education and the development of Guam's healthcare workforce. Other appropriate funding sources could also be explored to ensure that the expansion is financially sustainable and does not diminish assistance currently available to eligible students.

The University also notes that Bill No. 366-38 seeks to establish separate administration of the Nursing Training Program by the University of Guam and Guam Community College under their respective governing boards. As a technical consideration, however, we note that existing provisions of 17 GCA Chapter 28, particularly §§28101 through 28105 and §28404, continue to assign certain chapter-wide responsibilities, including the administration, funding, and regulation of financial assistance awards, to the University of Guam Board of Regents. While the bill's proposed amendments to Article 6 recognize GCC's separate authority, it would be prudent to reconcile these provisions and avoid potential ambiguity in implementation. Such clarification would preserve UOG's existing responsibilities for its financial assistance programs while establishing GCC's independent administration of awards authorized under Article 6.

The University appreciates the efforts to expand opportunities for nursing education and strengthen Guam's healthcare workforce. We share these objectives and look forward to working collaboratively with the author and the Committee to ensure that the legislation provides the resources and administrative clarity necessary for successful implementation.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse',

Anita Borja Enriquez, DBA
President
University of Guam

Office of Senator
Vincent A. V. Borja
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

DNA BUILDING
SUITE 502
238 ARCHBISHOP FLORES ST.
HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96910
TEL 671-969-8423

CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, LIBRARIES
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COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

Bill No. 366-38 (LS), ***As Introduced*** – Sabrina Salas Matanane – "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 28611 TO ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND TO AMEND §§ 28602, 28603, 28604, 28605, 28608, 28609, AND 28610 OF ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE NURSING TRAINING PROGRAM TO NURSING STUDENTS AT THE GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE."

Committee Members	**INITIAL**	**TO DO PASS**	**TO NOT PASS**	**TO REPORT OUT ONLY**	**TO ABSTAIN**	**TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE**
Senator Vincent A.V. Borja *Chairperson*	VB	✓				
Senator Tina Muña Barnes *Vice Chairperson*						
Speaker Frank F. Blas, Jr. *Member*						
Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada *Member*						
Legislative Secretary Sabrina Salas Matanane *Member*	E-VOTE 11/19/26	✓				
Senator Shelly Calvo *Member*						
Senator Christopher Duenas *Member*	E-VOTE 11/19/26			✓		
Senator Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao *Member*	E-VOTE 11/19/26			✓		
Senator Joe S. San Agustin *Member*	E-VOTE 11/19/26			✓		
Senator Chris Barnett *Ex-Officio Member*	E-VOTE 11/19/26			✓		

Gmail

Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>

URGENT REQUEST FOR E-VOTE: BILL NO. 366-38 (LS)

7 messages

Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com> Thu, Nov 19, 2026 at 7:00 AM
To: "Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>, "Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada" <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>, Office Senator Bri <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Shelly Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Tina Muna Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>, "Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.gov>

Buenas yan Håfa Adai, Honorable Committee Members,

Please see the attached Committee Report of **Bill No. 366-38 (LS) – AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 28611 TO ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND TO AMEND §§ 28602, 28603, 28604, 28605, 28608, 28609, AND 28610 OF ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE NURSING TRAINING PROGRAM TO NURSING STUDENTS AT THE GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE.**

Please indicate your preferred action, based on the following options:

- **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.

Respectfully,

Office of Senator Vincent A.V. Borja

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

DRAFT CR Bill No. 366-38 (LS).pdf
13908K

Office of Legislative Secretary <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov> Fri, Nov 20, 2026 at 1:01 AM
To: Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>
Cc: "Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>, "Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada" <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Shelly Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Tina Muna Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>, "Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.gov>

To Do Pass.
[Quoted text hidden]
--
Biba Guam,
Isaiah Aguon
Special Assistant to the Senator

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
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Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.gov> Thu, Nov 19, 2026 at 7:19 AM
To: Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>
Cc: "Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>, "Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada" <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>, Office Senator Bri <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Shelly Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Tina Muna Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>, "Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>

To Report Out Only
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The Office of Senator Chris Barnett
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Suite 202 · Calvo- Arriola Building · 259 Martyr St. · Hagåtña, Guam 96910
(671)969-3586 · malafunkshun@guamlegislature.gov

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Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov> Thu, Nov 19, 2026 at 7:47 AM
To: Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>
Cc: "Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>, "Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada" <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>, Office Senator Bri <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Shelly Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>,

Senator Tina Muna Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>, "Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.gov>

Hafa adai,

TO ADOPT.

Si Yu'os ma'åse'!

On Thu, Nov 19, 2026 at 9:00 AM Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com> wrote:
[Quoted text hidden]

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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, Hagåtña, Guam 96910
(671) 647-1409/1411

Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov> Thu, Nov 19, 2026 at 7:48 AM

To: Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>
Cc: "Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>, "Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada" <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>, Office Senator Bri <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Shelly Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Tina Muna Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>, "Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.gov>

Hafa adai,

TO REPORT OUT ONLY.

Si Yu'os ma'åse'!

On Thu, Nov 19, 2026 at 9:00 AM Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com> wrote:
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Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov> Thu, Nov 19, 2026 at 8:18 AM
To: Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>
Cc: Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>, "Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>, "Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada" <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Office Senator Bri <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Shelly Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Tina Muna Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>, "Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@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]

Joe S. San Agustin <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com> Thu, Nov 19, 2026 at 8:38 AM
To: Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>
Cc: Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>, "Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>, "Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada" <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Office Senator Bri <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Shelly Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Tina Muna Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.gov>

To report out. Thanks!

The Office of Senator Joe S. San Agustin
I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan
38th Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910
T: (671) 989-5445 F: (671) 969-6737 E: senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com
Website: www.senatorjoessanagustin.com

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COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

Committee on Education, Libraries and Public Broadcasting
Senator Vincent A.V. Borja, Chairman

I. OVERVIEW:

The **Committee on Education, Libraries and Public Broadcasting** convened a Public Hearing on the appointment of on **Tuesday, October 27, 2026** at **9:00 A.M.** in the Guam Congress Building's Public Hearing Room.

PUBLIC NOTICE REQUIREMENTS:

Public Hearing Notices were posted to the Government Public Notices Portal and disseminated via electronic mail to all senators and all main media broadcasting outlets on **October 20, 2026** (5-Day Notice), and again on **October 25, 2026** (48-Hour Notice).

SENATORS PRESENT:

Vincent A.V. Borja, Chairperson
Frank F. Blas Jr, Member
Sabrina Salas Matanane, Member

ORAL TESTIMONY:

Dr. Virginia C. Tudela, Interim President, Guam Community College
Mr. Carlo Leon Guerrero, Chairperson, Board of Trustees, Guam Community College
Ms. Zennia C. Pecina, Administrator, Nursing and Allied Health Programs, Guam Community College
Dr. Gena A. Rojas, Interim Dean, Enrollment Management & Student Success, University of Guam
Ms. Barbara Mafnas, Registered Nurse/Educator, Nursing and Allied Health Programs, Guam Community College
Ms. Tamara Therese Hiura, Program Coordinator II/Educator, Nursing and Allied Health Programs, Guam Community College
Dr. Annamma Varghese, Nursing Program Director, Margaret Perez Hattori-Uchima School of Health Nursing Hub, University of Guam

WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

Dr. Virginia C. Tudela, Interim President, Guam Community College
Mr. Phillip J.B. Calalo, Executive Officer, Guam Board of Nurse Examiners
Dr. Yvette C. Paulino, Dean, Margaret Perez Hattori-Uchima School of Health, University of Guam
Dr. Anita Borja Enriquez, President, University of Guam

II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY & DISCUSSION:

The public hearing for the appointment began at **9:00 A.M.**

SENATOR VINCENT A.V. BORJA, CHAIRPERSON:
Hafa Adai and Good Afternoon. Thank you everyone for being here with us today. Today's date is **October 27, 2026**. This morning's public hearing held by the Committee on Education, Libraries and Public Broadcasting is called to order. The time is now **9:00 A.M.**.

Before we begin there are some housekeeping matters that I will briefly discuss so we can get right to work. The first Notice of this public hearing was disseminated to all senators and media outlets on **October 20, 2026** with its second notice disseminated on **October 25, 2026**.

Notices of this hearing were also made available on Kandit News Group, the Guam Legislature's Website, our Legislative Calendar, and the Government of Guam's Public Notice Portal.

Today's public hearing is being broadcast live on the Guam Legislature YouTube Channel, and the transcript will be filed with the Committee on Rules and be made available on the Guam Legislature website.

Today, we will be hearing testimony on:

Doc. No. 38GL-26-2711 – The Appointment of Richard P. Sablan to serve as a Member (Business Industry - Representative), Board of Trustees, Guam Community College – Five (5) Years; From Date of Confirmation.

&

Bill No. 366-38 (LS) – AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 28611 TO ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND TO AMEND §§ 28602, 28603, 28604, 28605, 28608, 28609, AND 28610 OF ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE NURSING TRAINING PROGRAM TO NURSING STUDENTS AT THE GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

And in that order.

At this time I would like to welcome my colleagues who are joining us this morning, Speaker Frank F. Blas Jr. and Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane.

But before we begin, I'd like to remind everyone in attendance of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*'s general rules of conduct. Individuals testifying shall first be recognized by the Chairperson before speaking and shall state their full name for the record. Questions and testimony shall be confined to the substance or nature of today's agenda. Personal inferences to the character or motive of any senator or individual testifying are not permitted.

Pursuant to Section 11.07 of the 38th Guam Legislature's Standing Rules, a Chairperson may order the removal from a hearing of a Committee or a Subcommittee of any person who is not a Member of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and who fails to observe proper decorum. Any violation to this general rule of conduct will result in immediate removal from this public hearing room.

We'll now move to the next item on the agenda, which is Bill 366-38, An Act to Add a New subsection 28611 to Article 6 of Chapter 28 of Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, and to Amend subsection 28602, 28603, 28604, 28605, 28608, 28609, and 28610 of Article 6 of Chapter 28 of Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, relative to Extending the Nursing Training Program to Nursing Students at the Guam Community College. Introduced by Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane.

Senator, you may begin with your opening remarks.

[START OF TESTIMONIES FOR BILL NO. 366-38 (LS)] [38:07]

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, MEMBER:
Thank you, Mr. Chair. You know it wouldn't be a "Senator Bri-bill" if it didn't have a long title. Anyway, hafa adai and thank you everybody for joining us.

Bill 366 was introduced at the request of the Guam Community College Nursing Program, and the goal is really simple. To help more of our local students pursue nursing careers and hopefully keep more of our nurses here on Guam. We all know that Guam continues to struggle with a nursing shortage. Our hospitals and healthcare facilities spend millions of dollars bringing in travel nurses, while we have local residents who want to become nurses but may need financial help to get through school. Right now, Guam law provides a nursing training program that is primarily focused on students attending the University of Guam. What this bill does is extend those same opportunities to nursing students at Guam Community College.

In simple terms, this bill would allow eligible GCC nursing students to receive financial assistance for tuition, books, supplies, and monthly living allowances. Provide monthly stipends ranging from $250 to $625 depending on the student's year of training. It would require students receiving assistance to work as nurses on Guam for a period equal to the time they receive training. Allow GCC to administer its own nursing training awards just as UOG administers its

program. It encourages GCC and UOG to work together so students can transfer credits and continue their nursing education without losing their benefits.

And I also want to emphasize something that is important, that this bill is not about GCC competing with UOG. It is about giving students more opportunities and encouraging both institutions to work together. Whether a student wants to become a licensed practical nurse or eventually pursue a bachelor's degree in nursing, we should be helping them succeed. At the end of the day, this legislation is about investing in our own people, building our local nursing workforce, and making sure that the students we help train have an opportunity to serve our community right here at home.

I look forward to hearing everyone's testimony. Thank you.

SENATOR VINCENT A.V. BORJA, CHAIRPERSON:
Thank you, Senator. I think everybody that's here to testify is already up here. We'll go ahead and start with the first on the list, Dr. Tudela. You may begin.

DR. VIRGINIA C. TUDELA, INTERIM PRESIDENT, GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE:
Hafa Adai, Chairman Borja, and members of the committee. On behalf of Guam Community College, I am pleased to express our strong support for Bill No. 366-38, introduced by Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane, which seeks to extend the benefits of Guam's nursing training program to eligible nursing students at Guam Community College.

We commend Senator Matanane for recognizing the important role GCC plays in preparing Guam's healthcare workforce and for advancing legislation that promotes greater educational opportunities and equitable access to financial assistance for students pursuing nursing careers. For nearly 50 years, Guam Community College has remained committed to providing accessible, affordable, and relevant education and training that responds directly to the workforce needs of our island. Our nursing and LA health programs reflect this commitment by preparing students with the knowledge, technical skills, and clinical experience necessary to enter professions essential to the health and well-being of our community.

As interim president, I recognize that our responsibility extends beyond providing educational opportunities. We must ensure that our programs maintain high academic and professional standards, prepare students for successful careers, and remain responsive to the changing needs of Guam's workforce. Guam's continuing shortage of qualified nurses remains a significant challenge for our healthcare system. Addressing this shortage requires a sustained and coordinated effort among our educational institutions, healthcare providers, and government partners to develop locally trained professionals who are prepared to serve our community. GCC

is already making meaningful contributions to this effort through its Practical Nursing and Registered Nursing Associate Degree programs. The results demonstrate the value of these programs.

All 20 graduates of GCC's inaugural Associate Degree in Nursing program successfully pass the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses, NCLEXRN, achieving 100% pass rate. Our Practical Nursing program has also demonstrated strong outcomes, with all 20 students in its first cohort successfully passing their licensure examination. These accomplishments reflect the dedication of our students, the quality of instruction provided by our dedicated faculty, and the college's commitment to maintaining rigorous academic and clinical standards.

More importantly, they demonstrate that GCC is preparing qualified nursing professionals who can contribute directly to meeting Guam's healthcare needs. Bill 366-38 provides an opportunity to build upon the success by extending nursing training program benefits to eligible GCC students. We strongly support this measure because it expands access to nursing education, promotes fairness among students, and strengthens the pipeline of qualified healthcare professionals for our island.

For many students, the financial demands of nursing education remain a significant challenge. In addition to tuition and fees, students must meet expenses associated with textbooks, uniforms, clinical supplies, transportation, and other requirements necessary to complete their training. Many must balance these obligations with employment and family responsibilities while meeting the rigorous academic and clinical requirements of their programs. By extending financial assistance to eligible GCC students, this legislation can help reduce these pressures, encourage students to remain enrolled, and support their progress toward graduation and professional licensure. Equally important, the measure recognizes that students pursuing nursing education at GCC and the University of Guam are working toward a common purpose: preparing to serve the healthcare needs of our island. Both institutions play important and complementary roles in developing Guam's nursing workforce, and supporting students at both institutions will strengthen our collective ability to meet current and future healthcare demands.

We particularly appreciate the legislation's provisions encouraging collaboration between GCC and the University of Guam. Coordinated application procedures, articulation agreements, and the continuity of benefits for students in advancing their education can create more effective pathways for academic and professional growth. The proposed legislation also appropriately recognizes the respective governing responsibilities of the GCC Board of Trustees and the University of Guam Board of Regents in administering the nursing training program.

As the college's Chief Executive Officer, I recognize the importance of ensuring that effective administrative procedures, institutional coordination, and appropriate accountability measures are established to support the successful implementation of this program. We also support the legislation's service obligation, which encourages recipients to apply their professional skills within Guam's healthcare system. This provision reinforces the public purpose of the program by helping ensure that investments in nursing education produce lasting benefits for our community. GCC stands ready to work with our Board of Trustees, the University of Guam, and the appropriate government agency to establish the necessary procedures and ensure that the program is administered effectively in accordance with available resources.

Honorable Chairman and members of the committee, Guam's future healthcare workforce depends upon our willingness to invest in our people and provide them with opportunities to succeed. Every qualified resident who is able to pursue and complete a nursing education represents another opportunity to strengthen our hospitals and clinics, reduce our dependence on off-island personnel, and improve access to quality patient care throughout our island.

Bill 366-38 represents a positive and practical step toward these goals. It recognizes the contributions of both public institutions of higher education, supports the success of our students, and advances our shared responsibility to strengthen healthcare services for the people of Guam. For these reasons, Guam Community College strongly supports Bill 366-38, respectfully recommends the proposed amendments to subsection 28608, and urges the committee to report the measure out with a favorable recommendation for passage.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony, and for your continued support of Guam Community College, our students, and the healthcare needs of our island.

SENATOR VINCENT A.V. BORJA, CHAIRPERSON:
Thank you, Dr. Tudela. Mr. Leon Guerrero, sir.

MR. CARLO M. LEON GUERRERO, CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE:
Hafa Adai, Chairman Borja, members of the committee, I am pleased to express my strong support for Bill 366-38, which would extend the benefits of Guam Nursing Training Program to eligible nursing students at Guam Community College.

I commend Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane for introducing this legislation and recognizing the importance of making full use of the island's educational institutions and resources available within our community to address Guam's nursing workforce needs. As Chairman of the Guam Community College Board of Trustees, I view this measure as more than an expansion of student financial assistance. It represents a positive step forward, strengthening the partnership between

our public institutions of higher education and ensuring that our investments in education translate into meaningful benefits for the people of Guam. For nearly 50 years, Guam Community College has been entrusted with preparing our residents for careers that are essential to our economy and quality of life. Our responsibility as trustees is to ensure that the college continues to fulfill this mission while remaining responsive to the changing needs of our island.

Nowhere is that responsibility more apparent than in healthcare. We recognize the challenges our hospitals and healthcare providers face in recruiting and retaining qualified nurses. We also recognize the tremendous potential of our own residents who are willing to pursue these demanding professions, serve their community, and build their careers right here at home. Guam Community College has demonstrated its ability to prepare qualified nursing professionals through programs that complement the important work of the University of Guam. Both institutions have valuable roles in developing our island's healthcare workforce, and we believe that supporting their respective strengths will help Guam meet its immediate needs while preparing for the future.

Bill 366-38 builds upon this shared commitment by extending nursing training programs' benefits to eligible GCC students. It recognizes that our island's nursing workforce is strengthened through multiple educational pathways, and that students pursuing nursing credentials at either institution should have equitable opportunities to receive assistance. As Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane mentioned earlier, this is not a matter of fairness between institutions. This is a matter of sound public policy. By broadening access to an established program, we can better support qualified students, encourage them to complete their education, and help develop a larger pool of locally trained nurses who can contribute to our healthcare system. I particularly appreciate the legislation's recognition of the GCC Board of Trustees role in administering these benefits for our students. This provision respects the governance responsibilities of both institutions while encouraging the cooperation necessary to support students throughout their nursing education and professional development.

The Board welcomes the opportunity to work collaboratively with the University of Guam and the appropriate government agencies to establish effective procedures, promote accountability, and ensure that the program serves its intended purpose. We also support reasonable reporting measures that will allow the legislature and our institutions to evaluate the program's effectiveness and identify opportunities for continued improvement. Equally important is the legislation's emphasis on service to Guam. Encouraging recipients to remain on island and apply their professional skills in our healthcare facilities helps ensure that public investments in education produce lasting benefits for our community. When we invest in the education of our people, the return is measured not only in degrees and professional credentials, but in the contributions they make to our island. In this instance, that return is reflected in the nurses who will care for our families, support our healthcare institutions, and serve future generations.

As Guam Community College prepares to celebrate its 50th anniversary, we are reminded of why the college was established. To provide our people with the skills, knowledge, and opportunities to build better lives while contributing to the progress of our island. We have capable students, dedicated educators, and established institutions that are committed to meeting Guam's workforce needs. By working together and providing the necessary opportunities and support, we can build upon these strengths and create a more sustainable healthcare workforce for our island. For these reasons, I strongly support Bill 366-38, and respectfully encourage the committee to advance this measure with a favorable recommendation for passage. Thank you for your consideration, your commitment to strengthening Guam's healthcare workforce, and your continued support of the Guam Community College and the people we serve. Thank you.

SENATOR VINCENT A.V. BORJA, CHAIRPERSON:
Thank you, Mr. Leon Guerrero. Ms. Zennia Pecina?

MS. ZENNIA C. PECINA, ADMINISTRATOR, NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH PROGRAMS, GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE:
Yes, thank you. I have two testimonies to present, so I'll start with mine.

Hafa Adai, Speaker Blas, Chairman Borja, and Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane, who sponsored and introduced this bill, and honorable members of the 38th Guam Legislature. My name is Zennia C. Pecina, the Administrator for the Nursing and Allied Health Programs at the Guam Community College. I am submitting this testimony in strong support of Bill 366-38, to include Guam Community College nursing students in the public Nurse Training Program.

When the nurse training program was enacted, the University of Guam was the sole nursing program provider on the island. That landscape has evolved. Guam Community College now offers an associate's degree in nursing program and an associate's licensed practical nursing program that is producing measurable results for Guam's healthcare workforce. As evident by, firstly, the GCC program works, and the data proves it. The first cohort of the GCC associate degree in nursing program consisted of 20 students. All 20 students passed the NCLEX exam with a 100% pass rate. The second cohort is ongoing and will be taking the exam next year. The first cohort of LPNs consisted of 20 students, and all 20 passed the exam with 100% pass rate. The additional cohorts continue to meet the required percentages of the Guam Board of Nurse Examiners, and they maintain their annual status. This is not a pilot project. This is a proven program delivering qualified licensed nurses for Guam.

Number two, this amendment addresses Guam's specific workforce need: bedside nurses. Associate degree nurses are bedside nurses. That is the focus of their training and the role they seek. BSN-prepared nurses, while central to our system, often pursue pathways in leadership,

administration, public health, and higher education. What Guam needs today urgently are licensed nurses who will stay at the bedside and care for patients. GCC is producing exactly that.

Number three, this is a workforce retention and equity measure. GCC and UOG nursing students complete clinical rotation site by site at GMH, GRMC, and other clinical sites. They take the same national licensure examination and commit to serving the same community. To exclude GCC students from a recruitment and retention program designed to keep nurses in Guam would be counterproductive to its original intent. Furthermore, GCC serves a critical demographic, those being working adults, second career students, and residents from our northern, central, and southern villages who are most likely to remain on island, raise families, and provide long-term service to our health system. Investing in them will be investing in retention. This amendment does not expand cost, it expands impact. It allows existing program resources to support all qualified pre-licensure nursing students who contract to work on Guam post-graduation.

For these reasons, I respectfully request the committee report out this bill as amended and a do-pass recommendation. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

So I have testimony from the Vice Chair of the Board for GCC. She was unable to be here. This is from Rose Grino, Vice Chair, GCC Board of Trustees.

“Hafa Adai, Chairman Borja and Honorable Members of the Guam Legislature. As Vice Chairperson of the Guam Community College Board of Trustees, and a healthcare administrator and nursing leader committed to nursing workforce development of Guam, I am pleased to express my strong support for this legislation to add a new subsection 28611 and amend subsections 28602, 28603, 28604, 28605, 28608, 28609, and 28610, and Article 6, Chapter 28, Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, relative to extending the nursing training program to include qualified nursing students enrolled at the Guam Community College.

This measure is both a timely and necessary update to the existing law. The island’s nursing education landscape has evolved significantly. Updating the law to include GCC nursing students ensures equitable access to training opportunities, financial assistance, and workforce development programs that were designed to strengthen Guam's nursing workforce. Today, GCC serves as an important pathway, educational pathway, for aspiring nurses and plays a vital role in preparing competent, compassionate, and community-focused healthcare professionals who are committed to serving Guam. GCC's nursing program serves as an important pathway for local residents, pursuing careers in healthcare.

Our students represent Guam's future nurses, many of whom will go on to serve in hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities, public health programs, schools, and community health settings throughout the island. Extending the nursing training program to GCC nursing students

recognizes the significant contribution of the college to healthcare workforce development and creates greater opportunities for students to complete their education and enter the profession. I am proud to share that our first ADN cohort had a 100% passing rate and is now part of the nursing workforce in our community.

Guam continues to face ongoing challenges in recruiting and retaining qualified healthcare professionals. Supporting local nursing students is one of the most effective strategies for building a sustainable workforce. By extending eligibility under the nursing training program, this legislation will help reduce barriers to nursing education and encourage more students to remain on Guam and serve our community after graduation. The proposed amendments also align with the mission of Guam Community College to provide high-quality workforce education and career training that responds directly to the needs of our island.

GCC nursing students demonstrate a desire to serve as students in other nursing programs and should be afforded the same opportunities under the law. By modernizing the existing statute, the legislature will promote fairness, strengthen Guam's healthcare workforce pipeline, and ensure that all qualified nursing students have access to valuable training and support opportunities. Most importantly, this investment will help increase the number of locally trained nurses available to care for the people of Guam for generations to come.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Guam Legislature to support and pass this important measure. Thank you for your consideration and your continued commitment to advancing nursing education and workforce development on Guam. Respectfully, Rose Grino, GCC Board of Trustees."

SENATOR VINCENT A.V. BORJA, CHAIRPERSON:
Thank you, Ms. Pecina. Ms. Jacqueline Song? Did I mess that up? And those are all that I have that checked off as presenting oral testimony. Ms. Gena Ross, you're right. Okay, you're the last one, and then we'll just go from left to right, because everybody else, you may have signed in but did not check off.

So, Dr. Rojas, you can start, and then we'll just go from right to left. Thank you.

DR. GENA A. ROJAS, INTERIM DEAN, ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT & STUDENT SUCCESS, UNIVERSITY OF GUAM:
Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Speaker, and Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane, Legislative Secretary. Also, greetings to our sisters at GCC, Acting President Tudela, and Chairman Leon Guerrero, good to sit next to you.

Buenas and Hafa Adai, thank you for giving us this opportunity to provide testimony on Bill 366-38, Committee on Rules. I'm not going to read the whole act, because several people have read it. We know what it is. The University of Guam supports the intent of Bill 366-38, and recognizes the importance of expanding educational pathways for individuals pursuing careers in nursing. Guam's continued need for qualified healthcare professionals requires a coordinated effort among our educational student institutions, healthcare providers, and government partners.

Expanding financial assistance opportunities to nursing students attending Government of Guam-funded institutions of higher education is consistent with this shared workforce development objective. The university has also taken meaningful steps to expand its own nursing education capacity. UOG's nursing program has increased its admissions capacity from 30 to 50 students and intends to expand to 60 students, consistent with the commitment made in connection with the university's acceptance of U.S. Economic Development Administration funding for the construction of the Margaret Perez Hattori-Uchima School of Health Nursing Hub. This expansion reflects UOG's continued commitment to strengthening Guam's health workforce and increasing opportunities for qualified students to pursue nursing careers.

Further reflecting the university's commitment to excellence in nursing education, UOG's Bachelor of Science in Nursing program recently received an 8-year reaffirmation of accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing extending through Spring 2034. The reaffirmation was granted with no findings demonstrating the program's continued adherence to rigorous national standards for nursing education. Combined with the university's investment in expanded facilities and student capacity, this achievement reinforces UOG's commitment to preparing highly qualified nurses to meet Guam's growing healthcare workforce needs. Our principal consideration relates to the funding necessary to support the proposed expansion. The university annually requests approximately $4.5 million for its Students Financial Assistance Programs to support various scholarships and financial assistance programs authorized under Chapter 28 of Title 17, Guam Code Annotated.

However, UOG has historically received an appropriation of $3.5 million, and this has been over 10 years. So we continually request an increase, and over the past decade we have been receiving $3.5 million. The SFAP, Student Financial Assistance Funding, covers seven programs with 160 students on a rolling basis. Given these existing funding constraints, expanding eligibility to additional students without a corresponding increase in available resources could place further pressure on the financial assistance programs already administered by the university. We believe the legislation's objectives would be better served by identifying a supplemental funding source to support the expanded program rather than relying upon existing appropriations already intended to meet current scholarship obligations. One potential source of consideration is the Manpower Development Fund, given the direct relationship between nursing education and the development of Guam's healthcare workforce. Other appropriate funding sources could also be

explored to ensure that the expansion is financially sustainable and does not diminish assistance currently available to eligible students.

The university also notes that Bill No. 366-38 seeks to establish separate administration of the nursing training program by the University of Guam and Guam Community College under the respective governing boards. As a technical consideration, however, we note that existing provisions of Title 17 GCA Chapter 28, particularly subsection 28101 through 28105 and 28404, continue to assign certain chapter-wide responsibilities, including the administration, funding, and regulation of financial assistance awards to the University of Guam Board of Regents. While the Bill's proposed amendments to Article 6 recognizes GCC's separate authority, it would be prudent to reconcile these provisions and avoid potential ambiguity in implementation. Such clarification would preserve UOG's existing responsibilities for its financial assistance programs while establishing GCC's independent administration of awards authorized under Article 6.

The university appreciates the efforts to expand opportunities for nursing education and strengthen Guam's healthcare workforce. We share these objectives, and we look forward to working collaboratively with the author and the committee to ensure that the legislation provides the resources and administrative clarity necessary for successful implementation. Thank you.

SENATOR VINCENT A.V. BORJA, CHAIRPERSON:
Thank you, Dr. Rojas. Ma'am, if you'd like to start, if you could state your name and what agency you represent.

MS. BARBARA MAFNAS, REGISTERED NURSE/EDUCATOR, NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH PROGRAMS, GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE:
Good morning. My name is Barbara Mafnas. I'm a registered nurse, and I worked for GCC for 25 years.

Hafa Adai and good morning to everybody on the team. I'm writing to express my support for Bill no. 366-38, which seeks to extend the nursing training program to nursing students at the Guam Community College. As an educator of the nursing students at the college, I have the privilege of witnessing the dedication, perseverance, and compassion of our students and what they bring to the education firsthand, their efforts and their personal sacrifices that they make towards the goal of becoming nurses.

Their journey requires more than academic knowledge and clinical skills. It requires resilience, commitment, and a genuine desire to serve others. Teaching nursing is especially meaningful because we are not simply preparing students for a career. We are helping to shape the future of caregivers who serve families, our elders, our children, and the island community. Every day, our students work towards becoming competent, compassionate, and culturally responsive healthcare

professionals who understand the unique needs of the people of Guam. Extending the nurse training program to include GCC nursing students is an important step towards recognizing and supporting the contributions of the local nursing education programs.

Our students deserve the opportunity to access meaningful training and to support and prepare them to enter the healthcare workforce. Providing them with these opportunities can help strengthen their education journey and encourage their continued development and to support the growth of Guam's nursing workforce. As an educator, one of the most rewarding experiences is watching the students gain confidence, overcome challenges, and begin to recognize their own potential. I see the determination in students who balance school, family, responsibilities, work, and clinical preparation while pursuing their dreams of becoming a nurse. Supporting these students is an investment not only in their individual futures, but also to the health and well-being of our entire island. Our community benefits when we invest in those who are preparing to care for us.

By including Guam Community College nursing students in the program, we acknowledge that their education, training, and future service matters. We also reinforce the importance of creating opportunities for local students to develop their skills and to contribute meaningfully to Guam's healthcare system. I respectfully ask that the members of the 38th Guam Legislature give Bill No. 366-38 thoughtful consideration with particular attention to the inclusion of the needs of the Guam Community College nursing students.

As an educator, I believe that supporting our nursing students is one way that we can help to ensure a stronger, more prepared, and compassionate healthcare workforce for generations to come. I offer my support for this measure with sincere appreciation for the work that's being done to invest in the next generation of nurses. These students are more than the future healthcare professionals. They are likely our future colleagues, caregivers, and community advocates. They deserve the opportunity to succeed, and Guam deserves the benefits of the care that they are preparing to provide.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this continued commitment to our education development for Guam.

SENATOR VINCENT A.V. BORJA, CHAIRPERSON:
Thank you, ma'am. Sir? Okay, ma'am, are you here to provide testimony?

MS. TAMARA THERESE HIURA, PROGRAM COORDINATOR II/EDUCATOR, NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH PROGRAMS, GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE:
Hafa Adai, Chairman Borja, Speaker Blas, Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane. My name is Tamara Hiura, and I serve as the Program Coordinator II for the Nursing and Allied Health Department

at Guam Community College. I am here today in strong support of the amended Bill No. 366-38, which seeks to extend the nursing training program to eligible nursing students at Guam Community College.

As a program coordinator, I recognize the dedication, perseverance, and sacrifices required of our students who are pursuing their nursing education. Our nursing programs provide an important educational pathway for individuals seeking to enter the nursing profession to meet our island's healthcare needs. Many of our students balance demanding academic and clinical requirements while managing jobs, family responsibilities, and financial obligations. These challenges can create significant barriers to completing their nursing education. The amended Bill No. 366-38 represents a significant step toward equitable access to educational opportunities and financial support for our students enrolled in practical nursing and registered nursing programs. This legislation extends nursing training program benefits to qualified students at Guam Community College, acknowledging the vital contributions nursing students make to Guam's healthcare workforce. It recognizes that these students merit financial assistance that is comparable to that afforded to students at the University of Guam.

Pursuing a nursing education requires considerable investment of time, energy, and financial resources. In addition to tuition and registration fees, nursing students face other expenses, including textbooks, uniforms, clinical supplies, transportation costs, required clearances for clinical rotations, and other educational materials. The rigorous nature of the nursing programs may limit students' ability to work a full-time job while enrolled in the program. Financial limitations should not prevent capable, motivated, and dedicated individuals from pursuing a career in nursing. Expanding the access to the college’s nursing training program will provide additional support to students who are committed to completing their education and serving the people of Guam.

Thank you for your exceptional leadership and dedication to enhancing nursing education and addressing the healthcare workforce needs in Guam. This legislation highlights the vital importance of investing in local students, in expanding educational opportunities, and preparing the next generation of nursing professionals. Thank you for this opportunity to provide this testimony and for your commitment and support to the health, education, and well-being of our island community. Thank you kindly.

SENATOR VINCENT A.V. BORJA, CHAIRPERSON:
Thank you.

DR. ANNAMMA VARGHESE, NURSING PROGRAM DIRECTOR, MARGARET PEREZ HATTORI-UCHIMA SCHOOL OF HEALTH NURSING HUB, UNIVERSITY OF GUAM:

Thank you. My name is Dr. Anna Varghese, a faculty and Nursing Director for University of Guam Margaret Perez Hattori-Uchima School of Health. Buenas and Hafa Adai, Chairperson and members of the 38th Guam Legislature. This testimony is on behalf of Dean Paulino and I. On behalf of Margaret Perez Hattori-Uchima School of Health of the University of Guam, we submit this testimony on Bill 366-38, relative to extending the nursing training program to nursing students at the Guam Community College. Thank you for the opportunity.

We appreciate the intent of this bill in addressing our island's workforce shortages. A few years ago, led by President Enriquez, UOG joined the Governor's Health and Social Services Workforce Development Collaborative, established through Executive Order No. 2023-10. The university supported the collaborative efforts, including strategies to recruit and retain nurses, social workers, and other health care professionals. Working groups were formed within this collaborative. The nursing workforce group, which was co-facilitated by UOG School of Health and GCC, worked collaboratively to develop and prioritize the creation of pathways for nursing educational and professional advancements. As an educational institution, UOG remains committed to growing Guam's nurses and collaborating with partners to achieve this common goal.

To do this, we aligned our nursing programs' plans with the collaborative priorities. We are delighted to share the following updates on the progress of these alignments. One, to grow Guam's nursing workforce and in commitment to a grant from U.S. Economic Development Authority, UOG increased its nursing program admission by 67%, which is 30 to 50 students, over a 3-year period with an anticipated 100% increase, 30 to 60 students by Spring 2027. During this growth process, the quality of UOG's Bachelor of Science in Nursing program was reaffirmed with another eight years of accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing. Number two, to create educational pathways, UOG worked closely with GCC while they developed their Associate Degree Nursing Program. The result is an articulation between GCC's ADN and UOG's BSN programs, thereby creating a one-year ADN to BSN pathway in higher education for nursing professionals. Number three, to grow the number of nurse educators, UOG is developing its first graduate program, nursing program, Master of Science in Nursing. According to the Guam Board of Nurse Examiners, a Master of Science in Nursing is the minimum degree requirement for a nurse educator teaching in a program leading to registered nurse licensure and credential. Therefore, the Master of Science in Nursing is critical to growing the island's nurse educators to support UOG and GCC nursing programs.

These ongoing collective efforts generate up to 30 additional students per year for the BSN program and up to 20 new students per cohort for the Master of Science in Nursing program. The anticipated 50 additional students per year are likely applicants to UOG's Student Financial Assistance Program. Therefore, we urge the community and members of Guam Legislature to consider these increases in future budget requests. Additionally, the consideration of the

Manpower Development Fund as another potential source of financial support was suggested previously, and we support the suggestion. UOG trained nurses comprise a significant proportion of the workforce powering the island's healthcare system.

In closing, the Margaret Perez Hattori-Uchima School of Health appreciates the intent of Bill 366-38 (COR). Recognizing the anticipated increase in new undergrad and grad nursing students at UOG, we welcome the committee's consideration of how these changes impact the level and source of nursing professional financial support for the university. Thank you.

SENATOR VINCENT A.V. BORJA, CHAIRPERSON:
Thank you, everybody, for your testimony. I'll now go ahead and open up the panel for questions. And now we'll go ahead and open it up to the panel for questions. Senator Salas Matanane, you are recognized.

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, MEMBER:
Thank you, Mr. Chair. I wanted to ask just a couple of questions because we do have senators that aren't here and then sometimes don't really even attend public hearings, but when we get onto session floor, they have a lot to say and attack bills that they could have asked questions to the people that are here with us today. So I wanted to ask this question in case it comes up when we go on the session floor.

I'd like to hear from GCC and UOG. Do you believe that this bill could violate any sort of rule of separation and independence of the two institutions?

DR. VIRGINIA C. TUDELA, INTERIM PRESIDENT, GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE:
I don't personally see any violation in it. I mean, the only thing that I see is coordinated efforts in terms of managing the program. That's what we need to work out, but I don't see a violation.

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, MEMBER:
Dr. Rojas?

DR. GENA A. ROJAS, INTERIM DEAN, ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT & STUDENT SUCCESS, UNIVERSITY OF GUAM:
I don't see an outright violation as well, but as I read the policy and the legislation, and I think about implementation along the way, it will be, for lack of a better word, kind of "messy," but I think that's fixable. You know, right now, if this were to proceed, we don't have a mechanism to select who gets what slots. Also, the way we currently have SFAP has already been, has already proceeded to the Administrative Adjudication Act, which is the rules under the Board of Regents administering the program.

So I think simply just putting in GCC in this process, I'm anticipating they would have to go through the Administrative Adjudication process as well. It can't just be under Chapter 28. That's kind of how I'm thinking of it. I don't think it will violate rules, but I think the implementation is going to be complex and sticky. And so then that means by extension, the application process and how it falls out to the students may be confusing. I'm kind of trying to think down that road.

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, MEMBER:
Do you believe that, Dr. Tudela, that it's complex? It's going to be messy to implement this program, this law?

DR. VIRGINIA C. TUDELA, INTERIM PRESIDENT, GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE:
Well, right now, GCC has a free college program and, of course, that veterans program, we already have existing processing in place to monitor the implementation as the bill is written. It does require coordination with the University of Guam. So those are areas that we need to address prior to implementation.

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, MEMBER:
So do you see any amendments that are needed or do you think the language that's currently in there will address this so-called "messiness" and complicated complex issue?

DR. VIRGINIA C. TUDELA, INTERIM PRESIDENT, GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE:
I think we need to look at what both institutions are doing. I know UOG does have the program right now. We do need to look at the application process. I think we both need to sit at the table to find out, "okay, what is working? What kind of changes do we need to address to make sure the implementation is a smooth implementation?" But before then, we actually have to just have that discussion because we are not at UOG. GCC, we haven't implemented the program, so we need to understand the process that UOG has in place and how we can coordinate efforts for both institutions.

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, MEMBER:
Right, but in terms of enacting the bill into law, those discussions can take place after or are you saying that you need to have those discussions first?

DR. VIRGINIA C. TUDELA, INTERIM PRESIDENT, GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE:
I think afterwards would be okay because the intent of the bill is to provide the opportunities for students. That is administrative.

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, MEMBER:
And Dr. Rojas, do you agree?

DR. GENA A. ROJAS, INTERIM DEAN, ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT & STUDENT SUCCESS, UNIVERSITY OF GUAM:
I think there's nothing wrong with speaking with Acting President Tudela before the bill goes through.

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, MEMBER:
So you would prefer that you have these discussions prior before the legislation is enacted?

DR. GENA A. ROJAS, INTERIM DEAN, ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT & STUDENT SUCCESS, UNIVERSITY OF GUAM:
I think it would be helpful instead of having to backtrack if we look at some unintended consequences. So I think discussions are good.

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, MEMBER:
And what unintended consequences, though, are you looking at? Because this is really geared toward helping these students.

DR. GENA A. ROJAS, INTERIM DEAN, ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT & STUDENT SUCCESS, UNIVERSITY OF GUAM:
You know, one of the things is, like I said, how are we going to determine if this happens, the slots for UOG and GCC, it's not in there. So if the board, GCC Board, says, “well, we're going to award 40 students and the University of Guam has continuing enrollees and must take new enrollees,” who makes that decision between the two boards? I mean, that's just how we're thinking about it. We may not know what the unintended consequences are at the moment, but the discussion may reveal that. And I think it's erring on the side of caution.

It would be so much harder, I think, and I'm not taking one side or another, I'm just saying that discussions are fruitful. It would be difficult if we went through, didn't have the discussion, found these things happen, and then who suffers because something in the law needs to be changed before we can even start the program. And that's just my caution.

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, MEMBER:
But like you mentioned, laws can be amended. We could move forward with this law and then amend it if there is a need for it to be amended. But as Dr. Tudela said, there would be these discussions that would take place because we have the framework in place in law and see where

it goes. And maybe there may not be any unintended consequences, but maybe we'll see a success of this law being enacted.

Dr. Tudela, you wanted to say something?

DR. VIRGINIA C. TUDELA, INTERIM PRESIDENT, GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE:
I was just thinking, based on my understanding of the bill in terms of the funding availability and how we determine who can avail of the funding, the way the bill is written is those individuals that are further along in the program are those that we would prioritize in terms of funding. So the bill itself already has stated how to address issues in terms of any reduction in funding or any constraints in terms of the funding available.

DR. GENA A. ROJAS, INTERIM DEAN, ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT & STUDENT SUCCESS, UNIVERSITY OF GUAM:
May I add that a two-year program and a four-year program in the process of both brings them at two different stages. For example, a two-year program, somebody who was in there last year, may not be equal to the four-year program where you have a junior and is not further along than a two-year program. So those are the kind of things I'm thinking about. If we went by what we see, then logically it would say, "okay, GCC gets the slot because this student was there last year." But the UOG student is in his third year in a four-year program. And students will recognize that. They will make that argument. And so those are the kind of things that may appear. Just wanted to add that in.

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, MEMBER:
Thank you. Do you see this as a competition between GCC and UOG?

DR. GENA A. ROJAS, INTERIM DEAN, ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT & STUDENT SUCCESS, UNIVERSITY OF GUAM:
Oh, absolutely not. Absolutely not. I am so proud and I'm so excited with what GCC is doing. I have an RN. My daughter-in-law is an RN. So I live and eat and breathe her life. And so absolutely not. But at the same time, as I mentioned in my testimony, we have 160 students who are availing themselves of our SFAP funding. And what are we going to do when we don't have enough funding? So I certainly don't see it as a competition at all. I worked at GCC in the 1980s. I am a GED recipient from GCC. So absolutely not, Senator.

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, MEMBER:
So that's 160 students for SFAP funding for the nursing students?

DR. GENA A. ROJAS, INTERIM DEAN, ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT & STUDENT SUCCESS, UNIVERSITY OF GUAM:
No. As in my testimony, SFAP covers seven programs, from Protech to Teacher Corps to Doc Sanchez to merit scholarships. All of the government scholarships that the legislature funds covers all those programs.

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, MEMBER:
And how many, I guess, then nursing students are receiving financial assistance?

DR. GENA A. ROJAS, INTERIM DEAN, ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT & STUDENT SUCCESS, UNIVERSITY OF GUAM:
So 23 NTP nurses training program and 7 BSN. Incoming.

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, MEMBER:
So that's 23 students receiving financial assistance through the UOG nursing programs. For GCC?

DR. VIRGINIA C. TUDELA, INTERIM PRESIDENT, GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE:
So with GCC, this would cover our LPN or ADNRN. So the LTPN program, it's a two year program with 20 students. And for the ADNRN program, the cohort is 20 students, but it's 2.5 years.

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, MEMBER:
And currently no one is receiving any financial assistance?

DR. VIRGINIA C. TUDELA, INTERIM PRESIDENT, GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE:
Maybe through financial aid.

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, MEMBER:
But this bill would give the same opportunity that UOG nursing students are receiving for financial assistance under the Guam NTP.

DR. VIRGINIA C. TUDELA, INTERIM PRESIDENT, GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE:
Yes.

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, MEMBER:

Thank you. And that really is just the point of the bill. I think by providing this parity between the two programs to help grow our nursing workforce, it's not meant to create any kind of competition or animosity between the two entities. And so if there's anything right now that you believe should be amended to be included in this bill, please, if you could just say what you think needs to be changed, because I tell you, once this goes on to session floor, it's just going to get all crazy.

Dr. Rojas, any final comment you wanted to say?

DR. GENA A. ROJAS, INTERIM DEAN, ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT & STUDENT SUCCESS, UNIVERSITY OF GUAM:
No, I think I'm good.

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, MEMBER:
Thank you. Dr. Tudela?

DR. VIRGINIA C. TUDELA, INTERIM PRESIDENT, GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE:
The bill has already gone through our nursing department and through our dean, so there's nothing that I'd like to put forward, but I strongly support the implementation of the bill.

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, MEMBER:
Thank you. Anyone else to the senators that are not here? Because, again, when we go into our next session, they might have a lot to say, so any message you would like to give to them? You're good to go with the bill? Okay.

Thank you so much for coming down, and thank you, GCC, for working on this bill, and thank you, UOG, for your input. I did want to say before I just wrap up that the Guam Board of Nurse Examiners, they did provide a written testimony on this bill, and I will just say right here.

"In view of the foregoing, the Guam Board of Nurse Examiners recognizes the potential value of Bill No. 366-38 in expanding access to nursing education support, strengthening local workforce development, and encouraging the continued preparation of qualified nursing professionals for Guam," and they submitted a letter expressing support for Bill No. 366.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

SENATOR VINCENT A.V. BORJA, CHAIRPERSON:
Thank you, Senator Salas Matanane. Speaker Blas?

SPEAKER FRANK F. BLAS, JR., MEMBER:
Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you very much to everybody in the testimony. I think that, from what I gather, there's really no opposition to the intent of the bill. I think everybody on the table and everybody in the room feel that this is something that we can work out. I think the only bone of contention was the funding source to this. Dr. Rojas, you had stated that you had some concerns with that. How much do you anticipate this bill would cost?

DR. GENA A. ROJAS, INTERIM DEAN, ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT & STUDENT SUCCESS, UNIVERSITY OF GUAM:
We reviewed the fiscal note, and GCC submitted their fiscal note to BBMR. So, that was $345,000 for 40 students, 20 on the LPN, and 20 for the ADNRN. That was their submission on an estimated cost for that. And right now, we maximize, we use everything for the current nurses that we have. When we go under reapportionment, of course, we request the $4.5M. When we get the $3.5M, we go under reapportionment. That drops down to $200,000 for those nurses, and everything is used, Senator.

SPEAKER FRANK F. BLAS, JR., MEMBER:
I appreciate that, because I'm looking at the fiscal note from BBMR. And I'm just going to go ahead and read what the BBMR read, okay? “Lastly, the Bureau notes that it is noteworthy, it is worth mentioning, that a request for comments was made to the University of Guam on September 29, 2026, and a follow up on October 9, 2026, but no response was provided as the preparation of this fiscal note.”

DR. GENA A. ROJAS, INTERIM DEAN, ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT & STUDENT SUCCESS, UNIVERSITY OF GUAM:
I read that too, sir. I read that too. And so, our take was we didn't know, and this may not be the correct answer, but we didn't know at the time, we couldn't anticipate what GCC's cost was, and so we allowed that to move forward on there. And so, clarification now, if I can, is that that is what we're submitting in terms of the fiscal impact of the proposal.

SPEAKER FRANK F. BLAS, JR., MEMBER:
$345,000?

DR. GENA A. ROJAS, INTERIM DEAN, ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT & STUDENT SUCCESS, UNIVERSITY OF GUAM:
That's what they submitted, yes.

SPEAKER FRANK F. BLAS, JR., MEMBER:
Yeah, and I just got to say it, okay? I'm looking at two very fine educational institutions, okay? And, come on, if we're going to roll over and stumble over $345,000 that we can't share amongst

ourselves, and we can't find within ourselves, that's no reason for this not to happen, okay? Dr. Rojas, I can appreciate it as far as UOG is concerned that this money, whether this money is coming, must come from or has to come from, but I also have to look at the total picture, and as far as the financial or physical affairs of both institutions. And I'm sure that within both institutions, we're going to be able to find collectively $345,000.

I would rather be, let the stumbling block be, I'm not saying to compete with each other, but when you open up a process and an avenue, an opportunity like this, what we want to see is we want to see more individuals, more students want to become nurses, okay? And so I can anticipate that you open up an opportunity like this, we're not going to have that shortage in nursing that we anticipate. In fact, we can probably, as University of Guam and the Guam Community College, be the epitome and the process for other jurisdictions to be able to satisfy their nursing needs. And so I can appreciate the concern brought by the University of Guam, but I think that if there's any of the conversations, we can find it amongst ourselves, within ourselves.

I've seen it happen with both institutions over the last few years, okay? One institution comes and says, “we're woefully short,” but still manages to continue to operate. Another one, it's not a matter of intentionality, but they really never get any, the money that they ask for. And they say, “okay, we'll work with it.” And still come out on top, still come out on top. So as I was sitting in, I was listening to it and I was very encouraged, and I appreciate everybody's willingness and everybody's desire to see this come through. But don't let a measly, don't let $345,000 stop us from doing what we need to do, what we want to do, okay?

And I know the system works. I came from that system. I trained as a police officer with the Guam Community College. I think I forgot what they used to call it back then, okay? And I continued my education with the University of Guam. It works in one area. It works not just with the police department, with the fire department, and now we want to work with the nursing department, with nursing. The two institutions have a long-standing history of making it work. So for our nurses, our nursing students, our programs, because eventually, like you said, they only have two or two and a half year programs, right? Eventually, they're going to migrate. Eventually, they're going to want to continue their education. And then we can work vice versa in being able to bring continuing education courses that you both can help out in.

So that's what I want to encourage. I think that if there's any discussion, it's finding that it can work, okay? You know, thank you Senator Salas Matanane for bringing this up. And I have to go answer my mother who's a nurse as to why I didn't bring it up, okay? Right, Zennia? Do not call her after this.

So please, I think that if there's any encouraging thing here is that there's nobody here that says it cannot work. I just want everybody to leave here saying we will make it work, okay? Thank you very much.

SENATOR VINCENT A.V. BORJA, CHAIRPERSON:
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Senator, you want to close?

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE, MEMBER:
I just wanted to thank everyone for showing up today and testifying on the bill because clearly both institutions are making important contributions to developing our local nursing workforce. And as the speaker mentioned, we will make it work. So again, thank you so much for coming and I guess, Happy Halloween.

[END OF TESTIMONIES FOR BILL NO. 366-38 (LS)][1:45:59]

SENATOR VINCENT A.V. BORJA, CHAIRPERSON:
Thank you Senator. If there are no further testimony or questions for the panel, this will now conclude this morning's public hearing on Bill No. 366-38. The committee will continue to accept written testimony on the appointment and this bill within seven days from today, which may be addressed to myself, Senator Vincent A.V. Borja, Chairman, Committee on Education, Libraries, and Public Broadcasting, or mailed to DNA Building Suite 502, 238 Archbishop Flores Street, Hagatna, Guam 96910. You may also send your testimonies to contact@senatorvinceborja.com. This morning's public hearing is now adjourned, and the time is now **10:45 A.M.** Thank you, and have a good day everyone.

[END OF PUBLIC HEARING] [1:46:50]

III. FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee on Education, Public Libraries, and Public Broadcasting hereby reports **Bill No. 366-38 (LS) -** ***As Introduced*** **-** Sabrina Salas Matanane - "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 28611 TO ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND TO AMEND §§ 28602, 28603, 28604, 28605, 28608, 28609, AND 28610 OF ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE NURSING TRAINING PROGRAM TO NURSING STUDENTS AT THE GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE." with the recommendation TO REPORT OUT ONLY.

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

Bill No. 366-38 (LS)

Introduced by: Sabrina Salas Matanane

AN ACT TO ADD A *NEW* § 28611 TO ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND TO *AMEND* §§ 28602, 28603, 28604, 28605, 28608, 28609, AND 28610 OF ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE NURSING TRAINING PROGRAM TO NURSING STUDENTS AT THE GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that the island of Guam continues to face a critical and chronic shortage of qualified nursing professionals. According to data from the Guam Board of Nurse Examiners and local healthcare administrators, the island's vacancy rate for registered nurses and licensed practical nurses remains at levels that necessitate a heavy reliance on expensive off-island contractual or "travel" nurses. This reliance not only drains the financial resources of the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority and the Guam Regional Medical City but also hinders the development of a sustainable, locally-rooted healthcare workforce that understands the unique cultural and social dynamics of the island's population.

I Liheslaturan Guåhan further finds that the Guam Community College (GCC) serves as a vital engine for workforce development, particularly through its

Practical Nursing and Allied Health programs. While Chapter 15 of Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, originally established various student financial assistance programs intended to bolster the nursing profession, those programs were recodified into Chapter 28 of Title 17 GCA, and the Nursing Training program now appears as Article 6 of Chapter 28. Many of those statutory provisions were historically drafted with a primary focus on baccalaureate programs at the University of Guam. Research into national healthcare education trends indicates that community colleges are often the most accessible entry point for non-traditional students and those from lower-income backgrounds. By providing financial parity to students at GCC, the government can effectively broaden the recruitment pipeline, allowing students to begin their nursing careers as Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) and eventually transition into Registered Nurse (RN) roles through established "bridge" programs.

The legislative approach of expanding financial aid to community college nursing students is mirrored in several other jurisdictions seeking to mitigate similar shortages. For instance, the Pennsylvania Legislature recently enacted the Nursing Shortage Assistance Program, which specifically targets financial barriers for students in nursing programs across various institutional levels to ensure a steady flow of graduates into the workforce. Similarly, the California Legislature has consistently utilized its community college system as a primary vehicle for healthcare workforce expansion, recognizing that localized training leads to higher retention rates within the state. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that applying these same principles to Guam's statutory framework will ensure that financial barriers do not prevent qualified local residents from pursuing nursing credentials at the institution that best fits their educational and career trajectory.

Furthermore, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that the current cost of living and the rising price of higher education necessitate a more inclusive application of the Nursing Training Program and other merit-based scholarships. According to the

Guam Department of Labor's workforce statistics, healthcare practitioners and technical occupations are among the highest-demand fields on the island, yet the financial burden of tuition, fees, and clinical supplies often deters potential students. By explicitly including the Guam Community College as an eligible institution for relevant nursing financial assistance programs under Title 17, the government of Guam reaffirms its commitment to investing in its people and its public institutions. This expansion ensures that every dollar appropriated for nursing education is utilized to its maximum potential by supporting students at both the vocational and professional levels of the nursing hierarchy.

It is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to amend Article 6 of Chapter 28 of Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, to ensure that the Nursing Training program is fully applicable to students enrolled in nursing programs at the Guam Community College, with the Board of Trustees of the Guam Community College administering awards for students attending the Guam Community College in parallel to the administration by the Board of Regents of the University of Guam for students attending the University of Guam. This legislation seeks to eliminate statutory ambiguity and provide equitable access to government-funded scholarships and loans for all nursing students, regardless of whether they are pursuing a certificate, an associate degree, or a baccalaureate degree. By doing so, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* intends to foster a robust, home-grown nursing workforce, reduce the island's dependence on external labor, and improve the overall quality and consistency of patient care in the territory.

Section 2. A New § 28611 is hereby *added* to Article 6 of Chapter 28 of Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, to read:

§ 28611. Use of Nursing Training Benefits at the Guam Community College.

(a) Eligibility of Guam Community College Students. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article, nursing students enrolled at the Guam Community College in a nursing program leading to a certificate, an associate degree, or a baccalaureate degree may receive Nursing Training awards under this Article on the same terms, and subject to the same conditions, as nursing students enrolled at the University of Guam.

(b) Parallel Governance. The Board of Trustees of the Guam Community College shall administer Nursing Training awards under this Article for students enrolled at the Guam Community College, in parallel to the Board of Regents of the University of Guam, which shall continue to administer Nursing Training awards under this Article for students enrolled at the University of Guam.

(c) Interinstitutional Collaboration. The Board of Trustees of the Guam Community College and the Board of Regents of the University of Guam shall collaborate, and shall enter into one (1) or more written agreements, on:

(1) joint or coordinated application procedures and forms for the Nursing Training program at both institutions;

(2) articulation agreements identifying the courses, credits, and clinical hours earned at the Guam Community College that shall be accepted for transfer toward a nursing degree at the University of Guam, and vice versa;

(3) the transfer of academic credit between the two (2) institutions for recipients of Nursing Training awards; and

(4) procedures governing recipients who initially use Nursing Training benefits at one (1) institution and subsequently continue, transfer, or matriculate to the other, including the continuity of stipends,

tuition allowances, service-back obligations under § 28604, and probationary or good-standing determinations under § 28609.

(d) Rulemaking Authority. The Board of Trustees of the Guam Community College is hereby authorized to adopt rules and regulations, in accordance with the Administrative Adjudication Law, to administer the Nursing Training program at the Guam Community College, including, but not limited to, application procedures, enrollment and full-time status requirements, academic standards, disbursement schedules, repayment, default, and the procedures contemplated by subsection (c) of this Section.

(e) Application of Article 6 to Guam Community College Students. Except as otherwise provided in this Section, all other provisions of this Article shall apply equally to nursing students enrolled at the Guam Community College, and the Board of Trustees of the Guam Community College shall exercise, with respect to students enrolled at the Guam Community College, the functions that the Board of Regents of the University of Guam exercises with respect to students enrolled at the University of Guam.

Section 3. § 28602 Of Article 6 of Chapter 28 of Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read:

§ 28602. Stipends.

There are hereby established the following stipends for nursing students at the University of Guam, and for nursing students at the Guam Community College:

(a) A monthly allowance shall be paid to a nursing student recipient at the following rates: Freshmen, Two Hundred Fifty Dollars ($250.00) per month; Sophomore, Three Hundred Seventy-five Dollars ($375.00) per month; Junior, Five Hundred Dollars ($500.00) per month; Senior and

Graduate Standing, Six Hundred Twenty-five Dollars ($625.00) per month. The same monthly allowance schedule shall apply to nursing students enrolled at the Guam Community College, based on the recipient's year of program: the first year of the recipient's nursing program at the Guam Community College shall be paid at the Freshmen rate; the second year, at the Sophomore rate; the third year, if applicable, at the Junior rate; and the fourth year, if applicable, at the Senior and Graduate Standing rate.

(b) As a condition for continuing full entitlement to the benefits provided in this Chapter, recipients must maintain a full-time enrollment, as defined by regulation of the University of Guam or the Guam Community College, as applicable to the institution where the recipient is enrolled, and be of good academic standing. No recipient may receive benefits beyond the number of calendar years normally required to complete such nursing student's program.

(c) Registration, tuition and other related fees normally assessed by the University of Guam or the Guam Community College, as applicable, and an allowance in the amount of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars ($250.00), shall be allowed each recipient for each regular semester, and One Hundred Dollars ($100.00) per summer session in which a nursing student is enrolled to cover costs of textbooks and supplies.

Section 4. § 28603 Of Article 6 of Chapter 28 of Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read:

§ 28603. Selection of Trainees.

The program shall be open to any student who has completed high school, or is otherwise declared by the University of Guam or the Guam Community College as eligible for admission to the program; who is a United

States citizen or permanent resident alien; and who has been a resident of Guam for at least one (1) year prior to the beginning of the academic semester or term the student is admitted, registered and enrolled in the program. The number of trainees who may enroll in the program annually shall be limited only by the capacity of the University of Guam or the Guam Community College, as applicable, and by funds made available to it by annual appropriation. In the event of limited space and/or funds, priority shall be given to students at the highest level of training and closest to the completion of their program. No student may receive stipends beyond the number of calendar years normally required to complete a training program. Notwithstanding any other provision of law or administrative rules and regulations, students who hold a Bachelor's Degree in a subject other than nursing shall be eligible for the program, provided that such students meet all other requirements herein.

Section 5. § 28604 Of Article 6 of Chapter 28 of Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read:

§ 28604. Employment of Trainees: Reimbursement.

(a) As a condition of selection and enrollment in the programs of ~~Chapters 15 and 15A of Title 17, Guam Code Annotated~~Article 6 of Chapter 28 of Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, each trainee shall agree to accept employment as a nurse, either professional or practical, in the public health system of Guam, including the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority, the Department of Public Health and Social Services, and the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center, as school health counselors in the Guam Department of Education or the Guam Community College, or in private clinics or private hospitals licensed to do business on Guam, and to continue

in such employment for a period of time equal to the period of training under the program.

(b) The recipient shall further agree that in the event of the recipient's failure or refusal to fulfill the obligation set forth in Subsection (a), the recipient shall then repay the government of Guam an amount equal to the total monthly allowances paid to the recipient pursuant to ~~§ 151002~~§ 28602 of this Article, including actual costs to the government for textbooks and supplies.

Section 6. § 28605 Of Article 6 of Chapter 28 of Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read:

§ 28605. In-service Training for Resident Nurses.

(a) Any non-contract professional or practical nurse employed by the government of Guam in a permanent position, who is a U.S. citizen and a bona fide resident of Guam, who lacks not more than two (2) years or their equivalent in requirements for a degree in nursing shall be entitled to enroll at the University of Guam or the Guam Community College for the purpose of completing work toward such degree as an in-service training program, whereby the recipient continues to receive the recipient's regular salary from the government of Guam, including all scheduled pay increases, so long as the recipient maintains passing work at the University of Guam or the Guam Community College, as applicable, and so long as the program leading to the issuance of the degree in nursing is pursued; provided, however, that no person shall participate in such in-service program in excess of two (2) years or their equivalent.

(b) In addition, every person who participates in such program shall be obligated to work for the government of Guam for a period of two (2) years

for each year of training received, failing which the recipient shall be liable to repay the cost of the recipient's training to the government.

Section 7. § 28608 Of Article 6 of Chapter 28 of Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read:

§ 28608. Annual Report and Budget Request.

~~The University~~The University of Guam and the Guam Community College, each as to the nursing programs it administers under this Article, shall submit to the Governor and the Speaker of the Legislature an annual report and budgetary request to fund the programs established in this Chapter.

Section 8. § 28609 Of Article 6 of Chapter 28 of Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read:

§ 28609. Minimum Grade-Point-Average.

For students entering the Nursing Training Program after the enactment of this Section, the minimum cumulative grade-point-average to remain in the program in good standing is '2.5.' In the event such a student participating in the Nursing Training Program drops below the minimum cumulative grade-point-average herein, the student shall be placed on probation for a period ~~to be determined by the Board of Regents~~to be determined by the Board of Regents for students enrolled at the University of Guam, or by the Board of Trustees of the Guam Community College for students enrolled at the Guam Community College, but such probationary period shall not exceed three (3) semesters exclusive of summers or inter-sessions.

Section 9. § 28610 Of Article 6 of Chapter 28 of Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read:

§ 28610. Garnishment of Income Tax Refunds in the Event of Default.

~~The University of Guam may, subject to~~The University of Guam and the Guam Community College, each as to defaults on awards administered by that institution, may, subject to the terms and conditions of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Revenue and Taxation, garnish the tax refunds due to any recipient of assistance pursuant to this Article and/or the recipient's co-signer(s) who has defaulted on the repayment of such assistance and a judgment has issued. Such garnishment shall not exceed the judgment amount.

Section 10. Severability. If any provision of this Act or its application to any person or circumstance is found to be invalid or inorganic, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are severable.

Section 11. 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

October 26, 2026

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

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

Subject: **Fiscal Note for Bill No. 366-38 (LS)**

Håfa Adai!

Find the attached, Fiscal Note for the following bill:

Bill No. 366-38 (LS).

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

Bureau of Budget & Management Research
Fiscal Note of Bill No. 366-38 (LS)

AN ACT TO ADD A *NEW* § 28611 TO ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND TO *AMEND* §§ 28602, 28603, 28604, 28605, 28608, 28609, AND 28610 OF ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE NURSING TRAINING PROGRAM TO NURSING STUDENTS AT THE GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

Department/Agency Appropriation Information		
Dept./Agency Affected: Guam Community College	Dept./Agency Head: Virginia C. Tudela, Ph.D., Interim President	
Department's General Fund (GF) appropriation(s) to date:		$15,889,559
Department's Other Fund (Specify) appropriation(s) to date: Manpower Development Fund		$8,075,297
Total Department/Agency Appropriation(s) to date:		$23,964,856
Dept./Agency Affected: University of Guam	Dept./Agency Head: Anita Borja Enriquez, DBA, President	
Department's General Fund (GF) appropriation(s) to date:		$49,391,032
Department's Other Fund (Specify) appropriation(s) to date: Guam Educational Facilities Fund ($500,000) and Healthy Futures Fund ($4,000,000)		$4,500,000
Total Department/Agency Appropriation(s) to date:		$53,891,032

Fund Source Information of Proposed Appropriation	General Fund:	(Specify Special Fund):	Total:
FY 2026 Unreserved Fund Balance		$0	$0
FY 2027 Adopted Revenues	$0	$0	$0
FY 2027 Appro. (P.L. 38-136)	$0	$0	$0
Sub-total:	$0	$0	$0
Less appropriation in Bill	$0	$0	$0
Total:	$0	$0	$0

Estimated Fiscal Impact of Bill	One Full Fiscal Year	For Remainder of FY 2027 (if applicable)	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
General Fund 1/	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Special Fund 1/	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Total 1/	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0

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

Analyst: _____ Date: 10/13/26 Director: _____ Date: OCT 2 6 2026
Joaquin A.J. Guerrero II Lester L. Carlson, Jr.

Notes:
1/ See attached comments.

Bureau of Budget and Management Research
Comments on Bill No. 366-38 (LS)

The proposed legislation intends to add a new § 28611 to Article 6 of Chapter 28, Title 17 of the Guam Code Annotated (GCA) and to amend §§ 28602, 28603, 28604, 28605, 28608, 28609, and 28610 of Article 6, Chapter 28, Title 17 GCA, relative to extending the Nursing Training Program to nursing students at the Guam Community College (GCC).

Per comments provided by the GCC, based on their enrollment data, the proposed monthly stipend and recipient's year of the program, and an analysis of the Licensed practical Nurse (LPN) and the Associate of Science Degree in Nursing – Registered Nurse (ADN-RN) student participation, the estimated cost impact amounts to $345,000 for both program cohorts. The breakdown is as follows: LPN Program is $145,000 and the AND-RN Program is $200,000. The GCC believes these amounts represent the most reasonable and conservative fiscal assumption because of the percentage of completion for each program, as well as the requirements set forth in the selection process, to include completion of all required general education courses, a GPA of 2.5 or higher, the results of a Pre-Admissions Assessment Exam, content of the required essay, and the outcome of an interview.

Guam Community College
Bill No. 366-38 Nursing Training Program Act
Data Analysis for Stipends
Data as of October 09, 2026

Year - Term	Monthly Stipend	Average of 20 LPN Students Per Cohort	Average of 20 ADN-RN Students Per Cohort
1st Year - 10 months	$ 250.00	50,000	50,000
2nd Year - 10 months	$ 375.00	75,000	75,000
3rd Year - 5 months	$ 500.00	N/A	50,000
4th Year - Not Applicable	$ 625.00	N/A	N/A
SubTotal		**$ 125,000**	**$ 175,000**

	Per Regular Semester	LPN Students 4 Regular Semesters	ADN-RN Students 5 Regular Semesters
Registration, Tuition, & Fees	$ 250.00	$ 20,000	$ 25,000
Totals		**$ 145,000**	**$ 200,000**
Total for both Nursing Programs		**$ 345,000**	

Note: Calculations above are based on 20 Full-Time Students per cohort. Four Regular Semesters for the LPN Program and Five Regular Semesters for the ADN-RN Program. No summer classes required for programs.

Lastly, the Bureau notes that it is worth mentioning that a request for comments was made to the University of Guam on September 29, 2026 and follow up on October 9, 2026, but no response was provided as of the preparation of this fiscal note.