

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
177-38 (LS)	Frank F. Blas, Jr. Chris Barnett Therese M. Terlaje Christopher M. Dueñas Sabina Flores Perez Telo T. Taitague Jesse A. Lujan Vincent A. V. Borja Joe S. San Agustin Shelly V. Calvo Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao William A. Parkinson Tina Rose Muña Barnes V. Anthony Ada	AN ACT TO <i>ADD</i> A NEW § 1042, CHAPTER 10, TITLE 1, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO DESIGNATING DECEMBER 10 AS “INSULAR FORCE GUARD MEMORIAL DAY”.	8/11/25 11:49 a.m.	8/20/25	Committee on Finance and Government Operations.	Request: 8/20/25 Waiver: 8/25/25	9/9/25 2:00 p.m.	9/19/25 As Amended.	



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

September 19, 2025

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

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

RE: Committee Report on Bill No. 177-38 (LS) As Amended - An Act To Add A New § 1042, Chapter 10, Title 1, Guam Code Annotated; Relative To Designating December 10 As "Insular Force Guard Memorial Day".

Buenas yan Håfa Adai Speaker,

Transmitted herewith is the Committee Report on Bill No. 177-38 (LS) - An Act To Add A New § 1042, Chapter 10, Title 1, Guam Code Annotated; Relative To Designating December 10 As "Insular Force Guard Memorial Day".

Committee votes are as follows:

<u>5</u>	TO DO PASS
<u>0</u>	TO NOT PASS
<u>1</u>	TO REPORT OUT ONLY
<u>0</u>	TO ABSTAIN
<u>0</u>	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE

Senseremente,



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



COMMITTEE ON RULES

RECEIVED:

September 19, 2025 9:59 a.m.
Marie Crisostomo



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

COMMITTEE REPORT

BILL NO. 177-38 (LS)

INTRODUCED BY

Frank F. Blas, Jr.

**AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 1041,
CHAPTER 10, TITLE 1, GUAM CODE
ANNOTATED; RELATIVE TO
DESIGNATING DECEMBER 10 AS
“INSULAR FORCE GUARD
MEMORIAL DAY”**



Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas

CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

September 18, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: All Members
Committee on Finance and Government Operations

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

Subject: Committee Report on Bill No. 177-38 (LS)

Transmitted herewith for your consideration is the Committee Report on **Bill No. 117-38 (LS)** - "An Act To Add A New § 1042, Chapter 10, Title 1, Guam Code Annotated; Relative To Designating December 10 As "Insular Force Guard Memorial Day"

This report includes the following:

- Copy of COR Referral of Bill No. 177-38 (LS)
- Notices of Public Hearing
- Copy of the Public Hearing Agenda
- Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet
- Copies of Submitted Written Testimony
- Committee Vote Sheet
- Committee Report Digest
- Bill No. 177-38 (LS), *As Introduced*
- Bill No. 177-38 (LS), *Committee Mark Up*
- Bill No. 177-38 (LS), *As Amended*
- Fiscal Note/Fiscal Note Waiver
- Related News Reports

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

Respectfully,


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



COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

August 20, 2025

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

Attorney Darleen Hiton
Legislative Legal Counsel

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

Subject: **Referral of Bill No. 177-38 (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. 177-38 (LS)** –Frank F. Blas, Jr., Chris Barnett, Therese M. Terlaje, Christopher M. Dueñas, Sabina Flores Perez, Telo T. Taitague, Jesse A. Lujan, Vincent A. V. Borja, Joe S. San Agustin, Shelly V. Calvo, Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao, William A. Parkinson, Tina Rose Muña Barnes, V. Anthony Ada. – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 1041, CHAPTER 10, TITLE 1, GUAM CODE AN NOTATED; RELATIVE TO DESIGNATING DECEMBER 10 AS “INSULAR FORCE GUARD MEMORIAL DAY.”

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

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

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





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

FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing on September 9, 2025

1 message

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

Tue, Sep 2, 2025 at 8:17 AM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 2, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, and Media

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

Re: FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing on September 9, 2025

The Committee on Finance and Government Operations will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, September 9, 2025**, beginning at **2:00 pm** at the Public Hearing Room in the Guam Congress Building. The agenda is as follows:

- **Bill No. 1-38 (COR)** – Telo T. Taitague - AN ACT TO AMEND § 26603(d)(5)(B) OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 26, TITLE 11 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION LEVEL TO THE GUAM CANCER TRUST FUND.
- **Bill No. 177-38 (LS)** – Frank F. Blas, Jr. - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 1041, CHAPTER 10, TITLE 1, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; RELATIVE TO DESIGNATING DECEMBER 10 AS “INSULAR FORCE GUARD MEMORIAL DAY”.
- **Bill No. 128-38 (COR)** – Therese M. Terlaje - AN ACT TO AMEND §6205 OF CHAPTER 6, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO REQUIRING THAT COPIES OF PETITIONS FOR ABOVE-STEP RECRUITMENTS BE POSTED ON THE GUAM PUBLIC NOTICE WEBSITE AND SENT TO THE SPEAKER OF I LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN.

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

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

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Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas

Chairman, Committee on Government Finance and Operations

259 Martyr St., Hagatna, Guam 96910

senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov

(671) 989-9554

2 attachments



senator-duenas-headshot.jpg

70K



1st Notice PH 9-9-25 (1, 177 & 128).pdf

300K



Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas

CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 2, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, and Media

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

Re: FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing on September 9, 2025

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

OFFICE OF SENATOR CHRISTOPHER M. DUEÑAS

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

  LIKE AND FOLLOW @SENATORDUENAS

FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing on September 9, 2025

 PRINT

FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing on September 9, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING



 **Posted on:** 09/02/2025 08:17 AM

 **Posted by:** Ashley Shinohara

 **Public Hearing Date:** 09/09/2025 02:00 PM

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

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

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

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

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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 2, 2025

MEMORANDUM**To: All Senators, Stakeholders, and Media****From: Senator Christopher M. Dueñas
Chairman, Committee on Finance and Government
Operations****Re: FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing on September 9, 2025**

The Committee on Finance and Government Operations will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, September 9, 2025**, beginning at **2:00 pm** at the Public Hearing Room in the Guam Congress Building. The agenda is as follows:

Bill No. 1-38 (COR)

([http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%201-38%20\(COR\)%20HISTORY.pdf](http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%201-38%20(COR)%20HISTORY.pdf)) – Telo T. Taitague - AN ACT TO AMEND § 26603(d)(5)(B) OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 26, TITLE 11 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION LEVEL TO THE GUAM CANCER TRUST FUND.

Bill No. 177-38 (LS)

([http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20177-38%20\(LS\).pdf](http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20177-38%20(LS).pdf)) – Frank F. Blas, Jr. - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 1041, CHAPTER 10, TITLE 1, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; RELATIVE TO DESIGNATING DECEMBER 10 AS “INSULAR FORCE GUARD MEMORIAL DAY”.

Bill No. 128-38 (COR)

([http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20128-38%20\(COR\).pdf](http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20128-38%20(COR).pdf)) – Therese M. Terlaje - AN ACT TO AMEND §6205 OF CHAPTER 6, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO REQUIRING THAT COPIES OF PETITIONS FOR ABOVE-STEP RECRUITMENTS BE POSTED ON THE GUAM PUBLIC NOTICE WEBSITE AND SENT TO THE SPEAKER OF I LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN.

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September 2, 2025

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[38%20\(COR\)%20HISTORY.pdf](http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%201-38%20(COR)%20HISTORY.pdf)) – Telo T. Taitague - AN ACT TO

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KUAM-TV
P.O BOX 368
HAGATNA, GUAM 96932 U.S

Advertiser ID: 2729	Amount Paid	
2729-00006-0000	09/10/2025	1
Official Invoice	Date	Page

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2729-00006-0000 O 09/10/2025 1

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

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

Date	Day	Length		Qty	Rate	Total
09/10/2025	WED		KUAM TV PUBLIC HEARING – SEPTEMBER 09, 2025 FIRST NOTICE - AIR DATE: 09/02/25 1x :15 SECOND AD 1x :15 SECOND AD (KUAM MATCH) SECOND NOTICE - AIRDATE: 09/05/25 1x :15 SECOND AD 1x :15 SECOND AD (KUAM MATCH)			\$200.00

PAYMENT DUE UPON RECEIPT OF INVOICE.

Quantity	4	Total	\$200.00
Total Due			\$200.00

INVOICE



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

SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing on September 9, 2025

2 messages

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

Fri, Sep 5, 2025 at 8:00 AM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 5, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, and Media

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

Re: SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing on September 9, 2025

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Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas

Chairman, Committee on Government Finance and Operations

259 Martyr St., Hagatna, Guam 96910

senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov

(671) 989-9554

2 attachments



senator-duenas-headshot.jpg

70K



2nd Notice PH 9-9-25 (1, 177 & 128).pdf

300K

Ed Pocaigue <sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov>

Fri, Sep 5, 2025 at 8:13 AM

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

Hafa Adai,

Calendar updated

[Quoted text hidden]

--



Edward S. Pocaigue, Jr.

Sergeant-at-Arms

I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Guam Congress Building, 1st Floor

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910



1-671-969-3514



sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov

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Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas

CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 5, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, and Media

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

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

OFFICE OF SENATOR CHRISTOPHER M. DUEÑAS

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

  LIKE AND FOLLOW @SENATORDUENAS

SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing on September 9, 2025

 PRINT

SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing on September 9, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING



 **Posted on:** 09/05/2025 08:27 AM

 **Posted by:** Ashley Shinohara

 **Public Hearing Date:** 09/09/2025 02:00 PM

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

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

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

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

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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 5, 2025

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Chairman, Committee on Finance and Government
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Bill No. 177-38 (LS)

([http://guamlegislature.gov/38th Guam Legislature/Bills Introduced 38th/Bill%20No.%20177-38%20\(LS\).pdf](http://guamlegislature.gov/38th%20Guam%20Legislature/Bills%20Introduced%2038th/Bill%20No.%20177-38%20(LS).pdf)) – Frank F. Blas, Jr. - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 1041, CHAPTER 10, TITLE 1, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; RELATIVE TO DESIGNATING DECEMBER 10 AS “INSULAR FORCE GUARD MEMORIAL DAY”.

Bill No. 128-38 (COR)

([http://guamlegislature.gov/38th Guam Legislature/Bills Introduced 38th/Bill%20No.%20128-38%20\(COR\).pdf](http://guamlegislature.gov/38th%20Guam%20Legislature/Bills%20Introduced%2038th/Bill%20No.%20128-38%20(COR).pdf)) – Therese M. Terlaje - AN ACT TO AMEND §6205 OF CHAPTER 6, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO REQUIRING THAT COPIES OF PETITIONS FOR ABOVE-STEP RECRUITMENTS BE POSTED ON THE GUAM PUBLIC NOTICE WEBSITE AND SENT TO THE SPEAKER OF I LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN.

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

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

The Public Hearing will be broadcast LIVE on local television (GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117) and streamed online through Liheslaturan Guåhan's YouTube Channel ([@guamlegislaturemedia](https://www.youtube.com/@GuamLegislatureMedia)) (<https://www.youtube.com/@GuamLegislatureMedia>)).



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

Invitees to Public Hearing for Bill 177-38

3 messages

Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>
To: "Speaker Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>

Thu, Aug 28, 2025 at 1:39 PM

Hafa Adai!

In preparation for the public hearing on Bill No. 177-38 (COR), scheduled for Tuesday, September 9, 2025, at 2:00 PM, please provide a list of names along with their email addresses of the individuals you would like our committee to invite.

I look forward to your response.

Thank you,

--



Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas

Chairman, Committee on Government Finance and Operations

259 Martyr St., Hagatna, Guam 96910

senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov

(671) 989-9554

Speaker Frank Blas Jr. <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>
To: Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>

Fri, Aug 29, 2025 at 8:46 AM

Hafa Adai, The Speaker has no individuals that he intends to invite to the Public Hearing on Bill No. 177-38 (COR).
Thank you for reaching out to us. Have a great day!

Judy Shockley
Office Administrator



Office of Speaker Frank F. Blas, Jr.

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

Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagatña

(671)969 6456

speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov

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[Quoted text hidden]

Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>
To: "Speaker Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>

Fri, Aug 29, 2025 at 9:51 AM

Hafa Adai Ms. Judy,

Thank you for your response.

Regards,

--



Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas

Chairman, Committee on Government Finance and Operations

259 Martyr St., Hagatna, Guam 96910

senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov

(671) 989-9554

[Quoted text hidden]



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

PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA
September 9, 2025 - Guam Congress Building

2:00PM:

- **Bill No. 1-38 (COR)** – Telo T. Taitague - An Act To Amend § 26603(D)(5)(B) Of Article 2, Chapter 26, Title 11 Guam Code Annotated, Relative To The Annual Appropriation Level To The Guam Cancer Trust Fund.
- **Bill No. 177-38 (LS)** – Frank F. Blas, Jr. - An Act To Add A New § 1041, Chapter 10, Title 1, Guam Code Annotated; Relative To Designating December 10 As “Insular Force Guard Memorial Day”.
- **Bill No. 128-38 (COR)** – Therese M. Terlaje - An Act To Amend §6205 Of Chapter 6, Title 4, Guam Code Annotated Relative To Requiring That Copies Of Petitions For Above-Step Recruitments Be Posted On The Guam Public Notice Website And Sent To The Speaker Of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*.

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

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The Public Hearings will be broadcast LIVE on local television (GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117) and streamed online through *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*’s YouTube Channel (@guamlegislaturemedia).



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

Date: September 9, 2025

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Bill No. 177-38 (LS) - Frank F. Blas Jr.

An Act To Add A New § 1041, Chapter 10, Title 1, Guam Code Annotated; Relative To Designating December 10 As “Insular Force Guard Memorial Day”.

	Name	Agency / Address	Contact No.	Email	Type of Testimony		Support	
					Oral	Written	Yes	No
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								
11								
12								

NO SIGN IN



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

COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

Bill No. 177-38 (LS), As Amended - “An Act To Add A New § 1042, Chapter 10, Title 1, Guam Code Annotated; Relative To Designating December 10 As “Insular Force Guard Memorial Day”.

Committee Members	Signature	TO DO PASS	TO NOT PASS	TO REPORT OUT ONLY	TO ABSTAIN	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE
Senator Christopher M. Dueñas <i>Chairperson</i>		X				
Senator V. Anthony Ada <i>Vice Chairperson</i>						
Senator Frank F. Blas, Jr. <i>Member</i>	E-Vote 9/18/25	X				
Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <i>Member</i>	E-Vote 9/18/25			X		
Senator Jesse A. Lujan <i>Member</i>	E-Vote 9/18/25	X				
Senator Vincent A.V. Borja <i>Member</i>	E-Vote 9/18/25	X				
Senator Tina Rose Muña Barnes <i>Member</i>						
Senator Joe S. San Agustin <i>Member</i>	E-Vote 9/18/25	X				



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

URGENT REQUEST FOR EVOTE: Bill No. 177-38 (LS)

6 messages

FP1 Mariñas [REDACTED]

Thu, Sep 18, 2025 at 4:23 PM

To: cmdcommittee@guamlegislature.gov

Håfa Ådai Committee Members!

Please see attached Committee Report for Bill No. 177-38 (LS) - Frank Blas Jr. - *As Amended* - An Act To Add A New § 1041, Chapter 10, Title 1, Guam Code Annotated; Relative To Designating December 10 As "Insular Force Guard Memorial Day".

Indicate your preferred action:

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

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

--

Senseremente,

FP1 Mariñas

Independent Contractor



cmd CR bn 177-38 fbj.pdf
17981K

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

Thu, Sep 18, 2025 at 4:25 PM

To: FP1 Mariñas [REDACTED]

Cc: cmdcommittee@guamlegislature.gov

To do pass.

[Quoted text hidden]

--



Office of Majority Leader Jesse A. Lujan

Chairman, Committee on Transportation, Tourism, Customs, Utilities and Federal & Foreign Affairs

259 Martyr St., Hagatna, Guam 96910

senator.lujan@guamlegislature.gov

(671) 969-6525

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

Thu, Sep 18, 2025 at 4:25 PM

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

Cc: FP1 Mariñas [REDACTED], cmdcommittee@guamlegislature.gov

To report out only.

[Quoted text hidden]

--

All the best,

Isaiah Aguon



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

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

Thu, Sep 18, 2025 at 4:27 PM

Hafa Adai,

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

Respectfully,



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

On Thu, 18 Sep at 2:26 AM, FP1 Mariñas [REDACTED] wrote:
Håfa Ådai Committee Members!

Please see attached Committee Report for Bill No. 177-38 (LS) - Frank Blas Jr. - *As Amended* - An Act To Add A New § 1041, Chapter 10, Title 1, Guam Code Annotated; Relative To Designating December 10 As "Insular Force Guard Memorial Day".

Indicate your preferred action:

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

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

--

Senseremente,
FP1 Mariñas
Independent Contractor

Cc: [REDACTED], cmdcommittee@guamlegislature.gov

To do pass
Frank

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 18, 2025, at 4:27 PM, Office of Senator Vince Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

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

Thu, Sep 18, 2025 at 11:11 PM

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

Cc: Office of Senator Vince Borja <contact@senatorvinceborja.com>, FP1 Mariñas [REDACTED]
cmdcommittee@guamlegislature.gov

To do pass

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 Finance and Government Operations*

Senator Christopher M. Dueñas, Chairman

BILL NO. 177-38 (LS) – FRANK BLAS JR. – AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 1041, CHAPTER 10, TITLE 1, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; RELATIVE TO DESIGNATING DECEMBER 10 AS “INSULAR FORCE GUARD MEMORIAL DAY”.

I. OVERVIEW

Bill No. 177-38 (LS) was introduced on Monday, August 11, 2025 by Frank Blas, Jr., and was subsequently referred by the Committee on Rules to the Committee on Finance and Government Operations on Wednesday, August 20, 2025. The Committee on Finance and Government Operations convened a Public Hearing on Bill No. 177-38 (LS) on Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 2:00PM 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 Tuesday, September 2, 2025 (5-Day Notice), and again on Friday, September 5, 2025 (48-Hour Notice).

SENATORS PRESENT

Christopher M. Dueñas, Chairman

Vice-Speaker, V. Anthony Ada, Vice Chairperson

Speaker, Frank F. Blas, Jr., Member, Bill Author

Legislative Secretary, Sabrina Salas Matanane, Member

Jesse A. Lujan, Member

Shelly Vargas Calvo

Chris Barnett

Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao

Sabina Flores Perez

Senator Telo T. Taitague

ORAL TESTIMONY:

None

WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

None

APPEARED BEFORE THE COMMITTEE:

N/A

II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY & DISCUSSION

The public hearing for Bill Number 177-38 (LS) was called to order at **3:03PM**.

SENATOR CHRISTOPHER M. DUEÑAS, CHAIRMAN: Bill number 177-38 (LS) introduced by Frank F. Blas, our speaker, Senator Chris Barnett, Senator Therese Terlaje, myself, Christopher Dueñas, Sabina Flores Perez, Telo T. Taitague, Jesse Lujan, Vincent A. Borja, Joe S. San Augustin, Shelley V. Calvo, Shawn Gumataotao, Senator Will Parkinson, Senator Tina Muña Barnes and Vice Speaker Tony Ada. I think we have a whole — the whole contingent here, Speaker. This bill is *An Act To Add A New § 1041, Chapter 10, Title 1, Guam Code Annotated; Relative To Designating December 10 As “Insular Force Guard Memorial Day”*. I will now ask our good speaker to introduce his legislation.

SENATOR FRANK BLAS JR., BILL AUTHOR: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And thank you to my colleagues for being here. Thank you to all who are attending that have been affected by this bill. Oh, I'm sorry, the Insular Guard. They're no longer here. Well, thank you for the opportunity to speak on an issue that quite frankly, has been long overdue. I introduced Bill 177, an act to create declaring December 10 as Insular Force Guard Memorial Day, to provide the several hundred members of the Insular Force Guard with the honor and recognition that they deserve and which for over 80 years has been absent. 84 years ago, on December 8, our island fell under attack. On December 10, our island surrendered. But before the flag of the United States was lowered for the last time, for nearly three years, the CHamorro men of the Insular Force Guard stood their ground.

They were not professional soldiers. They were fishermen, farmers, sons, brothers, ordinary people placed in extraordinary circumstances. And they did not run. They fought with limited weapons, minimal training and under the weight of colonial status, but with limitless courage. Some were wounded. Others were taken as prisoners. A few never came home. But their actions spoke clearly. Guam was not surrendered without a fight. Yet for too long, their service has remained the shadows of history. By declaring December 10 as Insular Force Guard Memorial Day, we reclaim that history. We honor their memory. And we teach future generations that tomorrow bravery is not a legend. It is not a myth. It is a legacy. This bill, however, is not just about remembrance. It's about recognition. It's about giving our people the dignity of being seen, heard and remembered for the role they played in defending not just this island, but the ideals we all share. This bill should be enacted into law. Should it be enacted in law, we'll let December 10th stand not only as a date of occupation, but as a day of honor. A day when Guam remembers her sons who stood, who fought and who proved that love for one's homeland is a force greater than fear. I want to thank you, Mr. Chair, for the opportunity to speak on this bill. And I will listen intently to my colleagues and to anyone who may testify. Thank you very much.

SENATOR CHRISTOPHER M. DUEÑAS, CHAIRMAN: *Si Yu'os Ma'ase*, Mr. Speaker. I don't have a sign in sheet. I believe we did not have anyone signed in for this bill. But I want to give my colleagues, particularly since everyone here is a co-sponsor on the bill, a chance to make some comments on the bill. So, Vice Chairman of the committee and Vice Speaker, Tony Ada, you're recognized.

VICE SPEAKER TONY ADA, VICE-CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And thank you to my colleague, Speaker Blas for introducing this piece of legislation to recognize our Insular Guard and for the general public who are not aware that the memorial that stands in the Plaza de Espana, that is the memorial that recognizes our Insular Guard Forces. For many years, that memorial has been unkept, unfortunately, and in a very dilapidated state. When the 38th Guam Legislature came into office, I made it my mission to ensure that that memorial gets the dignity that it deserves. Because those are the men who fought right there at the plaza to defend our island. And for many, many, many years, that memorial was not regarded as one that should be recognized and dignified, as all memorials

have been throughout our island. So with this piece of legislation to finally recognize those who have fought to defend our island at the onset of World War II, that in memorial, we can gather around there, perhaps this December 10th, and fully recognize those who have fought to defend this island. You can drive by there at night and see how brightly lit that memorial is, the lights that shine on that memorial. Eventually, one day, we'll have a flagpole there to recognize and symbolize the dignity and the respect that they should have been given for the past many years that have not. So thank you, Speaker Blas, for introducing this legislation again to formally recognize and memorialize those who have fought to defend the island at the onset of World War II, and hopefully again, one day that we continue to – our children and our grandchildren – you know, my grandfather was an Insular Guard. His name is inscribed on that memorial over there. So when we celebrate and we memorialize them, it will be one with dignity and respect that is properly due to them, just like every other memorial that we memorialize during Liberation Day, Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day. Now the Insular Guard gets their day, December 10th. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

SENATOR CHRISTOPHER M. DUEÑAS, CHAIRMAN: *Si Yu'os Ma'ase*, Vice Speaker. And thank you too. Under your leadership and the team that you've assembled, for all the hard work they do in maintaining the memorial, the plaza, all of the properties under the Guam legislature's purview. And we really appreciate the work that they do and your leadership in that area. This time I'd like to recognize Senator Shawn Gumataotao.

SENATOR SHAWN GUMATAOTAO: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair. And again, just a couple of, I guess, questions back to the committee. But if I can, recognizing the historical connection between the Guam National Guard, Guam Militia and the Insular Force Guard, to what extent has the Guam National Guard contributed thus far to the development of Bill 177? And how can the National Guard serve a more prominent role in organizing annual Insular Force Guard Memorial Day celebrations? Moving forward, as a Chair of the National Guard, Mr. Chair, I know I'm going to ask the question too, and I know that the author would probably do the same. Also acknowledging, Mr. Chair, that the bill does not propose an official holiday requiring the closure of government operations with the exception of critical services. What information is available regarding the level of coordination

and expenditures that may be required on the part of the Government of Guam for successful tributes each year beginning possibly in December 2025. Mr. Chair, and thank you for the time and to the bills author, thank you for allowing me to be a co-sponsor on this measure. Thank you so much.

SENATOR CHIRSTOPHER M. DUEÑAS, CHAIRMAN: *Si Yu'os Ma'ase*, Senator Gumataotao. We will take that up in the markup. I will note that the BBMR designation for this under the fiscal note recognizes it currently is administrative in nature. But we will get that information to ensure when we mark up any of the comments to the questions that you've proposed. Thank you, Senator Gumataotao. Senator Telo Taitague, you're recognized.

SENATOR TELO TAITAGUE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And thank you to the author of this legislation. I think that it brings a lot of good, good things to the island, recognizing historical recognition, education value, cultural preservation, community unity and legislative continuity. And I greatly appreciate those merits into the bill. But I also like to maybe ask the author too if we could Saipen or the CMI that were, if any of them were part of the Insular Force Guard too, maybe reach out to our brothers sisters, to the outer islands and find some way to incorporate them as well. So thank you, Mr. Chair, for the opportunity and I support this legislation. Thank you.

SENATOR CHIRSTOPHER M. DUEÑAS, CHAIRMAN: *Si Yu'os Ma'ase*, Senator Telo Taitague. Senator Lujan, you're recognized.

SENATOR JESSE LUJAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, I would like to thank the Speaker for the introduction of the bill finally. We've heard stories of course of the Insular Guard Guam, but finally again recognize them in their own special day. But likewise, jump on what Senator Gumataotao has said – that if there's a potential for collaboration, of course with the Department of Education, museums, military partners to commemorate the day meaningfully. So I'm hoping that it's just not a day again, but a meaningful celebration of that day to honor the lives of again– the Insular Guard. So again, jumping on what Senator Gumataotao had mentioned, I'm sure we'll take that up in the markup that again let's include our military partners because they were the ones that defended our island and fought

hard, put their lives on the line for the people of Guam. And so we commemorate of course on Liberation Day and now it's time to honor our brave souls that here from Guam. Thank you very much, Mr. Chair.

SENATOR CHIRSTOPHER M. DUEÑAS, CHAIRMAN: *Si Yu'os Ma'ase*, Senator Lujan. Senator Perez, You're recognized.

SENATOR SABINA PEREZ: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And I want to thank the sponsor of this bill for allowing me to co-sponsor. I think in looking at this piece of legislation, it's important to remember our history and to not only remember our history, but to honor those that have come before us in defense of our island and also to take a hard look at history to ensure that in memory of those that preserved our island that we have the duty to ensure that we don't find ourselves in the same situation again. So if we can also on this day promote peace in our region and to fight for peace. Unfortunately, you know, we hear of an executive order where the Department of Defense is now called the Department of War. And that is very concerning to me because it shows that there is some sort of provocation and we as an island were in the middle of imperial forces fighting against each other. And we were caught up in this situation. And so the question is, what can we do as an island to rise above this in honor of our ancestors and in honor of these men that fought so bravely even though they were at a huge disadvantage. And so we as an island, we have brilliant people and we can solve these problems, I believe, to protect our island and have the foresight to prevent war. *Si Yu'os Ma'ase!*

SENATOR CHIRSTOPHER M. DUEÑAS, CHAIRMAN: *Si Yu'os Ma'ase*, Senator Perez. Senator Matanane, you're recognized on the bill.

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And thank you, Speaker Blas, for introducing this bill. As I was reading through it. I realized my name is not on here. So I just have one question. If you could add me as a co-sponsor. Thank you.

SENATOR CHRISTOPHER M. DUEÑAS, CHAIRMAN: *Si Yu'os Ma'ase*, Senator. I'm sure he'll handle that in the closing and so we'll move along. Senator Barnett, you're recognized.

SENATOR CHRIS BARNETT: *Si Yu'os Ma'ase*, Mr. Chair. And I'd like to thank the author for including me as a co-sponsor on the measure on the bill which we – actually we discussed this prior to one of the long budget session days across the hall in the session room. And the good Speaker had asked me if I wanted to co-sponsor this bill which would designate December 10th as Insular Force Guard Memorial Day. And I was very excited to accept the offer of a co-sponsorship but I kind of didn't really hear what he had said. And so I had told him that my grandfather was in the Insular Force Guard. But I have to correct myself because I'm a little *tanga (deaf)* on this side. My grandfather was in the Guam Combat Patrol, which I'll get to in just a second. So the Insular Force Guard was comprised of *CHamoru* men who basically, at the onset of the Japanese invasion, were told by the United States Navy to take up arms and to defend the island against really an invasion that there was no way of them beating back. But they fought courageously, and they fought with that legendary *CHamoru* bravery. And they're absolutely worthy of this recognition that will come from the passage of this bill, which I absolutely, again, support. And I would only ask the good Speaker to consider if he would maybe in the markup process, adding the Guam Combat Patrol to this day of recognition, because the Insular Force Guard, you're right, done tremendous work and has lacked that recognition. But I would say the same of the Guam Combat Patrol, and to kind of show you the difference between the two is, in the waning days of the war, the Guam Combat Patrol was comprised of a lot of Guam Police Department officers. And so my grandfather was one of those GPD officers. He was just 18 at the time, as many of the members of the Guam Combat Patrol were. And they were, you know, given weapons and they were told to hunt down all of the Japanese stragglers all over the island. And there's a lot of great articles, a lot of great history on the Guam Combat Patrol as well as the Insular Force Guard. And I believe both of these entities, you know, unfortunately, as we, you know, near 100 years of Liberation, I don't think we've given them the proper homage and the proper tribute. And so members of the Guam Combat Patrol were responsible for rounding up the Japanese stragglers who remained hidden in the days, months, and even years, as we know, after the

American reoccupation of the island. And so I just would beg the Speaker's indulgence. I think it makes sense to combine the two groups into one holiday. But if not, you know, I would seek to introduce a legislation that would give the Guam Combat Patrol that recognition. But again, I fully support bill, and I would just ask Speaker Blas' indulgence and maybe possibly amending it so that we could recognize both of these crucial and critical entities which are part of our storied war history with one shared holiday. So *Si Yu'os Ma'ase*, Mr. Chair, for the opportunity to speak, and I also stand in support of, obviously, the Insular Force Guard, the Guam Combat Patrol, and all of the families and descendants who have come forward in light of their good work that they've done for our island and her people. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

SENATOR CHRISTOPHER M. DUEÑAS, CHAIRMAN: *Si Yu'os Ma'ase*, Senator Barnett, Senator Calvo, you're recognized.

SENATOR SHELLY VARGAS CALVO: Thank you, Mr. Chair. First, I'd like to thank and commend the Author of Bill 177, Speaker Frank Blas Jr. And gratitude for the invitation to be a co-sponsor of this bill. This measure is more than symbolic. This is actually a meaningful reflection of Guam's resilience and sacrifice. It's a long overdue recognition of the man who served in Guam's Insular Force Guard during World War II, many of whom endured capture, imprisonment and death during the Japanese occupation. Their service represents a foundational chapter in our island's wartime history and civic identity. So by enshrining this observance in law, we affirm our commitment to historical remembrance and public education. We also create space for families, veterans and educators to honor a legacy that has often been overlooked. So thank you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And thank you, Mr. Chair.

SENATOR CHRISTOPHER M. DUEÑAS, CHAIRMAN: *Si Yu'os Ma'ase*, Senator Calvo. Speaker Blas, you may close on your bill.

SENATOR FRANK BLAS JR., BILL AUTHOR: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. And I want to thank my colleagues for their testimony as well as their statements and some really great ideas. Thank you very much. And to my colleague from – from Agat (Senator Salas Matanane) – ma'am – yes. The only

reason why is because you weren't on island I guess when we were passing this around. And to my colleague also from Ipan (Senator Barnett) with regards to the combination, I think that it's fitting too. And my colleague from Tamuning (Senator Telo Taitague) I appreciate – This is an effort to be able to look at not just the people of GUam – people of the *Marianas* – because as was stated in Senator Lujan's and Senator Gumataotao – obviously there's going to be a need to be able for the educational aspect and see how else we can perpetuate the honor and the remembrance commemoration. And to my good colleague, the Vice Speaker, sir, on behalf for your grandfather, thank you very much for his service and for (*inaudible*). But you know, ladies and gentlemen, this is more than just a day to remember, but it is a – is it a people to never forget the bravery and the epitome of what our island has been and what continues to be for the armed forces. You know, one of the proudest moments is when you have a military, high ranking military member say that before a military member, a platoon, a brigade, a company from Guam made up of *CHamoru* soldiers are some of the best soldiers and some of the best military personnel that you can have standing by your side. And that comes because of legacy. That comes because of the commitment – that becomes because of recognizing what we stand for. What this legislation doesn't say and what the history has failed to be able to perpetuate is while my opening statement said that they were told to defend the island with limited training, limited resources, limited supervision – and a lot of that was because first off, they only thought to be ceremonial, quite honestly, there was discussions amongst the commanding forces at the time prior to them told to defend the island, that they didn't want to give them the weapons because they didn't want the savages to hurt themselves. Well, I'm just going to remind that this day is going to remind the world that in the only American soil that was ever occupied and ever surrendered to an enemy force, that it was the *CHamoru* men who stood there and laid down there – lay down their lives – with the limited resources they had to defend not only their island, but to defend the flag. There is no other place in the United States that can say that it's done in any war before then and any war since then. That is the legacy that we're going to remember on December 10th. Those are the men that we will never forget. That is the honor that we will perpetuate. So I encourage and I ask my colleagues for their full support. And Mr. Chair, I want to thank you for having this public hearing so that we can move it on to the session for voting. Thank you very much.

SENATOR CHIRSTOPHER M. DUEÑAS, CHAIRMAN: You're very much welcome. And *Si Yu'os Ma'ase*, to you, Mr. Speaker, as well. I just want to make one closing comment on the bill. It's very interesting. I'm sure there's a reason for December 10th, but it's also very fitting as it's right next to December 8th. And you know, so as we, as we recognize we were attacked and then you're recognizing those who subsequently defended, and I think that's very appropriate. Is there a reason for December 10th?

SENATOR FRANK BLAS JR., BILL AUTHOR: December 10th is when the island was formally surrendered. December 8th is when we were invaded. December 10th is when we surrendered. Awesome.

SENATOR CHIRSTOPHER M. DUEÑAS, CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We look forward to the markup on hearing of Bill 177-38 (LS). So at this time, having received all comments and discussion on the bill, I will consider it as having been heard.

[Recess as Committee moves into Bill No. 128-38 (COR)]

III. FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee *finds* that the section Bill No. 177-38 (COR) wishes to amend has already been created through Public Law 38-29. Because of this, the committee will convene a mark up meeting to amend the subsection numbering as well as amend wording to match *CHamoru* language consistent with the Guam Code Annotated. In addition to technical corrections, the Committee also acknowledged Senator Chris Barnett's request during the public hearing to amend the bill to include the Guam Combat Patrol. After consideration, the Committee determined that this proposal should instead move forward as a stand-alone measure. This approach ensures that the Guam Combat Patrol receives the dedicated testimony focus and recognition it merits.

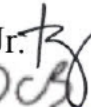
The Committee *concludes* that the bill as introduced gained much support from all members present.

As such, the Committee *therefore* recommends to To Do Pass .

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

Bill No. 177-38 (LS)

Introduced by:

Frank F. Blas, Jr. 
Chris Barnett 
Therese M. Terlaje 
Christopher M. Dueñas 
Sabina Flores Perez 
Telo T. Taitague 
Jesse A. Lujan 
Vincent A. V. Borja 
Joe S. San Agustin 
Shelly V. Calvo 
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao 
William A. Parkinson 
Tina Rose Muña Barnes 
V. Anthony Ada 

**AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 1041, CHAPTER 10, TITLE 1,
GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; RELATIVE TO
DESIGNATING DECEMBER 10 AS “INSULAR FORCE
GUARD MEMORIAL DAY”.**

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

2 **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds
3 that on December 10, 1941, just hours after the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, the
4 island of Guam was invaded by the armed forces of Imperial Japan. At the time,
5 Guam was defended by a small and under-equipped U.S. naval force, supplemented
6 by the Guam Insular Force Guard – a local military unit made up primarily of
7 indigenous Chamorro men, who had volunteered to serve under the United States

1 Navy. The Insular Guard was formed in the early 1900s, and was, by design,
2 intended to assist with local security, infrastructure, and logistical needs. However,
3 when war arrived at Guam's shores, these men took up arms as front-line defenders
4 of the island.

5 Despite having minimal training, limited access to modern weaponry, and
6 facing overwhelming odds against a superior invading force, the members of the
7 Insular Force Guard displayed extraordinary courage and commitment to duty. On
8 the morning of December 10, 1941, as Japanese troops stormed the island, the
9 Insular Guardsmen took defensive positions in and around Hagåtña, particularly at
10 Plaza de España. Their resistance, although brief, was fierce and symbolic of
11 Guam's defiance. During the ensuing battle, several Insular Guardsmen were killed
12 in action, while others were wounded or captured. Their efforts delayed the Japanese
13 forces and allowed for the evacuation of some civilians and personnel; a heroic act
14 whose legacy still resonates today.

15 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that these Chamorro defenders were among the
16 first indigenous Pacific Islanders to fight in World War II, and they did so with valor,
17 despite the inequalities of their time, including second-class status within the
18 military structure. Following the surrender of Guam to Japanese forces, many of
19 these same men endured occupation, interrogation, imprisonment, and forced labor.
20 Their service and suffering were not fully recognized for decades.

21 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that it was not until December 10, 1991
22 – fifty years after the invasion, that a formal public monument was erected at Plaza
23 de Espana to honor the Guam Insular Force Guard and their ultimate sacrifice. While
24 this recognition was long overdue, more must be done to ensure that their bravery
25 and patriotism are remembered by future generations of Guamanians and
26 Americans.

1 It is therefore the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to recognize December 10
2 of each year as Insular Force Guard Memorial Day, a day to commemorate the
3 heroism of these local soldiers, to educate the public about Guam’s early
4 involvement in World War II, and to preserve the historical memory of those who
5 gave their lives in defense of our island.

6 **Section 2. Establishment of *Insular Force Guard Memorial Day*.** A new
7 § 1041 is added to Chapter 10, Title 1, Guam Code Annotated to read:

8 **“§ 1041. Insular Force Guard Memorial Day.**

9 December 10 of each year is officially declared as *Insular Force*
10 *Guard Memorial Day* in commemoration of the two hundred and forty-
11 six men who were recruited into the force on the eve of the invasion by
12 Japanese forces. The Governor *shall* issue a proclamation annually
13 calling upon the people of Guam to observe *Insular Force Guard*
14 *Memorial Day*. The Governor *shall* appoint an *Insular Force Guard*
15 *Memorial Day* Committee to plan and make appropriate arrangements
16 for the observance of this day. The Committee may consist of
17 representatives of the Executive Branch, the Legislative Branch, the
18 Judicial Branch, various departments and agencies, the descendants of
19 Insular Force Guards personnel, and other interested individuals.”

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

Bill No. 177-38 (LS)

As amended by the Committee on Finance
and Government Operations

Introduced by:

Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Chris Barnett
Therese M. Terlaje
Christopher M. Dueñas
Sabina Flores Perez
Telo T. Taitague
Jesse A. Lujan
Vincent A.V. Borja
Joe S. San Agustin
Shelly V. Calvo
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao
William A. Parkinson
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
V. Anthony Ada

**AN ACT TO *ADD* A NEW § 1042, CHAPTER 10, TITLE 1,
GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; RELATIVE TO
DESIGNATING DECEMBER 10 AS “INSULAR FORCE
GUARD MEMORIAL DAY”.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds
that on December 10, 1941, just hours after the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, the
island of Guam was invaded by the armed forces of Imperial Japan. At the time,
Guam was defended by a small and under-equipped U.S. naval force, supplemented
by the Guam Insular Force Guard – a local military unit made up primarily of
indigenous Chamorro men, who had volunteered to serve under the United States
Navy. The Insular Guard was formed in the early 1900s, and was, by design,

1 intended to assist with local security, infrastructure, and logistical needs. However,
2 when war arrived at Guam's shores, these men took up arms as front-line defenders
3 of the island.

4 Despite having minimal training, limited access to modern weaponry, and
5 facing overwhelming odds against a superior invading force, the members of the
6 Insular Force Guard displayed extraordinary courage and commitment to duty. On
7 the morning of December 10, 1941, as Japanese troops stormed the island, the
8 Insular Guardsmen took defensive positions in and around Hagåtña, particularly at
9 Plaza de España. Their resistance, although brief, was fierce and symbolic of
10 Guam's defiance. During the ensuing battle, several Insular Guardsmen were killed
11 in action, while others were wounded or captured. Their efforts delayed the Japanese
12 forces and allowed for the evacuation of some civilians and personnel; a heroic act
13 whose legacy still resonates today.

14 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that these Chamorro defenders were among the
15 first indigenous Pacific Islanders to fight in World War II, and they did so with valor,
16 despite the inequalities of their time, including second-class status within the
17 military structure. Following the surrender of Guam to Japanese forces, many of
18 these same men endured occupation, interrogation, imprisonment, and forced labor.
19 Their service and suffering were not fully recognized for decades.

20 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that it was not until December 10, 1991
21 – fifty years after the invasion, that a formal public monument was erected at Plaza
22 de Espana to honor the Guam Insular Force Guard and their ultimate sacrifice. While
23 this recognition was long overdue, more must be done to ensure that their bravery
24 and patriotism are remembered by future generations of Guamanians and
25 Americans.

26 It is therefore the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to recognize December 10
27 of each year as Insular Force Guard Memorial Day, a day to commemorate the

1 heroism of these local soldiers, to educate the public about Guam’s early
2 involvement in World War II, and to preserve the historical memory of those who
3 gave their lives in defense of our island.

4 **Section 2. Establishment of *Insular Force Guard Memorial Day*.** A new
5 § 1042 is added to Chapter 10, Title 1, Guam Code Annotated to read:

6 **“§ 1042. Insular Force Guard Memorial Day.**

7 December 10 of each year is officially declared as *Insular Force*
8 *Guard Memorial Day* in commemoration of the two hundred and forty-
9 six men who were recruited into the force on the eve of the invasion by
10 Japanese forces. *I Maga’låhen/Maga’Hågan* shall issue a proclamation
11 annually calling upon the people of Guam to observe *Insular Force*
12 *Guard Memorial Day*. *I Maga’låhen/Maga’Hågan* shall appoint an
13 *Insular Force Guard Memorial Day* Committee to plan and make
14 appropriate arrangements for the observance of this day. The
15 Committee may consist of representatives of the Executive Branch, the
16 Legislative Branch, the Judicial Branch, various departments and
17 agencies, the descendants of Insular Force Guards personnel, and other
18 interested individuals.”

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

Bill No. 177-38 (LS)

MARKUP by the Committee on Finance
and Government Operations

Introduced by:

Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Chris Barnett
Therese M. Terlaje
Christopher M. Dueñas
Sabina Flores Perez
Telo T. Taitague
Jesse A. Lujan
Vincent A.V. Borja
Joe S. San Agustin
Shelly V. Calvo
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao
William A. Parkinson
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
V. Anthony Ada

AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 104~~1~~², CHAPTER 10, TITLE 1, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; RELATIVE TO DESIGNATING DECEMBER 10 AS “INSULAR FORCE GUARD MEMORIAL DAY”.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that on December 10, 1941, just hours after the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, the island of Guam was invaded by the armed forces of Imperial Japan. At the time, Guam was defended by a small and under-equipped U.S. naval force, supplemented by the Guam Insular Force Guard – a local military unit made up primarily of indigenous Chamorro men, who had volunteered to serve under the United States Navy. The Insular Guard was formed in the early 1900s, and was, by design,

1 intended to assist with local security, infrastructure, and logistical needs. However,
2 when war arrived at Guam's shores, these men took up arms as front-line defenders
3 of the island.

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18 these same men endured occupation, interrogation, imprisonment, and forced labor.
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25 Americans.

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1 heroism of these local soldiers, to educate the public about Guam’s early
2 involvement in World War II, and to preserve the historical memory of those who
3 gave their lives in defense of our island.

4 **Section 2. Establishment of *Insular Force Guard Memorial Day*.** A new
5 § 104~~1~~² is added to Chapter 10, Title 1, Guam Code Annotated to read:

6 **“§ 104~~1~~². Insular Force Guard Memorial Day.**

7 December 10 of each year is officially declared as *Insular Force*
8 *Guard Memorial Day* in commemoration of the two hundred and forty-
9 six men who were recruited into the force on the eve of the invasion by
10 Japanese forces. ~~The Governor~~ *I Magsa’låhen/Magsa’Hågan* shall issue
11 a proclamation annually calling upon the people of Guam to observe
12 *Insular Force Guard Memorial Day*. ~~The—Governor~~ *I*
13 *Magsa’låhen/Magsa’Hågan* shall appoint an *Insular Force Guard*
14 *Memorial Day* Committee to plan and make appropriate arrangements
15 for the observance of this day. The Committee may consist of
16 representatives of the Executive Branch, the Legislative Branch, the
17 Judicial Branch, various departments and agencies, the descendants of
18 *Insular Force Guards* personnel, and other interested individuals.”



COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

August 25, 2025

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

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

Subject: **Fiscal Note Waiver for Bill No. 177-38 (LS)**

Håfa Adai!

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

Bill No. 177-38 (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

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Post Office Box 2950, Hagåtña Guam 96932



LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
GOVERNOR

LESTER L. CARLSON, JR.
DIRECTOR

JOSHUA F. TENORIO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

AUG 20 2025

Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada
Chairperson, Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan
38th Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Hafa Adai! Vice Speaker Ada:

The Bureau requests that Bill No. 177-38 (LS) be granted a waiver pursuant to Public Law 12-229 as amended for the following reason(s):

Legislative Bill No. 177-38 (LS) intends to add a new § 1041 to Chapter 10, Title 1 of the Guam Code Annotated, which would designate December 10 as "Insular Force Guard Memorial Day".

The proposed legislation is administrative in nature and would not fiscally impact the appropriations for FY 2025.

Senseramente,


LESTER L. CARLSON, JR.

https://www.guampdn.com/news/speaker-wants-to-make-december-10-insular-force-guard-memorial-day/article_ec33ed5a-572e-41fc-9851-10505dd723c6.html

Speaker wants to make December 10 Insular Force Guard Memorial Day

Pacific Daily News
Aug 12, 2025



Plaza de Espana and Guam Insular Force Guard Monument.

Courtesy of Dave Lotz



Speaker Frank F. Blas Jr. introduced a bill seeking to officially designate December 10 of each year as Insular Force Guard Memorial Day, dedicated to the brave members of the Insular Guard who served during World War II and who made the ultimate sacrifice in the defense of Guam.

The Insular Guard, composed of CHamoru men, was established by the United States Navy to help maintain order and security on Guam.

When Guam was invaded by Japanese forces during WWII, these men stood in defense of their island and people.

Many were killed or taken as prisoners of war, and their courage has long been etched into the history and soul of Guam.

“The Insular Force Guard was among the first to stand against the invasion of our island,” Blas said in a statement. “These men—our fathers, uncles, and grandfathers—risked and gave their lives for a cause greater than themselves. It is our duty to ensure that they are never forgotten.”

Blas’s Bill 177-38 seeks to:

- Designate December 10 of each year as Insular Force Guard Memorial Day.
- Empower the governor to appoint a committee of stakeholders to plan and organize events related to the commemoration of Insular Force Guard Memorial Day.

The speaker emphasized the importance of institutionalizing the legacy of these heroes.

“As generations pass, so, too, can the memory of those who fought valiantly for our freedom,” Blas said. “By enshrining this memorial day into law, we ensure that future generations of Guamanians will continue to honor and learn about the sacrifices made by the Insular Guard.”

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Bill would recognize Guam Insular Force Guard each Dec. 10

[Donate](#)*Guam Legislature YouTube*

Speaker Frank Blas Jr. has introduced a bill to honor Guam Insular Guard members who defended the island against Japanese troops in 1941.

Guam Speaker Frank Blas Jr. has introduced a bill to honor the members of the Guam Insular Force Guard, CHamoru men who defended the island from the Japanese invasion in December 1941.

The Insular Guard was a volunteer unit formed in the early 1900s to help the Navy with local security, infrastructure and logistical needs.

When Japanese forces invaded on Dec. 10, 1941, the guardsmen took defensive positions in and around Hagatna.

Blas' bill would establish Dec. 10 each year as the Insular Force Guard Memorial Day. It calls for an annual proclamation and a memorial observance.

Public Radio Guam
BBC World Service

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Guam History



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Guam Insular Guard



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1. Young CHamorus recruited by the Navy to defend Guam
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Young CHamorus recruited by the Navy to defend Guam

The Japanese forces who invaded Guam 10 December 1941 were fully prepared for the undertaking. Since mid-October, the Japanese 18th Air Unit, a small force of reconnaissance seaplanes, had conducted survey flights over and near Guam. By November, the unit was flying secret photo reconnaissance missions of the island at altitudes of 3,000 meters or higher.

The South Seas Detachment, a unit of about 5,500 army troops under the command of Major General Tomitaro Hori, and a special naval land force of about 400 men led by Commander Hiroshi Hayashi drawn from the 5th Defense Force stationed in Saipan, were assigned to capture Guam.

The Guam defending force was woefully undermanned: 274 US Navy personnel, more than half of them non-combatative personnel; 153 US Marines; and about 120 Insular Force Guards, comprised of young CHamoru/Chamorro men recruited by the Navy eight months prior to the outbreak of WWII in the Pacific. The Guam defenders' total arsenal were three machine guns, four Thompson submachine guns, six Browning automatic pistols, 50 .30 caliber pistols, a dozen .22 caliber regulation rifles, and 85 Springfield rifles. Most of the weapons were of World War I vintage. Imprinted on the Springfield rifles were labels with the following notation: *Do not shoot. For training only.*

Under cover of darkness in the early morning hours on 10 December 1941, a small group of Guam Insular Guardsmen took their battle position at the perimeter of the Plaza de España park. As the invading Japanese Imperial Army troops of overwhelming number came within range they opened fire and fought gallantly. After about half an hour of fighting, US Navy Captain George McMillan decided to surrender to prevent a senseless massacre of the Guam Defenders.

The defense at the Plaza de España was the only pitched ground battle fought against the invading enemy forces. They were armed with three machine guns and springfield single bolt action rifles and had limited military training. Pedro Cruz, one of the three platoon leaders who manned the machine guns, perhaps best expressed the sentiments of Guam's defenders:

The only thought in my mind was: If I must die, I hope to God I kill some Japanese.

Pedro Cruz

At 7 am 10 December 1941, Guam surrendered. Dead in the fighting at the Plaza and in small incidents around the island were 21 military personnel and civilians. The Japanese, though superior in force, also suffered casualties, but the number was never divulged. Dozens of men, particularly members of the Insular Force Guard, were interrogated and beaten during the first few weeks of occupation.

By Lazaro Quinata

For further reading

Guam Legislature. *En Defende Y Tano-Ta (We Defended Our Island – 10 December 1941)*. 1994. Guam Insular Force Guard, Hagåtña, Guam.

Palomo, Tony, and Katherine Aguon. *WWII: From Occupation to Liberation*. In *Guampedia*, 2009.



Guampedia.com

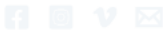
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**National Park Service**

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Seizure of Guam



Ruins of the Pan American Air Lines office and hotel in Sumai.

National Archives

The Imperial Japanese conquest of Guam began on December 8, 1941, just hours after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

At 8:27 a.m., while people were in church celebrating *Gipot Santa Maria* (Feast of the Immaculate Conception), nine Japanese planes appeared over the village of [Sumai](https://www.nps.gov/places/sumay.htm) (<https://www.nps.gov/places/sumay.htm>). They bombed the [Pan American buildings](https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/pan-american-airways-on-the-wwii-home-front-in-the-pacific.htm) (<https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/pan-american-airways-on-the-wwii-home-front-in-the-pacific.htm>) and the Standard Oil fuel tanks outside of town. Two CHamoru men employed at the Pam American hotel were killed in the attack. The planes also sunk the USS Penguin (AM-33), the largest ship on Guam, and strafed Piti, Hagåtña and other major population centers.

World War II had arrived on Guam.

Unable to defend their homes, residents of Sumai, Piti and Hagåtña fled to the *bundåk* (jungle), *liyang* (caves), and ranches in the hills for safety.

The planes returned the following day, destroying radio towers and military facilities. Then, during the early hours of December 10, two groups of Japanese soldiers began the invasion. Roughly 400 men from a special Japanese naval landing party of the 5th Defense Force started landing at Dungca's Beach in Agaña Bay, just outside the capital city of Hagåtña. The South Seas Detachment, a Japanese army unit with 5,500 men, landed on near Apoguan, Tumon, Togcha, and Agat.

Guam was poorly prepared for the invasion. The island's entire military force consisted of 274 U.S. Navy personnel, more than half of them non-combative personnel; 153 Marines; and about 120 Insular Force Guards with minimal military training. The garrison was armed with three machine guns, four Thompson submachine guns, six Browning automatic pistols, fifty .30 caliber pistols, a dozen .22 caliber regulation rifles, and eighty-five Springfield rifles labelled: Do not shoot. For training only.

Captain George J. McMillin, the island's governor, sent most of the Marines to defend the Orote peninsula. Three platoons of the Insular Force Guard (roughly 85 men) were assigned to defend Hagåtña. The Insular Guard made a valiant attempt to stop the Japanese advance at the Plaza de España. They managed to drive the Japanese soldiers back twice but were soon overwhelmed. The battle lasted less than an hour.

By 5:45 a.m., McMillin realized that "the situation was simply hopeless," and began to surrender his post and the island. He signed the letter of surrender between 6:00 and 7:00 and the Japanese flag was raised over the governor's mansion.

For the next 32 months, Guam was Japanese-occupied territory. It was one of only four places in the United States occupied by enemy forces during World War II.



The first Japanese planes attacked Guam at Sumai at 8:27 a.m. on December 8, 1941. Sumai resident Jesus C. Lizama later recalled, "We thought it was the end of the world."
National Park Service

Sources:

LEARN MORE



Sumai

(<https://www.nps.gov/places/sumai.htm>).

On the morning of December 8, 1941, Sumai became the first place on Guam to be attacked by Japanese forces.



Surrender of Guam to the Japanese

(<https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/surrender-of-guam-to-the-japanese.htm>)

Captain McMillin's official surrender letter and his report of the surrender written after the war.

Last updated: October 25, 2024

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'We reclaim their history': Bill to make December 10 Insular Force Guard Memorial Day gets support

By Uriah Aguon Pacific Daily News
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Speaker Frank Blas Jr. shares his thoughts on Bill 177-38, a measure he authored intended to designate December 10 as “Insular Force Guard Memorial Day” as he addresses fellow lawmakers during a public hearing held at the Guam Congress Building in Hagåtña on Sept. 9, Rick Cruz/Pacific Daily News



Senators present at a public hearing for a bill to make December 10 Insular Force Guard Memorial Day said they support measure and want to make amendments to include others.

Speaker Frank Blas Jr. introduced Bill 177-38 which would make December 10 the Insular Force Guard Memorial Day.

A public hearing for the bill was held on Sept. 9 and senators at the hearing voiced their support.

Blas said the bill is part of a longtime personal goal of his and Vice Speaker Tony Ada to provide the members of the Insular Force Guard the honor and recognition they deserve.

“84 years ago, on December 8, our island fell under attack, and on December 10, our island surrendered,” Blas said. “Before the United States’ flag was lowered for the last time for nearly three years, the CHamoru men of the Insular Force Guard stood their ground.”

All senators present are co-sponsors of the bill: Chris Duenas, Chris Barnett, Telo Taitague, Sabina Perez, Shelly Vargas Calvo, Shawn Gumataotao, Jesse Lujan, and Sabrina Salas Matanane.

The men of the Insular Guard were not professional soldiers but were “ordinary people placed in extraordinary circumstances,” Blas said.

They fought with limited training and limitless courage, and their actions spoke clearly: Guam was not surrendered without a fight.

“For too long, their services remain in the shadows of history,” Blas said. “We reclaim that history. We honor their memory. We teach future generations that CHamoru bravery is not a legend. It is not a myth. It is a legacy. It is about giving our people the dignity of being seen for defending Guam and the ideals we all share.”

Ada hopes for December 10 to become a day that “proves the love for one’s homeland is a force greater than fear” and that the memorial standing in the Plaza de Espana, which recognizes the Insular Guard, will become a celebrated memorial rather than remaining “unkempt” or “dilapidated.”

“I made it my mission to ensure that memorial gets the dignity it deserves, because those are the men who fought to defend our island,” Ada said. “My grandfather was in the Insular Guard. His name is inscribed on that memorial. Thank you to this legislation [for] finally recognizing the people who fought and died for our island during World War II.”

Guam Combat Patrol

Sens. Shawn Gumataotao and Jesse Lujan asked about potential partnerships with the Guam National Guard and other military branches “to commemorate the day meaningfully.”

“In the markup, let’s include our military partners, because they were [also] the ones who defended our island and fought with their lives on the line for the people of Guam,” Lujan said. “We commemorate them already on Liberation Day, and now, it’s time to celebrate our brave souls from Guam.”

Barnett requested that the Guam Combat Patrol, which his grandfather was a member of, also be included in the bill for commemoration and recognition. If his request is denied, Barnett would submit a separate bill to have a separate day of recognition for the Guam Combat Patrol.

“The Insular Force Guard has lacked recognition, but I would say the same of the Guam Combat Patrol,” Barnett said. “In the waning days of the war, a lot of GPD officers were given weapons and asked to hunt down Japanese stragglers. I believe both of these entities haven’t received the proper homage and proper tribute.”

Taitague added that the bill brings a lot of things to the island, “historical recognition, education value, cultural preservation, and community unity,” which she greatly appreciated. Her only comment was for Speaker Blas to look into “whether our brother and sisters from Saipan and the other CNMI were part of the Insular Guard” and find some way to incorporate them as well.

Senator Perez said this bill asks everyone to “take a hard look at history” to ensure the memory of those that preserved our island are properly recognized. Additionally, Perez wants to use this potential memorial day to promote peace and protection for the region.

“We have the duty to ensure that we don’t find ourselves in the same situation again,” she said.

She said she is concerned that the Department of Defense is now called the Department of War because it shows there is some sort of provocation.

“We as island we’re in middle of imperial forces fighting against each other and we were caught up in this situation. And so, the question is what can we do as an island to rise above this, in honor of our ancestors, in honor of these men that fought so bravely even though they were at a huge disadvantage,” Perez said.

Most of all, making December 10 a memorial day for the Insular Force Guard and Guam Combat Patrol would remind the world that “in the only American soil occupied and surrendered,” it was the CHamoru men who stood there and “laid down their lives with limited resources to defend not only their island but to defend their flag,” Blas said,

“There is no other place in the U.S. that can say that,” he said. “That is the legacy of these men, and the honor we will perpetuate.”

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