

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
195-38 (COR)	Vincent A. V. Borja	AN ACT TO <i>ADD</i> A NEW §849.18 TO CHAPTER 8, TITLE 1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO RENAMING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON FOOTBALL FIELD AS THE LORING SANTOS CRUZ FIELD.	9/25/25 8:57 a.m.	10/2/25	Committee on Finance and Government Operations.	Request:10/2/25 10/10/25	11/17/25 9:00 a.m.	1/6/26 As Amended.	



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

January 4, 2026

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

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

RE: Committee Report on Amended Bill No. 195-38 (COR)

Buenas yan Håfa Adai Speaker,

Transmitted herewith is the Committee Report on Bill No. 195-38 (COR) As amended – Vincent AV Borja – AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §849.18 TO CHAPTER 8, TITLE 1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO RENAMING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON FOOTBALL FIELD AS THE LORING SANTOS CRUZ FOOTBALL FIELD.

Committee votes are as follows:

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



COMMITTEE ON RULES
RECEIVED:
January 4, 2026 3:04 p.m.

Senseremente,



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



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

COMMITTEE REPORT

BILL NO. 195-38 (COR) As amended

INTRODUCED BY

Senator Vincent AV Borja

**“AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §849.18 TO CHAPTER 8,
TITLE 1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO
RENAMING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON
FOOTBALL FIELD AS THE LORING SANTOS CRUZ
FOOTBALL FIELD”**



Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas

CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

DATE

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. 195-38 (COR) As amended

Transmitted herewith for your consideration is the Committee Report on **Bill No. 195-38 (COR) As amended** – Sen. Vincent AV Borja “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §849.18 TO CHAPTER 8, TITLE 1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO RENAMING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON FOOTBALL FIELD AS THE LORING SANTOS CRUZ FOOTBALL FIELD”

This report includes the following:

- Copy of COR Referral of Bill No. 195-38 (COR)
- Notices of Public Hearing
- Copy of the Public Hearing Agenda
- Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet
- Copies of Submitted Written Testimony
- Committee Vote Sheet
- Committee Report Digest
- Copy of Bill No. 195-38 (COR), As Introduced
- Copy of Bill No. 195-38 (COR), As Amended
- Copy of Bill No. 195-38 (COR), Markup
- 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 Guahan
38th Guam Legislature

October 2, 2025

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

Attorney Darleen Hiton
Legislative Legal Counsel

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

Subject: **Referral of Bill No. 195-38 (COR)**

Håfa Adai,

As per my authority as Chairperson of the Committee on Rules and subject to §6.01(d)(1), Rule VI of our Standing Rules, I am forwarding the referral of **Bill No. 195-38 (COR)** – Vincent A. V. Borja – “AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §849.18 TO CHAPTER 8, TITLE 1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO RENAMING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON FOOTBALL FIELD AS THE LORING SANTOS CRUZ FOOTBALL FIELD.”

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.



FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing on November 17, 2025

2 messages

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

Fri, Nov 7, 2025 at 8:00 AM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 7, 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 November 17, 2025**

The Committee on Finance and Government Operations will hold a public hearing on **Monday, November 17, 2025**, beginning at **9:00 am** at the Public Hearing Room in the Guam Congress Building. The agenda is as follows:

- **38GL-25-1389** – Office of the Governor of Guam – Appointment and Supporting Documents for Anthony P. Benavente, Member, Board of Commissioners, Civil Service Commission.*
- **Bill No. 195-38 (COR)** – Vincent A. V. Borja - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §849.18 TO CHAPTER 8, TITLE 1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO RENAMING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON FOOTBALL FIELD AS THE LORING SANTOS CRUZ FOOTBALL FIELD.
- **Bill No. 208-38 (COR)** – Telo T. Taitague - AN ACT TO AMEND PUBLIC LAW 37-135 TO PROVIDE A ONE-TIME TWO HUNDRED DOLLAR (\$200) SUPPLEMENTAL COST-OF-LIVING ALLOWANCE (COLA) TO ELIGIBLE RETIREES AND SURVIVORS WHO LAST RENDERED GOVERNMENT SERVICE WITH AUTONOMOUS AGENCIES AND PUBLIC CORPORATIONS.

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



1N 11-17-25.pdf

355K

Ed Pocaigue <sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov>

Fri, Nov 7, 2025 at 8:14 AM

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

Hafa Adai,

Posted on calendar.

[Quoted text hidden]

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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

November 7, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, and Media

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Chairman, Committee on Finance and Government Operations

Re: FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing on November 17, 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 November 17, 2025

 PRINT

FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing on November 17, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING



 **Posted on:** 11/07/2025 10:10 AM

 **Posted by:** Ashley Shinohara

 **Public Hearing Date:** 11/17/2025 09:00 AM

 **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

November 7, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, and Media

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Chairman, Committee on Finance and Government
Operations

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(https://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Mess_Comms_38th/Doc.%20No.%2038GL-25-1389.pdf) – Office of the Governor of Guam – Appointment and Supporting Documents for Anthony P. Benavente, Member, Board of Commissioners, Civil Service Commission.*
- **Bill No. 195-38 (COR)**
([http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20195-38%20\(COR\).pdf](http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20195-38%20(COR).pdf)) – Vincent A. V. Borja - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §849.18 TO CHAPTER 8, TITLE 1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO RENAMING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON FOOTBALL FIELD AS THE LORING SANTOS CRUZ FOOTBALL FIELD.
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([http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20208-38%20\(COR\).pdf](http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20208-38%20(COR).pdf)) – Telo T. Taitague - AN ACT TO AMEND PUBLIC LAW 37-135 TO PROVIDE A ONE-TIME TWO HUNDRED DOLLAR (\$200) SUPPLEMENTAL COST-OF-LIVING ALLOWANCE (COLA) TO ELIGIBLE RETIREES AND SURVIVORS WHO LAST RENDERED GOVERNMENT SERVICE WITH AUTONOMOUS AGENCIES AND PUBLIC CORPORATIONS.

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at senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov

(<mailto:senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>) or by phone at (671) 989-9554.

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

Advertiser ID: 2729	Amount Paid	
2729-00012-0000	11/18/2025	1
Official Invoice	Date	Page

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

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

Date	Day	Length		Qty	Rate	Total
11/18/2025	TUE		KUAM TV PUBLIC HEARING – NOVEMBER 17, 2025 FIRST NOTICE - AIR DATE: 11/07/25 1x :15 SECOND AD 1x :15 SECOND AD (KUAM MATCH) SECOND NOTICE - AIRDATE: 11/14/25 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

SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing on November 17, 2025

2 messages

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

Fri, Nov 14, 2025 at 8:00 AM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 14, 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 November 17, 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



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Ed Pocaigue <sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov>

Fri, Nov 14, 2025 at 8:06 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

November 14, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, and Media

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

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OFFICE OF SENATOR CHRISTOPHER M. DUEÑAS

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SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing on November 17, 2025

 PRINT

SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing on November 17, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING



 **Posted on:** 11/14/2025 08:08 AM

 **Posted by:** Ashley Shinohara

 **Public Hearing Date:** 11/17/2025 09:00 AM

 **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

November 14, 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 November 17,
2025

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38GL-25-1389

(https://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Mess_Comms_38th/Doc.%20No.%2038GL-25-1389.pdf) – Office of the Governor of Guam – Appointment and Supporting Documents for Anthony P. Benavente, Member, Board of Commissioners, Civil Service Commission.*

Bill No. 195-38 (COR)

([http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20195-38%20\(COR\).pdf](http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20195-38%20(COR).pdf)) – Vincent A. V. Borja - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §849.18 TO CHAPTER 8, TITLE 1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO RENAMING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON FOOTBALL FIELD AS THE LORING SANTOS CRUZ FOOTBALL FIELD.

Bill No. 208-38 (COR)

([http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20208-38%20\(COR\).pdf](http://guamlegislature.gov/38th_Guam_Legislature/Bills_Introduced_38th/Bill%20No.%20208-38%20(COR).pdf)) – Telo T. Taitague - AN ACT TO AMEND PUBLIC LAW 37-135 TO PROVIDE A ONE-TIME TWO HUNDRED DOLLAR (\$200) SUPPLEMENTAL COST-OF-LIVING ALLOWANCE (COLA) TO ELIGIBLE RETIREES AND SURVIVORS WHO LAST RENDERED GOVERNMENT SERVICE WITH AUTONOMOUS AGENCIES AND PUBLIC CORPORATIONS.

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Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas

CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA

November 17, 2025 - Guam Congress Building

09:00 AM:

- **38GL-25-1389 – Office of the Governor of Guam – Appointment and Supporting Documents for Anthony P. Benavente, Member, Board of Commissioners, Civil Service Commission.***
- **Bill No. 195-38 (COR) – Vincent A. V. Borja - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §849.18 TO CHAPTER 8, TITLE 1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO RENAMING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON FOOTBALL FIELD AS THE LORING SANTOS CRUZ FOOTBALL FIELD.**
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Date: November 17, 2025

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

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Bill No. 195-38 (COR) – Vincent A. V. Borja -

AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §849.18 TO CHAPTER 8, TITLE 1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO RENAMING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON FOOTBALL FIELD AS THE LORING SANTOS CRUZ FOOTBALL FIELD.

	Name	Agency / Address	Contact No.	Email	Type of Testimony		Support	
					Oral	Written	Yes	No
* 1	NEIL EGUERRA	ADOE		npegurrola@adoe.net	✓	✓	✓	
* 2	ERIC ADO	Tamuning			✓	✓	✓	
st* 3	Kristine Denight	SINAJANA			✓	✓	✓	
* 4	Thesous Mendida	Chalan Pago			✓	✓	✓	
st* 5	Jon Denight	Sinajana			✓	✓	✓	
6	Rhonda J. Diaz	San Jose			✓		✓	
7	Zoset P Branch	Mongmong			✓			
8	Za'oni Branch	Mongmong					✓	
9	Charles Denight	Sinajana					✓	
10	Kelly Blas-Lara	Yona					✓	
11	JANAE PEREZ	Barrigada				✓	✓	
12	MARIO SANTIAGO	BARR			✓		✓	



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

• **Bill No. 195-38 (COR) participation**

4 messages

Kris D <kristine.denight@gmail.com>

Fri, Nov 7, 2025 at 10:13 AM

To: senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov

Cc: Jonathan Denight [REDACTED], Jon Nathan Denight [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Mana Denight [REDACTED], Isabella Denight [REDACTED],

Charles Denight [REDACTED] >

Hafa adai Senator Duenas,

I would like to participate in the public hearing for Bill No. 195-38 (COR).

Please advise.

Kind regards,
Kristine Cruz Denight
[REDACTED]

This document may contain confidential and legally privileged information intended solely for the use of the recipient named above. If you are not the named recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, dissemination, or duplication of this information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this email in error, please notify us immediately by telephone. If you experience problems in the receipt of this email, please call (671)689.3998. Thank you.

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

Fri, Nov 7, 2025 at 2:24 PM

To: Kris D [REDACTED]

Cc: Jonathan Denight [REDACTED], Jon Nathan Denight [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Mana Denight [REDACTED], Isabella Denight [REDACTED],

Charles Denight [REDACTED]

Hafa Adai Kristine,

Thank you for your interest in participating in our public hearing for Bill No. 195-38 (COR). Hearing will be held on Monday, November 17, 2025 beginning at 9am in the Public Hearing Room at the Guam Congress Building. Here are a few ways you can participate in the hearing:

- Present oral testimony on the day of the public hearing.
- Present written testimony on the day of the public hearing. We ask that you submit written testimony at least 48 hours prior to the hearing or bring 15 copies of your testimony to present at the hearing.
- Submit written testimony via email to senator.duenas@guamlegislature.org. Again, we ask for written testimony to be submitted at least 48 hours prior.
- If you plan on using any usb external devices to present your testimony, please submit it to our office no later than 12pm, Friday, November 14, 2025.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please let us know.

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



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

Invitation to a Public Hearing on Bill No. 195-38 (COR)

1 message

Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>
To: "Dr. Kenneth E. Swanson (Superintendent)" <keswanson@gdoe.net>

Fri, Nov 7, 2025 at 9:27 AM

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

The Committee on Finance and Government Operations invites you to a public hearing where **Bill No. 195-38 (COR)** is on the agenda. The hearing is scheduled for Monday, November 17, 2025, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Guam Congress Building.

Your input is valuable, and we encourage you to attend and share your testimony. If you plan to present written testimony, please bring 15 copies or email it to the committee at least 48 hours prior to the hearing.

If you are unable to attend in person, you may submit written testimony via email to senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov at least 48 hours before the public hearing.

Please note, if you plan to testify with a digital presentation via external usb drive, please submit it to our office 48 hours prior to the hearing as it will need to be assessed by our MIS department.

Kindly confirm your receipt of this email and whether you will be attending the hearing. If you have any questions or require additional information, please call our office at (671) 989-9554.

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

 **1N 11-17-25.pdf**
355K

November 17, 2025

Senator Christopher M. Duenas

Chairman Committee on Finance and Government Operations

Guam Legislature

Subject: Testimony for Bill 195-38

Dear Senator Duenas,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Bill 195-38. I wholeheartedly support the renaming of the George Washington Football Field to the Loring Santos Cruz Football Field. It is well deserved by Loring S. Cruz, a long time educator who received a Legislative Resolution upon his retirement a few years ago. Mr. Cruz not only was a devoted teacher, who started and ended his teaching career at GW High School, he doubled his teaching career by being an Athletic Director a few years overseeing GW's interscholastic sports program and maintaining its facilities; and becoming a coach of Track and Field, and Football for the GW Warriors and Geckos. Mr. Cruz in effect has devoted his entire life to George Washington High School, extending his service well into the evening hours during his tenure at GW. Full retirement was not in his plans as he continued to coach and mentor GW's student-athletes up until fall of 2024. Mr. Cruz's devotion as a football coach also involved assisting in the upkeep of the football field and preparing the football field for games by lining it and working with student groups to insure successful hosting that involved revenue generation at the gates and concessions, field services and pressbox activities. These were the untold additional responsibilities that Mr. Cruz held and took seriously. His coaching led to the establishment of GW's first dynasty in football, winning the championship consecutively for over 6 years, to only be surpassed by a group of his former players who have been coaching for over 20 years. GW's dynasties can be strongly attributed to Mr. Cruz's love and devotion for over 3 decades solely to GW High School. Upon his passing, many have witnessed GW's love and appreciation for Loring Cruz as the entire student body came out to meet his funeral procession as it motorcaded through the GW campus sports facilities.

In closing, I cannot find a better person such as Loring Cruz, a UOG teammate, teacher, coach and mentor who deserves such recognition and tribute for his love and devotion and service to George Washington High School.

I sincerely hope that this bill is voted upon by you and your colleagues of the Guam Legislature
And want to thank Senator Vincent Borja for introducing this legislation in support of educators
and coaches.

Sincerely,

Angel Calugay

Educator



Tricia R.S. Ada, Esq.
2807 Marina Blvd., San Leandro, CA 94577

November 11, 2025

Senator Christopher M. Dueñas
Chairman, Committee on Finance
& Government Operations
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

RE: Bill NO. 195-38 Renaming of GW Football Field to Loring Santos Cruz Football Field

Honorable Sen. Christopher M. Dueñas & distinguished members of the 38th Guam Legislature,

I am writing to formally request and wholeheartedly support the renaming of the George Washington High School (GWHS) football field in memory of the late Coach Loring Santos Cruz. He was one of my dearest cousins whom I greatly admired growing up and sorely miss since his passing. But I also attended GWHS as a freshman in 1986 where I also knew him as a legend within the football community.

Coach Cruz dedicated decades of his life to coaching and mentoring countless student-athletes both on and off the field. He famously led the Geckos football program through its glory years in the 1980s, instilling discipline, sportsmanship, and a love for the game. But his greatest lessons were never about winning and losing. He taught his players how to live with character and give their all in every endeavor.

Renaming the GWHS football field in his honor would serve as a permanent tribute to his contributions. It would remind current and future generations of Geckos about the importance of dedication, teamwork, and character, values that Coach Cruz embodied and passed on to his players. This act would not only recognize his athletic accomplishments but also his profound influence as a mentor and leader in the community. I sincerely hope you and the other distinguished members of the Legislature give this proposal your full consideration and support. Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

Respectfully,


Tricia R. S. Ada



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

Bill 195-38

1 message

Cait Gayle <cait@agayle.net>

Fri, Nov 7, 2025 at 3:19 PM

To: senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov

Dear Senators Duenas,

I'm Cait Gayle and I support Bill 195-38. Loring Cruz dedicated his life to teaching at GW and coaching the Geckos.

Sincerely,
Cait Gayle



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

Support for Bill 195-38 (COR)

1 message

mum.court

Fri, Nov 7, 2025 at 3:09 PM

To: senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov

My name is Courtney Mummert and I fully support bill 195-38 (COR) .

Senator Christopher M. Dueñas
Chairman, Committee on Government Finance and Operations
259 Martyr St., Hagatna, Guam 96910

Testimony of Joseph F. Ada In Support of Bill No. 195-38 (COR)

Håfa Adai Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of Bill No. 195-38 (COR), introduced by Senator Vincent A.V. Borja, to rename the George Washington High School Football Field as the Loring Santos Cruz Field.

For thirty-seven years, Coach Loring Santos Cruz gave his life to the young men and women of George Washington High School. He was more than a physical education teacher and coach—he was a builder of character, a steady presence in uncertain times, and a man who believed that every student who stepped into his class had greatness inside them waiting to be called forth.

The lessons Coach Cruz taught reached far beyond Friday night games. He taught young people how to stand back up after being knocked down. He taught them that discipline isn't punishment—it's the pathway to becoming someone you can be proud of. He taught them that a team is a family, and that you show up for family even when it's hard. These weren't lessons from a playbook. They were lessons from his life—and they shaped not just athletes, but the fathers, mothers, teachers, business owners, and community leaders our island depends on today.

Yes, Coach Cruz led championship teams in both the Interscholastic Football League and the Miller Football League. Yes, he served as Defensive Coach for the University of Guam Tritons and guided the Pepsi Giants as Head Coach. Yes, he was recognized multiple times in Who's Who Among America's Teachers—an honor reserved for educators whose impact reaches beyond their own classrooms.

But if you ask the men he coached and the students he taught, they won't first tell you about championships. They'll tell you about the washing machine he quietly installed at school so players from struggling families could wash their uniforms—because he understood that dignity mattered. They'll tell you how his office became a refuge, a safe place where students could escape trouble, find peace, and know they mattered. They'll tell you he had a gift for seeing the underdog, the kid everyone else had written off, and refusing to give up on them. They'll tell you he showed up—every single day—not because it was required, but because he believed in the power of mentorship, in the responsibility we have to guide our youth, especially those who need it most.

Coach Cruz never married. He had no children of his own. But he fathered thousands. His players were his sons. His students were the young people he poured himself into day after day. His nieces and nephews were his family, loved with the same fierce devotion he gave everyone in his care. The George Washington High School Football Field was his home, and everyone who stepped onto it became part of something bigger than themselves.

That field was Coach Cruz's true classroom. It was where he built pride—pride in Mangilao, pride in being a Gecko, pride in being from Guam. It was sacred ground to him, and he made it sacred to everyone who played there.

Renaming this field in his honor is more than recognition. It is a declaration of what we value as a people: service that asks for nothing in return, dedication that spans decades, and the quiet heroism of educators who pour themselves into our children so that Guam's future will be stronger than its past.

We often name facilities after elected officials, military heroes, and civic pioneers. It is equally fitting—perhaps more so—that we honor the teachers and coaches who shaped the very leaders we later commemorate. Coach Cruz built the foundation. This is simply us saying thank you.

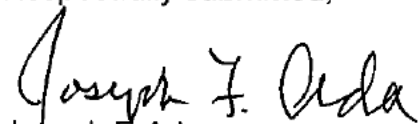
As a former governor, I've had the privilege of recognizing many who served Guam with distinction. As Coach Cruz's family, I had the deeper privilege of knowing the man behind the legacy. He was humble. He was faithful. He devoted himself entirely to his students, his players, and his family with a selflessness that defined his life. He had a particular gift for reaching the students others overlooked—the ones who needed someone to believe in them most. He represented the best of our island: an unshakeable belief in our young people, pride in our schools, and love for this community that raised us all.

Bill No. 195-38 (COR) follows the established process under Title 1, Chapter 8 of the Guam Code Annotated for naming public facilities and carries no fiscal impact beyond new signage. But its value cannot be measured in dollars. It is measured in the hearts of the thousands who called him Coach—and in the generations of students who will one day ask, "Who was Loring Santos Cruz?" and hear a story that makes them want to be better.

I urge this Committee and my fellow Guamanians to support this measure wholeheartedly. Let us enshrine Coach Cruz's legacy of mentorship, discipline, and unwavering commitment to our youth for generations to come. Let his name on that field remind every young person who steps onto it that someone believed in them—and that Guam honors those who give everything to the next generation.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph F. Ada
Former Governor of Guam

Senator Christopher M. Dueñas

Chairman, Committee on Government Finance and Operations

Kristine Cruz Denight in support of Bill No. 195-38

Håfa Adai Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Bill No. 195-38 (COR), introduced by Senator Vincent A.V. Borja, to rename the George Washington High School Football Field as the Loring Santos Cruz Football Field.

Guahu si Kristine Cruz Denight, the youngest sibling of Loring Santos Cruz, and affectionately named "The Warden" by Loring. He gave me this name due to my best and constant attempts to help Loring with his health challenges with his diet and other things that he didn't always like me reminding him about, but deep down, he appreciated and understood that I did it simply because I loved him.

I want to share with you that a few days after my brother's passing, a group of his former students and athletes, with whom he remained in contact, initiated a petition to rename the GW football field in his honor. My family and I appreciate and are genuinely humbled by Loring's friends' overwhelming determination to rally the support for the naming of the GW field in his honor, and my family stands with them all in cementing Loring's legacy. We do, though, suggest naming the GW field **Loring Santos Cruz Field**.

Loring was a physical education teacher at GW for 37 years, and during that time, he interacted with over 18,000 students. Some don't know that Loring also coached track and field for many years, and of course, we all know about Loring's success in coaching high school football and the football dynasty he proudly brought to GW. When Loring attended high school at GW, he also played football and ran cross country.

Later in his life, Loring had chronic kidney disease and ended up having to go through 10

years of dialysis. The last two years of Loring's life were very challenging for him, so due to his declining health, I started to drive him to and from dialysis three times a week. It's amazing how much I was able to learn during our short 5-minute drives. The brief, but telling, conversations were about things like what he ate, his online shopping, who he's talking to and not talking to, and of course, football. I also learned that he scheduled dialysis days based on "NFL off days". And one thing that I learned that really struck me the most was that while at GW, Loring purchased a washing machine and had it installed outside the gym. When I asked him why he did that, he said because some players were from families that didn't have a washing machine at home and he wanted all his players to have clean uniforms, no matter who they were or where they came from. I replied, "Wow, that's pretty cool, but you should have turned it off on game day so that the opposing team would get irritated by the dirty uniforms." We both laughed.

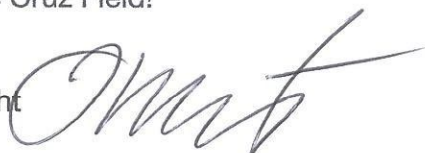
That washing machine is just one example of the many, many things he did for others. He used his own money to purchase paint to line the field because the paint he got from the school wasn't the right paint. Loring looked out for students who had difficulty standing up for themselves and were bullied, and he provided students a safe place in his office. He also purchased equipment and uniforms for players that didn't have the means to do so. There are a lot more stories and things that were not noticed by many people, but remain for a lifetime with the many people who he helped along the way. There were so many.

I'm very proud of my brother Loring and thank those that were inspired to honor him in his element, "the GW field," which was his home for so many years.

Thank you for hearing me out, and I ask for your support.

Biba! Loring Santos Cruz Field!

Respectfully,
Kristine Cruz Denight



11/17/25

Hafa Adai Chairman and distinguished senators:

My name is Theseus Mendiola and I am here in support of Bill No. 195-38

I would like to thank Senator Vince Borja for introducing this bill and I would like to thank the numerous alumni, students and athlete's that petitioned that the GW field be renamed in the late Loring Santos Cruz's name. I come to you not only as a nephew of coach Cruz but as a student that had witnessed his dedication and tough love teaching in the 90s as many here may attest and contribute of their memory of him. Unlike many teachers in his field, he knew how to connect with students, challenge them and most importantly bring out the best in them. Guam got a taste of that in the 80s with the iconic "purple reign" he ushered in with high school football. His legacy will continue on by the thousands of young men and women's lives he has touched and the pride he instilled amongst those honored to have known him and have attended GW during his tenure.

Loring Cruz didn't just teach football; he poured his entire body and soul into that sport and into that field. I could recall so many times sitting in my grandmother's home watching my uncle watching college and national football games for hours even recording games on VHS just to analyze plays. Even when he was in his room it sounded like a stadium in there with commentators calling out the game to the crowd roaring in the background. He loved the game and he loved teaching it to young impressionable and starving young minds, many of whom used it as an outlet to stay out of trouble and also use it as a guide for discipline which would shape them into great and achieving individuals later in life. Loring Cruz was not just a coach, he was an inspiration for many generations then and now, an icon on and off the field, a force to be reckoned with and a name synonymous with the game of football here on this island!

Now we have a great opportunity before us to forever remember and emblazon his name on that field forever, a field he called home. With that being said let's bring his spirit to its rightful resting place and pass this bill.



Theseus Mendiola

Chalan Pago, Guam



Håfa Adai, Senators.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of Bill No. 195-38. I am here today to express my strong support for renaming the George Washington High School football field in honor of Coach Loring Santos Cruz — a man whose influence on our youth, our schools, and our island has been nothing short of extraordinary.

Coach Cruz dedicated decades of his life to shaping young athletes not just into better players, but into better people. For him, football was never just a sport; it was a classroom without walls. He taught discipline, integrity, teamwork, and resilience. He believed in every student who stepped onto that field, even when they didn't yet believe in themselves.

Coach Cruz also represented the best of what we hope to see in our educators. He showed up early, stayed late, and invested his time, heart, and energy into the future of Guam's youth. His coaching career produced championship teams, but more importantly, it produced generations of adults who continue to carry his lessons into their families, workplaces, and service to our island.

Renaming the field he walked on, taught on, and poured his life into is a fitting tribute to a man who gave so much to the George Washington HS and Guam football community. It ensures that future students will know his name, hear his story, and understand that excellence and character are built through dedication and service.

Coach Loring Santos Cruz is deserving of this honor not because of a single accomplishment, but because of a lifetime of commitment to Guam's youth. His legacy lives in thousands of Geckos whose lives he touched. Naming the football field after him is a meaningful way to preserve that legacy and to give our students a lasting reminder of what true leadership looks like.

Coach Cruz has earned this recognition through a lifetime of dedication to our island's young people. I respectfully ask for your support in passing Bill No. 195-38.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse'.


James C. Perez



Testimony of Jonathan M Denight in support of Bill No. 195-38 (COR)

Håfa Adai Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Bill No. 195-38 (COR), introduced by Senator Vincent A.V. Borja, to rename the George Washington High School Football Field as the Loring Santos Cruz Football Field.

Loring Santos Cruz was my brother in law. And Im proud of my nyao because Loring was a good man who did so much for so many people, but never really spoke about it that much. He just did it and then moved on to the next good deed. I always appreciated and respected that about Loring.

Loring lived a life of service as a teacher and coach. There are many people that Loring helped or kept in touch with through sports and through friendships. Loring would also reach out and offer support to those that sometimes others might not and also simply to people who he just wanted to help.

Loring's leadership style was that, as head coach, he was in charge of the team which included the players and his assistant coaches. And whatever may happen regarding his team, no matter what, he would step up and take responsibility for his team's actions. That was his character. He also treated players respectfully and equally and wouldn't allow players to start in a game if they had skipped the practice prior, no matter who. Loring's football instincts, strategies, play making, game prep and scouting were all top level. He was a great coach.

But sports was not the end game or the final goal for Loring. Sports was the means for him to help people through coaching and then through the friendships that resulted. Plus, outside of sports, he had friends that he also kept in contact with. He kept in touch with lots of friends. But I must also mention that Loring could keep a grudge going for some time. So there were also friends that he sometimes didn't always keep in touch with, but he treasured all his friends.

I always figured that Loring's coaching career was started and shaped from the fact that he came from a big family. Early on he learned that discipline was the key to getting to the goal line. And he was often the guy offering his siblings ways to keep their eye on the ball.

Loring was attentive to his mother Florence, making sure she was fine and taken care of, along with his other siblings' help and support. Later in life, with lots of nephews and nieces, Loring was good and generous uncle with his time and help.

Coach Cruz was a dynasty builder. Many of us know about Loring's lifetime of service at GW and the success and respect that he brought to GW through his winning ways and his football championships, which are legendary. And, those record breaking accomplishments at GW are reason enough to warrant naming the GW field after Loring. GW field was a second home. But as I, and others have mentioned, there was so much more to Loring than his sports.

I can not think of a any other person that is a GW alumni, teacher and coach that is so singularity destine to be the namesake of GW field as is Loring Santos Cruz. And, it would be a great and fitting honor to Coach Cruz and his family that the field be named Loring Santos Cruz Field!



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

Support for Renaming GW High School Football Field to the Loring Cruz Football Field

Karl Fukuda

Fri, Nov 7, 2025 at 9:03 AM

To: "senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov" <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>

Dear Senator Duenas,

I am writing to urge your strong support for the proposal to rename the George Washington High School football field in honor of Coach Loring Santos Cruz..

Coach Cruz has been an absolutely instrumental figure at GW High School for decades, serving not only as a dedicated teacher but also as a foundational pillar for the school's entire athletic program. His commitment extends far beyond one sport; he has assisted and mentored students across nearly all athletics throughout his tenure.

Renaming the football field to the **Loring Santos Cruz Football Field** would be a fitting and long-overdue tribute to a man who has given so much of himself to our students, the school, and the community. Honoring him in this visible, lasting manner acknowledges his profound impact as a great coach, a loyal friend, and an exceptional individual.

I respectfully ask that you champion this effort to recognize Coach Cruz's legacy appropriately.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter.

Karl Fukuda
GW GECKOS C/O 1998

Written Testimony for Bill No. 195-38

1 message

Mana Denight [REDACTED]
To: senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov

Fri, Nov 14, 2025 at 3:48 AM

Håfa Adai Senator Dueñas,

Thank you so much for scheduling a hearing for Bill No. 195-38.

My name is Mana Denight and I would like to submit written testimony to be read at the hearing on Monday in support of the bill.

My testimony is below.

SYM,
Mana

Håfa Adai Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

My name is Mana, and I'm writing in support of Bill No. 195-38 (COR) to rename the George Washington High School Football Field after Coach Loring Santos Cruz.

I'm not writing to tell you about championships. I'm writing to tell you what he meant to those of us who were lucky enough to experience Coach Cruz... well, Uncle Loring.

My uncle never married. He never had children of his own. But he raised us, his nieces and nephews, like we were his. And somehow, he still had enough left to show up for thousands of kids who needed him just as much as we did.

When I think about Uncle Loring, I think about how he made you feel seen. Not just noticed. Seen. He had this way of looking at a kid, especially the ones everyone else had written off, and making them believe they mattered. That they could be more than their circumstances. That someone was in their corner.

That field was his home. It's where he poured everything he had into building young men who would become good fathers, good citizens, good people. It's where he taught us that family isn't just blood. It's who shows up for you.

And my uncle always showed up.

My uncle taught me that you show up even when it's hard. That you fight for the underdog. That you give everything you've got without the expectation of receiving anything in return.

He lived that way for thirty-seven years as an educator—and every day of his life as a man.

This field was his life's work, but his impact reached far beyond football. He taught thousands of students across every sport and every walk of life. He was my second father, and he was a father to this island's youth.

I ask this Committee to name it the "Loring Santos Cruz Field" so that every athlete, every student who steps onto it knows the name of the man who spent thirty-seven years believing our kids were worth everything he had to give.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse.
Mana Denight

Mana Denight

Hafa Adai,

Honorable Senator Christopher Duenas, Chair Person, Ranking Members, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Neil Egurrola, I am a 30 year employee of the Guam Department of Education, A 22 year member of the Alaska Air National Guard, a graduate of George Washington High School (GW) class of 1988, a 1987 and 1988 Interscholastic football champion, a 1989 and 1990 adult football league champion with Hall's Angels and the University of Guam, a 20 year high school football coach and a lifelong supporter of Guam athletics. I am honored to submit this statement in strong support of Bill 195-38 the renaming of GW Football Field to the Loring Santos Cruz Football Field because Coach Cruz was in part responsible for making me the person that I am today.

Coach Cruz dedicated decades of coaching high school football to mentoring young athletes, instilling discipline, and fostering a work ethic that extended far beyond the game. In addition, Coach Cruz served more than 35 years as a PE teach at George Washington High School. Under his leadership and tenure, the field became a place where families gathered, friendships were forged, and values of respect and perseverance were passed down to hundreds of GW football players. His commitment was not measured in wins alone, but in the countless lives he shaped through encouragement, guidance, and example. Like myself, many have become productive members of our community and dozens have become notable coaches within the Interscholastic Football league (IFL), Interscholastic Sports Association (ISA), Guam Youth Football League (GYFL), and the Adult Football League.

Renaming the field will:

- Preserve the memory of Coach Cruz and his contributions to Guam's youth.
- Inspire future generations of GW football players to carry forward values of teamwork, resilience, culture, and pride.
- Strengthen our community identity by ensuring the field reflects the people who shaped it.

I respectfully urge the Committee to approve this renaming. Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to preserving the spirit of our community. God Bless.

Testimony to rename GW Football field “The Loring Santos Cruz Field”

1 message

Jacqueline Cruz <[REDACTED]>

Wed, Nov 12, 2025 at 9:50 AM

To: senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov

Cc: KRISTINE DENIGHT [REDACTED]

My husband and I are submitting a written testimony to support the rename of GW football field as the Loring Santos Cruz field.

We are in San Antonio, TX and are unable to attend the hearing, due to medical treatment.

I personally knew Loring since we attended elementary school at Mount Carmel Catholic School (1960-1970) in Agat, Guam.

My husband & I, then went to high school together, with Loring, (1970-1973), @George Washington High School and graduated together in 1973.

Loring has always been a kind, respectful person and always looked for the best in everyone. He encouraged everyone he met, to strive to do their best, be honest, and be kind, and be fair. These were the traits he possessed and instilled in his team, his friends & family.

My husband and I both taught at the Guam Department of Education and Guam Community College, before he joined the military, in 1984. My husband retired from active military duty in 2006.

We maintained contact with Loring, throughout the years we were apart, during the times we returned home to Guam. When we met, we spoke of his career as a teacher and coach.

He loved football. He loved coaching. He loved his community. He loved our mutual friends.

Loring was a generous person.

Loring believed that everyone was a part of the “village”.

That was the value he instilled in the youths he coached. It wasn't just the strategy of the game. It was everyone taking responsibility for the team and building character. Loring was a fair person. He cared for every person that he touched.

Loring loved his family on the field, and at home.

Throughout the years, our Mount Carmel School friends, and high school, GW Class of '73, maintained contact with each other, through class reunions, email, class chats on social media.

Loring attended these Mount Carmel and GWSH class reunions and chimed in often. He always posted jokes that would make us laugh out loud. Some days, he would change the

mood we were in. He made our day, with his humor and the jokes he posted.

We visited with him often, when we were on island, and just shared the love of the game, caught up with the lives of friends we knew. We ate a lot. The meals we shared lead to never ending conversations & laughter, that lasted for hours, until it was time to go home. There was never enough time in the day to finish catching up.

Loring built a legacy.

Loring built champions.

Loring built lasting friendships.

Loring will live forever in the field that will bear his name, “The Loring Santos Cruz football field”.

Until we see each other again, friend, play the game you loved and continue building champions as you were meant to be. We honor you.

Rudy J. Cruz
[REDACTED]

Jacqueline Taienao Cruz
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

TESTIMONY ON BILL 195-38

Submitted by: Terry Barnhart
[REDACTED]

Buenas yan Hafa Adai,
Senator Duenas and committee members,

I am Terry Barnhart, a life-long friend of Loring Santos Cruz. I come before you today to offer my unequivocal support for Bill 195-38, to rename the GW football field the Loring Santos Cruz football field.

I have known Loring since the early 1970's when we met through his brother Zoe and we further nurtured our friendship at the University of Guam as we both sought higher education. Loring always had a passion for playing football and developed a defensive mind for the game. He played with fervor and excitement both as a player and a coach. His enthusiasm for the game never wavered or dimmed because as he often said, "I eat, breathe, and live football!" His commitment to the game became evident when he won consecutive championships for the GW football team in the early 90's. But beyond his love for the game, Loring was mindful about teaching and passing on life lessons to his players. Imparting good, solid values to his football team was Loring's consequential legacy to his players. It brought him much pride when he followed their career paths and cheered them on to successful professions. But he did this quietly and largely kept it to himself. That was Loring. He didn't seek glory or validation for the lives he touched through the game of football. His love for the sport and his unique way of coaching taught many young boys the importance of treating each other with mutual

respect; with helping when you can; and winning or losing with equal grace. I state with certainty that Coach Cruz lived a purposeful life and it is laid bare by the considerably significant young men that were positively impacted by his love of the game and coaching ability. I can't say enough about Coach Cruz's zeal for the game of football because he truly embraced the game and all it did for him and his players. For sure, many young adults benefitted from Coach Cruz's style of coaching and knew they were in the midst of someone special who cared about them.

Beyond his coaching abilities, I've come to know Loring as a fun- loving guy. He was well-rounded in his love for other sports such as bowling, tennis and board games like backgammon. I smile about those times and how much fun we had bowling, playing tennis and sitting for countless hours playing backgammon. We maintained our friendship through the years because we shared the same values and beliefs about the world around us. I will always cherish his warm way, his wicked sense of humor, and camaraderie. I miss my very good friend.

How fitting that a football field that he coached at and shared his time and talent with numerous young players will be named in his honor. I can see the sparkle in his eyes, the crack of his smile, and him thinking, "how cool"!

I ask the committee to move swiftly on naming the GW football field the Loring Santos Cruz football field. Indeed, Coach Cruz is very deserving of this honor.

Thank you for your time.

Terrence M. Brooks
247 Martyr Street
Hagatna, Guam 96910

Senator Christopher M. Dueñas
38th Guam Legislature
259 Martyr Street
Hagåtña, Guam 96932

Re: In Support of Naming the George Washington High School Football Field in
Honor of Loring Santos Cruz

Hafa Adai Senator Duenas,

I am writing to express my wholehearted and enthusiastic support for naming the George Washington High School football field in honor of our dear friend, classmate, teammate, mentor, and coach, Loring Santos Cruz.

I had the privilege of graduating with Loring from George Washington High School in 1973 and of sharing the field with him both at GW and later at the University of Guam. From our earliest days as young athletes, it was clear that Loring possessed a rare depth of character, leadership, and sincerity. He was the kind of teammate who lifted everyone around him—not only through his skill, but through his example of humility, compassion, preparation, and integrity.

After his playing days, Loring continued to shape the lives of young people across our island, serving for decades as a coach at George Washington High School and with the Pepsi Giants football organization. Through these roles, he influenced the lives of thousands of students and young men, many of whom to this day credit him with instilling in them the discipline, confidence, teamwork, and purpose that guided their personal growth and success. The outpouring of love, remembrance, and reverence at his recent funeral was a testament to the profound and lasting impact he made on our community.

Coach Loring's teams were always well-prepared, fundamentally sound, and unified—reflections of his steady leadership, deep knowledge of the game, and belief in doing things the right way. His record speaks for itself: multiple championships at both the high school and post-high-school levels, earned not through flash or ego, but through consistent excellence, mentorship, and the unbreakable trust he built within his teams.

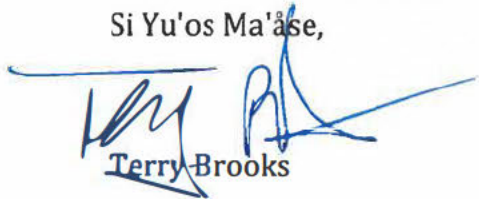
And while his achievements on the field are impressive, it is the life lessons he taught—the importance of respect, perseverance, accountability, and brotherhood—that make his legacy worthy of permanent recognition. Loring's influence did not end with football; it lives on in the character and accomplishments of the countless individuals he coached and mentored.

I know that all former Geckos were elated that GW defeated Father Duenas twice this season to dethrone the Friars—ending an era and beginning a new one—which must have brought a huge grin to Coach Loring's face from above. It was a reminder that his spirit is still very much with the Gecko family, encouraging, guiding, and celebrating with us.

For all these reasons, I respectfully and strongly urge the Guam Legislature to name the George Washington High School football field in honor of Loring Santos Cruz. It would be a fitting and meaningful tribute to a man who gave so much of himself to the students and communities of this island, and whose legacy continues to shape lives today.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this request.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase,



Terry Brooks

George Washington High School, Class of 1973
Former GW & UOG Football Teammate of Coach Loring S. Cruz

Delfina G. Chargualaf
205 Roy T. Damian St.
Mongmong, Guam 96910

November 14, 2025

Honorable Christopher M. Dueñas,
Senator and Chairman of Committee on Finance and Government Operations
259 Martyr Street
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Committee on Finance and Government Operations
38th Guam Legislature
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Dear Senator Dueñas and Committee on Finance and Government Operations,

I am writing in support of Bill No. 195-38 as detailed below in the Committee on Finance and Government Operations' public hearing agenda for Monday, November 17, 2025:

Bill No. 195-38 (COR) – Vincent A. V. Borja - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §849.18 TO CHAPTER 8, TITLE 1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO RENAMING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON FOOTBALL FIELD AS THE LORING SANTOS CRUZ FOOTBALL FIELD.

As a lifelong friend of Loring Santos Cruz, I am honored to be one of the many voices expressing support to memorialize Coach Cruz's legacy in the passing of this bill. Generations of students, athletes, and football enthusiasts can speak volumes on his mentorship and sports leadership. Although I am more of a casual football fan, I can attest to the fact that his career and influence were rooted in values that he carried both on and off the field. I first met Loring fifty years ago, and I have been lucky enough to call him a friend whose kindness, generosity, and passion have never wavered. As the years have gone by, and eras have come and gone, he has always taken the time to have lunch with our friend group to stay connected with us. It is easy to let life fly by and to fall out of touch with old friends. But, just like with everything Loring cared deeply about in his life, he was diligent in putting in the time and effort to sustain the things that mattered.

Loring Santos Cruz's commitment to his family and friends, to the game, and to Guam's football community are more than enough to justify the renaming of the GWHS football

field in remembrance of him. By doing so, when current and future generations visit the field, they will be reminded that being a great student, a great athlete, and a great citizen of Guam, all come down to being a great man.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my testimony.

Senseramente,

Delfina G. Chargualaf

Delfina Garrido Chargualaf
Citizen of Mongmong, Guam



Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas

CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

Bill No. 195-38 (COR) As amended - "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §849.18 TO CHAPTER 8, TITLE 1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO RENAMING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON FOOTBALL FIELD AS THE LORING SANTOS CRUZ FOOTBALL FIELD"

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>	 12/31/25	X				
Senator V. Anthony Ada <i>Vice Chairperson</i>	E-Vote 12/31/25	X				
Senator Frank F. Blas, Jr. <i>Member</i>	E-Vote 12/31/25	X				
Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <i>Member</i>						
Senator Jesse A. Lujan <i>Member</i>	E-Vote 12/31/25	X				
Senator Vincent A.V. Borja <i>Member</i>	E-Vote 12/31/25	X				
Senator Tina Rose Muña Barnes <i>Member</i>						
Senator Joe S. San Agustin <i>Member</i>	E-Vote 12/31/25	X				

OFFICE OF SENATOR CHRISTOPHER M. DUEÑAS

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

  LIKE AND FOLLOW @SENATORDUENAS



Karl Pangelinan <karl.p@guamlegislature.gov>

Urgent E-Vote for Bill #195-38

8 messages

Karl Pangelinan <karl.p@guamlegislature.gov>
To: cmdcommittee@guamlegislature.gov
Cc: Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>

Wed, Dec 31, 2025 at 10:54 AM

Hafa Adai Committee Members:

Please find committee report attached for Bill #195-38 - Sen. Vincent AV Borja - "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §849.18 TO CHAPTER 8, TITLE 1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO RENAMING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON FOOTBALL FIELD AS THE LORING SANTOS CRUZ FOOTBALL FIELD"

Your action on this measure is respectfully requested.

Kindly indicate your preferred course of action by selecting one of the following options:

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TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE

Please submit your response as soon as possible by **REPLY ALL** to this email. 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.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse' for your prompt attention to this matter.

Respectfully yours,

Karl Pangelinan

Office of Senator Chris M. Duenas - Chairman Finance & Gov't Operation

 **Bill No 195-38 CR.pdf**
8731K

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

Wed, Dec 31, 2025 at 11:00 AM

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

Cc: cmdcommittee@guamlegislature.gov, Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>

to adopt

On Dec 30, 2025, at 6:54 PM, Karl Pangelinan <karl.p@guamlegislature.gov> wrote:

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

Wed, Dec 31, 2025 at 11:01 AM

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

Cc: cmdcommittee@guamlegislature.gov, Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>

To do pass

On Dec 30, 2025, at 7:00 PM, Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

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

Wed, Dec 31, 2025 at 11:17 AM

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

Cc: Karl Pangelinan <karl.p@guamlegislature.gov>, cmdcommittee@guamlegislature.gov, Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>

To do pass.

[Quoted text hidden]

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Office of Majority Leader Jesse A. Lujan

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

259 Martyr St., Hagatna, Guam 96910

senator.lujan@guamlegislature.gov

(671) 969-6525

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

Wed, Dec 31, 2025 at 11:18 AM

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

To: vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov

Cc: karl.p@guamlegislature.gov, cmdcommittee@guamlegislature.gov, senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov

To Do Pass

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

On Tue, 30 Dec at 8:02 PM, Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov> wrote:

To do pass

On Dec 30, 2025, at 7:00 PM, Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov> wrote:

to adopt

On Dec 30, 2025, at 6:54 PM, Karl Pangelinan
<karl.p@guamlegislature.gov> wrote:

Hafa Adai Committee Members:

Please find committee report attached for Bill #195-38 - Sen. Vincent AV Borja - "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §849.18 TO CHAPTER 8, TITLE 1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO RENAMING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON FOOTBALL FIELD AS THE LORING SANTOS CRUZ FOOTBALL FIELD"

Your action on this measure is respectfully requested.

Kindly indicate your preferred course of action by selecting one of the following options:

TO DO PASS

TO NOT PASS

TO REPORT OUT ONLY

TO ABSTAIN

TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE

Please submit your response as soon as possible by **REPLY ALL** to this email. 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.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse' for your prompt attention to this matter.

Respectfully yours,
Karl Pangelinan
Office of Senator Chris M. Duenas - Chairman Finance & Gov't
Operation
<Bill No 195-38 CR.pdf>

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

To Pass. 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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[Quoted te t hidden]

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

Wed, Dec 31, 2025 at 12:43 PM

To: "Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>

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

To do pass



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 te t hidden]

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

Wed, Dec 31, 2025 at 2:49 PM

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

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

To Do Pass



Speaker, Frank F. Blas, Jr.

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

Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña

(671)969-6456

speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov

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

1) Overview

Bill No. 195-38 (COR) was introduced by Senator Vincent AV Borja on September 25, 2025 and referred to the Committee on Finance and Government Operations by the Committee on Rules on October 2, 2025. The Committee held a public hearing on November 17, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in the Guam Congress Building's Public Hearing Room. Notices for the hearing were posted on the Government Public Notices Portal and distributed via email to all senators and major media outlets on November 7, 2025 (5-day notice) and again on November 14, 2025 (48-hour notice).

Senators Present: Chairman Chris Duenas
Vice Chairman V. Anthony Ada
Sen. Shawn Gumataotao
Sen. Jesse Lujan
Ranking Member Sen. Tina Muna-Barnes
Sen. Will Parkinson
Sen. Therese Terlaje
Sen. Chris Barnett
Sen. Telo Taitague

Written Testimony:

13 separate individuals submitted and attached within this Committee Report

Appeared before The Committee

Christine Denight
Jon Denight
Neil Egerrola
Jon Denight
Eric Ada
Theseus Mendiola
Jennae Perez
Coach Ryan Rios
Mario Santiago



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

Committee Digest for Bill #195-38

[Public Hearing - Senator Christopher M. Duenas - November 17, 2025 9AM](#)

“AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §849.18 TO CHAPTER 8, TITLE 1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO RENAMING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON FOOTBALL FIELD AS THE LORING SANTOS CRUZ FOOTBALL FIELD”

2) Summary of Testimony and Discussion

CHAIRMAN CHRIS M. DUENAS: So, we will quickly move to the next item. we're not taking any recess. we don't need to. And so, we will now move to the next item. I know there's a lot of people here and great interest in this particular bill. And so this is bill number 195 uh-38 CR introduced by Vincent AV Borja an act to add a new subsection 849.18 to chapter 8 title 1 Guam cone annotated relative to renaming the George Washington football field as the Loring Santos Cruz football field. And so I will before we go to those who have come to testify this morning on this bill, I will go to ranking member Senator Tina Rose Muna Barnes to introduce the bill and I believe she also has a testimony that has been requested to be read into the record. Senate ranking member Tina please proceed.

RANKING MEMBER TINA MUNA-BARNES: Si Yu'os Ma'ase uh. Mr. Chair, and thank you again for giving me the opportunity to share a statement from the author of the legislation of this bill and to note for the record that I 100% support the measure of bill 195-38 and good morning.

(Reading) First, I want to extend my sincere apologies for not being able to attend this hearing in person today. I am deeply grateful to my esteemed colleague, Senator Tina Rose Muna Barnes, for reading these remarks on my behalf and for her request to join as a prime co-sponsor of this measure. Thank you, Senator, for your unwavering support and for standing with our community on this important legislation. Today we are here to discuss bill #195-38, a measure to rename the George Washington High School football field as the Loring Sanch Cruz Football Field. I want to begin by sharing that this bill was born directly from the heart of our community over the last several months. My office has received countless calls, messages, and personal requests from alumni, former players, teachers,



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

and families, all asking for a way to honor Coach Cruz in a meaningful and lasting way. This bill is the direct result of their voices, their love, and their cherished memories. But this measure is also deeply passionate to me. Coach Cruz was my PE teacher at George Washington High School. For those who know my story, my upbringing was not always easy and I didn't always have the support at home that many kids are fortunate to have. I struggled and I admit I was one of the naughty ones. I pushed boundaries and tested my teacher's patience. But Coach Cruz saw beyond my behavior. He took the time to understand me and saw the kid who needed structure, guidance, and someone to believe in him. There were days he made me walk the GW track over and over just so I could earn a passing grade in PE and stay on a path to graduation. At the time, I didn't fully grasp why he insisted. But looking back now as a father, as a coach, as a veteran, and a public servant, I realize he wasn't just helping me pass the class. He was teaching me discipline. He was teaching me commitment. He was showing me that someone who cared enough not to give up on me. Coach Cruz did that for thousands of students. As reflected in this bill, he dedicated over 36 years to GW as a physical education teacher. He began coaching in 1976, serving as both an assistant and head coach for football and track. He also coached at the University of Guam and led the Pepsi Giants to championships. Honored in multiple editions of the "Who's Who among America's teachers", he helped shape generations of athletes, educators, service members, and community leaders. The football field at GW was more than just a field to him. It was his classroom. It was a place where he taught perseverance, teamwork, humility, and pride. It was where he turned challenges into lessons and students into leaders. Renaming the field in his honor is more than symbolic. It is a lasting recognition of a man who dedicated his life to educating, mentoring, and supporting the youth of our island. It ensures that future generations will know his name, his values, and his enduring legacy every time they step onto the field. To the Cruz family, *Un Dankalu Na Si Yu'os Ma'ase* for sharing coach with all of us. And to everyone here today to testify, thank you for honoring his memory.

Mr. Chair, thank you for the opportunity to have these words read into the record and I look forward to hearing the testimony of those present today. And before I read the next statement, Mr. Chair, I want to note for the record that the Bureau of Budget and Management office has submitted a fiscal note #195-38 COR and according to the comments received, GOD has noted that it will have no financial impact. However, the bureau will anticipate that the bill may have a potential cost in the terms of new signage. So, I just want to make sure that that the committee knows that the fiscal report was turned



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

in. So, again, Mr. Chair, thank you. This next testimony comes from a former colleague and employee of mine that I've known for over three decades, working closely with me at the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities. And he asked me personally to read his testimony on his behalf. He does join us here this morning, but asked me if I could humbly read it into the record for him. So, here goes. Testimony of Mr. Zosef P. Branch in support of bill number #195-38 COR renaming the George Washington High School football field as the Loring Santos Cruz football field. **(Reading)** *Si Yu'os Ma'ase* Mr. Chair and members of the committee. My name is Zosef Branch and I am here today in strong support of bill #195-38 to rename the George Washington High School football field in the in honor of my brother Loring Santos Cruz. Loring and I both graduated from George Washington High School and this makes today especially meaningful. To speak about him is to speak not only about one of GW's most iconic coaches, but also about a man whose character shaped an entire generation of young people. Much has already been said about Loring's football legacy, the wins, the discipline, the championships, and the pride he brought to the school. But what should be remembered just as strongly is his good humor, his generosity of spirit, and his willingness to give far beyond what everyone expected of him. Loring never had children of his own. Yet the measure of his life can be found in the countless young men he mentored. He had a gift for seeing potential where others saw limits and for lifting up those who needed someone to believe in them. Long after his coaching years ended, students and faculty continued to honor him because they understood the truth. Loring changed lives. This measure is not just about naming a field. It is about recognizing a man whose legacy is still alive in classrooms, hallways, and huddles across GW. A legacy carried by the students he pushed, supported, and celebrated. On behalf of my brother and our family, I respectfully ask for your support of bill number #195-38. Loring gave the best of himself to the students of GW. And it would be a fitting tribute for the football field, a place he loved to forever bear his name. *Un Dankalu Na Si Yu'os Ma'ase* Thank you, Mr. Chair, for giving me the opportunity to read that on behalf of a family member, the brother of coach Loring Cruz, Mr. Zosef Branch is in the audience today. *Si Yu'os Ma'ase chelu* for being here today. *Saina Ma'ase*.

CHAIRMAN CHRIS M. DUENAS: *Buen prubechu* ranking member Tina Rose Barnes. I understand you may have a function in in a little while. So I gave you that latitude. I know we had an order that was requested in the sign up. So we're going to proceed with that now. Can I call on Christine Denight, Neil Egurrola, Eric Ada for Governor Joe Ada this is Theseus or Thaddius Mendiola. Ryan Rios, Zosef Branch, I believe we handled that one. Mario



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

Santiago and Jon Denight. So I believe we will be starting with Christine Denight first and then there is one to be testifying last and so we'll do that in that order. Christine Dight, please proceed.

Christine Denight: *Hafa Adai* Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of bill number #195-38, introduced by Senator Vincent AV Borha to rename the George Washington High School football field as the Loring Santos Cruz Football Field. *Guahu si* Christine Cruz Denight the youngest sibling of Loring Santos Cruz and affectionately named the warden by Loring. He gave me this name due to my best and constant attempts to help Loring with his health challenges with his diet and other things that he didn't always like me reminding him about. But deep down he appreciated and understood that I did it simply because I loved him. I want to share with you that a few days after my brother's passing, a group of his former students and athletes with whom he remained in contact initiated a petition to rename the GW football field in his honor. My family and I appreciate and are genuinely humbled by Loring's friends overwhelming determination to rally the support for the naming of the GW field in his honor and my family stands with them all in cementing Loring's legacy. We do though suggest naming the GW field Loring Santos Cruz Field. Loring was a physical education teacher at GW for 37 years and during that time he interacted with over 18,000 students. Some don't know that Loring also coached track and field for many years. And of course, we all know about Loring's success in coaching high school football and the football dynasty he proudly brought to GW. When Loring attended high school at GW, he also played football and ran cross country. Later in his life, Loring had chronic kidney disease and ended up having to go through 10 years of dialysis. The last two years of Loring's life were very challenging for him. So, due to his declining health, I started to drive him to and from dialysis three times a week. It's amazing how much I was able to learn during our short five minute drives. The brief but telling conversations were about things like what he ate, his online shopping, who he's talking to and not talking to, and of course football. I also learned that he scheduled dialysis days based on NFL off days. And one thing that I learned that really struck me the most was that a while at GW, Loring purchased a washing machine and had it installed outside the gym. When I asked him why he did that, he said because some players were from families that didn't have a washing machine at home, and he wanted all his players to have clean uniforms, no matter who they were or where they came from. I replied, "Wow, that's pretty cool, but you should have turned it off on the game day so that opposing teams



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will get irritated by the dirty uniforms." We both laughed. That washing machine is just one example of many, many things he did for others. He used his own money to purchase paint to line the field because the paint he got from the school wasn't the right paint. Loring looked out for students who had difficulty standing up for themselves and were bullied. And he provided students a safe place in his office. He also purchased equipment and uniforms [clears throat] for players that didn't have the means to do so. There are a lot more stories and things that were not noticed by many people but remain for a lifetime with many people who he helped along the way. There were so many. I'm very proud of my brother Loring and thank those that were inspired to honor him in his element, the GW field, which was his home for so many years. Thank you for hearing me out, and I ask for your support. Biba Loring Santos Cruz field respectfully Christine Cruz Denight. Thank you

CHAIRMAN CHRIS M. DUENAS: And a big Biba to you too and your family and everyone that's here. Before I move on, I'd like to also welcome Senator Terlaje and Senator Parkinson for joining us today at this hearing. So next we will go move on to Mr. Neil. please proceed with your testimony.

Neil Egurrola: Good morning, honorable Senator Chris Duenas. Thank you for having me here today, *Buenas*. I also like to acknowledge ranking member Senator Tina Barnes, Vice Speaker Tony, and the rest of the committee, Senator Gumataotao, Senator Lujan, Senator Parkinson, Senator Barnett, and Senator Taitague. Good morning. Just switch glasses. >> [snorts] [clears throat] >> My name is Neil Egurrola. I'm a 30-year employee of the Guam Department of Education, a 22-year member of the Alaskan National Guard, a graduate of George Washington High School, class of 88, a 1987-88 interscholastic football champion, a 1989 90 adult football league champion under Hal's Angels Football Team and the University of Guam, a 20-year high school football coach and a lifelong supporter of Guam athletics. I am honored to submit this statement in strong support of bill #195-38, the renaming of GW football field to the Loring Santos Cruz Field. Because Coach Cruz was, in large part, responsible for making me the person that I am today. Coach Cruz dedicated decades of coaching high school football to mentor young athletes, instilling discipline and fostering a work ethic that extended far beyond the game. In addition, Coach Cruz served more than 35 years as a PE teacher at George Washington High School. Under his leadership and tenure, the field became a place where families gathered, friendship were forged, and values of respect and perseverance were passed down to hundreds of GW football players. His commitment was not measured in wins alone, but in the countless lives he shaped through encouragement, guidance, and example. Like myself, many have



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become productive members of our community and dozens have become notable coaches within the Inter Scholastic Football League, the Interscholastic Sports Association, the Guam Youth Football League, and the Adult Football League. Renaming the football field will preserve the memory of coach Cruz and his contributions to Guam to the Guam youth. Inspire future generations of GW football players to carry forward values of teamwork, resilience, culture, and pride and strengthen our community identity by ensuring the field reflects the people who it shaped. I respectfully urge the committee to approve this renaming. Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to preserving the spirit of our community. >> God bless. >>

CHAIRMAN CHRIS M. DUENAS: *Si Yu'os Ma'ase* Neil appreciate your testimony. And now we'll go to Eric Ada on behalf of his dad Governor Joseph F. Ada. Eric, please proceed.

Eric Ada: Thank you. This is a testimony of my father, Joseph F. Ada in support of bill number 195-38. *Hafa Adai* Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of bill number 195-38 introduced by Senator Vincent AV Borja to rename the George Washington High School football field as the Loring Santos Cruz Field. For 37 years, Coach Loring Santos Cruz gave his life to the young men and women of George Washington High School. He was more than a physical education teacher and coach. [clears throat] He was a builder of character, a steady presence in uncertain times, and a man who believed that every student who stepped in his class had greatness inside of them, waiting to be called forth. The lessons Coach Cruz taught reach far beyond Friday night games. He taught young people how to stand back up after being knocked down. He taught them that discipline isn't punishment. It's the pathway to becoming someone you can be proud of. He taught them that a team is a family and that you show up for a family even when it's hard. These weren't lessons from my playbook. They were lessons from his life and they shaped not just athletes but the fathers, mothers, teachers, business owners and community leaders of our island which depends on today. Yes, coach Cruz led championship teams in both the Interscholastic Football League and the Miller Football League. Yes, he served as defensive coach for University of Guan Tritons and guided the Pepsi Giants as head coach. Yes, he was recognized multiple times in "Who's Who among America's teachers". An honor reserved for educators whose impact reaches far beyond their own classrooms. But if you ask the men he coached and the students he taught, they won't first tell you about the championships. They'll tell you about the washing machine he quietly installed at school. So players from struggling families could wash their uniforms because he understood that dignity mattered. They'll



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tell you how his office became a refuge, a safe place where students could escape trouble, find peace, and know they mattered. They'll tell you he had a gift for seeing the underdog. The kid everyone else had written off and refusing to give up on them. They'll tell you he showed up every single day, not because it was required, but because he believed in the power of mentorship and the responsibility we have to guide our youth, especially those who need it most. Coach Cruz never married. He had no children of his own. But he fathered thousands. His players were his sons. His students were the young people he poured himself into day after day. His nieces and nephews were his family. Loved with the same fierce devotion he gave everyone in his care. The George Washington High School field football field was his home. and everyone who stepped onto it became part of something bigger than themselves. That field was coach Cruz's true classroom. It was where he built pride. Pride in Mangilao. Pride in being a gecko. Pride in being from Guam. It was sacred ground to him and he made it sacred to everyone who played there. Renaming this field in his honor is more than recognition. It is declaration of what we value as a people. Service that asks for nothing in return. Dedication that spans decades. And the quiet heroism of educators who pour themselves into our children so that Guam's future will be stronger than its past. We often name facilities after elected officials, military heroes, and civic pioneers. It is equally fitting, perhaps more so, that we honor the teachers and coaches who shape the very leaders we later commemorate. Coach Cruz built the foundation. This is simply us saying thank you. As a former governor, I have had the privilege of recognizing many who serve Guam with distinction. As coach Cruz's family, I had the deeper privilege of knowing this man behind the legacy. He was humble. He was faithful. He devoted himself entirely to you entirely to his students, his players, and his family with a selflessness that defined his life. He had he had a particular gift for reaching the students others overlooked. the ones who needed someone to believe in them most. He represented the best of our island, an unshakable belief in our young people, pride in our schools, and love for this community that raised us all. Bill number 195-38 follows the established process under title one chapter 8 of the Guam code annotated for naming public facilities and carries no fiscal impact beyond new signage. But its value cannot be measured in dollars. It is measured in the hearts of the thousands who called him coach and in the generations of students who will one day ask who was Loring Santos Cruz, and hear a story that makes them want to be better. I urge this committee and follow my fellow Guamanians to support this measure wholeheartedly. Let us enshrine Coach Cruz's legacy of mentorship, discipline, and unwavering commitment to our youth for generations to come. Let his name on that field remind every young person who steps onto it that



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someone believed in them and that Guam honors those who give everything to the next generation. *Si Yu'os Ma'ase* for your time and consideration respectfully submitted
Governor Joseph F. Ada former Governor of Guam

CHAIRMAN CHRIS M. DUENAS: *Si Yu'os Ma'ase* Susi Eric Ada on behalf of your father and Governor Joseph F. Ada and I'm sure that you embody every single one of those words as well and you read it well. Thank you, Eric. Mr. Mendiola, please proceed with your testimony.

Theseus Mendiola: *Hafa Adai* and good morning chairman and distinguished senators. Thank you so much for your time and >> [snorts] >> allowing us to speak here today. My name is Theseus Mendiola. I'm here to support bill number 195-38. I would like to thank Senator Vince Borja for introducing this bill and I would like to thank the numerous alumni, students, and athletes that petitioned that the GW field be renamed in the late Loring Santos Cruz's name. I come to you not only as a nephew of coach Cruz, but as a student that had witnessed his dedication and tough love teaching in the 90s. As many here may attest and contribute their memory of him. Unlike [clears throat] unlike many teachers in his field, he knew how to connect with students, challenge them, and most importantly bring out the best in them. Guam got a taste of that in the 80s with iconic purple reign he ushered in with high school football. His legacy will continue on by the thousands of young men and women's lives he has touched and the pride he instilled amongst those honored to have known him and have attended GW during his tenure. Loring Cruz didn't just teach football. He poured his entire body and soul into that sport and into that field. I could recall so many times sitting in my grandmother's home watching my uncle watching college and national football games for hours, even recording games on VHS just to analyze plays. Even when he was in his room, it sounded like a standing there with the commenter commentators calling out the game, the crowd roaring in the background. He loved the game and he loved teaching it to young, impressionable and starving young minds. Many of whom used it as an outlet to stay out of trouble and also use it as a guide for discipline which would shape them into great and achieving individuals later in life. Loring Cruz was not just a coach. He was an inspiration for many generations then and now. An icon on and off the field, a force to be reckoned with, and a name synonymous with a game of football here on this island. Now, we have a great opportunity before us to forever remember and emblazon his name on that field forever, a field he called home. With that being said, let's bring his spirit to its rightful resting place and pass this bill. Thank you, *Si Yu'os Ma'ase*



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CHAIRMAN CHRIS M. DUENAS: *Si Yu'os Ma'ase* I appreciate, we appreciate your testimony and we will continue on now with the next in line and that is Jenae Perez. Please proceed.

Jenae Perez: *Hafa Adai* Senators. My name is Jenae Perez, class of 98. Go geckos. thank you for this opportunity to speak in support of bill 195-38. I am here today to express my strong support for renaming George Washington High School football field in honor of Coach Loring Santos Cruz. a man whose influence on our youth, our schools, and our island has been nothing short of extraordinary. Coach Cruz dedicated decades of his life in shaping the young athletes not just into better players, but into better people. For him, football was just never a sport. It was a classroom without walls. He taught discipline, integrity, teamwork, and resilience. He believed in every student who stepped onto that field, even when they didn't believe in themselves. He also did the same for racquetball and track and just coming into his class. He just had to do all that stuff. Coach Cruz also represented the best of what we had to hope for our educators. He showed up early, stayed late, and invested his time, his heart, and energy into Guam's future Guam's youth. His coaching career had produced championship teams, but more importantly, it produced generations of adults who continue to carry these lessons into their families, their workplace, and service to our island. Renaming the field that he walked on, taught on, and poured his life into is a fitting tribute to a man who gave so much to the George Washington High School and the Guam football community. It ensures that future students will know his name, hear his story, and understand the excellence and character are built through dedication and service. Coach Loring Cruz is deserving of this honor not because of a single accomplishment, but because of a lifetime of commitment to Guam's youth. His legacy lives in thousands of geckos whose lives he touched. Naming the football field after him is a meaningful way to preserve that legacy and give to our students a lasting reminder of what true leadership looks like. Coach Cruz has earned this recognition through a lifetime of dedication to our island's young people and I respectfully ask for support on the passing of bill #195-38. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN CHRIS M. DUENAS: Thank you. *Si Yu'os Ma'ase* Susi Janae and we appreciate your testimony and you being here today. Now we have a legend to honor a legend. I will now recognize Mr. Ryan Rios. Please proceed.

Coach Ryan Rios: Sorry, I don't have anything prepared. I didn't know I was going to speak. But as far as the legacy and of course the foundation that Mr. Adas has said about coach



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Cruz is very true. through the years you know my eight championships is all through his coaching. I mimic everything that he did when we were growing up as kids. And as far as the other schools, from Father Duenas, Coach Posadas, and Coach Guerrero, coach Duenas, and from Sanchez winning their championships with coach at Agerrola, and from Southern being coached from the '89 class. I mean, that's a monument for what he what he has done for football here in this island. Everybody goes through the system which coach Cruz has put together for us to learn and for other children to learn not only for GW but the whole entire the whole entire high school teams and naming the field is just a it's just like school spirit showing up to that field walking on that field and understanding the people that put things together and what coach Cruz has put together as players and as teammates I mean, can't ask for anything more. And he represents the field and the spirit of the school. Thank you,

CHAIRMAN CHRIS M. DUENAS: *Si Yu'os Ma'ase* Ryan Rios, chairman of the board.

Appreciate you. next, that's a that's a notation from his players that gave him that that that title. So, next we'll go with Zosef Branch. >> Okay. And that was that's as I mentioned that was read into the testimony and so thank you very much again. So now Mario Santiago.

Mario Santiago: Good morning, *Buenas and Hafa Adai* Mr. Chair and fellow senators. My name is Mario Santiago. I am a class of 1995 GW graduate. I am part of the last I'm one of the members of the last teams that coach Loring Cruz had coached during his time at GW. I am in here to request your support as I am in 100% support of the bill to rename the football field to Coach Loring Santos Cruz football field. Just like coach Ryan, I came here unprepared with anything written or documented, but I want to say that Coach Loring Cruz wholehearted deserves this [clears throat] notoriety and I request all your support for it. Um, Coach Cruz was the standard of football on Guam. High school football on Guam. He was the epitome in my opinion. And I'm also I can guarantee with the rest of his alumni, he was the epitome of um, high school football. He coached winners. He coached the students that became also coaches, the alumni, and his program still lives through to this day. Not only that, Coach Cruz was a great teacher, great leader. He you know, he was loyal to the school, loyal for his team. He was a team-first coach, and I'm requesting your support that that we try to give him this honor based on his achievements as a teacher and as a coach with his dynasties. Thank you

CHAIRMAN CHRIS M. DUENAS: *Si Yu'os Ma'ase* Mario and your mere presence and coming up to testify along with Ryan I know is much appreciated and thank you for being



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here and and expressing your remarks. And so last on the list, we have Jon Denight to come forward and provide his testimony.

Jon Denight: My name is Jonathan Denight and I'm here in support of Bill 195-38. [snorts] *Hafa Adai* Mr. Chairman and all the committee members that are here today, thank you for being here and thank you to everybody the people that are here participating in the legislative process. Okay. Loring Santos Cruz was my brother-in-law and I'm proud of mine *nao* because Loring was a good man who did so much for so many people but never really spoke about it that much. Um, I always appreciated and respected that about Loring. It wasn't about him. Loring lived a life of service as a teacher and a coach. And there are many people that Loring helped or kept in touch with through sports and just through friendships. Um, Loring would also reach out and offer support to those that sometimes other might not others might not offer support to. And also he simply just helped people that he wanted to help and there were a lot of people. Loring's leadership style was that as head coach he was in charge of the team and that included the players and his assistant coaches. [snorts] And whatever might happen regarding his team no matter what he would always step and take responsibility for his team's actions. That was his character. He also treated players respectfully and with and equally and would not allow an example would be he wouldn't allow a player to start a game if they had missed the previous practice no matter which player they were. Loring's football instincts, his strategy, his playmaking, game prep, scouting were all top level. He was a great coach. We all know that. But as many have said, sports was not the endgame or the final goal for Loring. Sports was the means for him to help people through coaching and through the friendships that resulted from that coaching. Plus, outside of sports, he had friends that he also kept in contact with. [snorts] He kept in contact with a lot of friends. But I must also admit that Loring sometimes could keep a grudge going. So there were also friends that he sometimes didn't always keep in touch with, but he treasured all his friends. I also figured that Loring's coaching career was started and shaped from the fact that he came from a big family. Early on, he learned that discipline was the key to getting to the goal line. And he was often the guy offering his siblings ways to keep their eye on the ball [snorts] whether solicited or not. Loring was attentive to his mother Florance making sure that she was always fine and taken care of along with his other siblings help and support. Later in life, with lots of nephews and nieces, Loring was a good and generous uncle with his time and his help. Coach Cruz was a dynasty builder. Many of us know about Loring's lifetime of service at GW and the success and respect that he brought to GW through his winning ways and his football



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championships, which are legendary. And those record-breaking accomplishments at GW are reason enough to warrant naming the GW Field after Loring. As GW Field was his second home for many years, but as I and others here have mentioned, there was so much more to Loring than his sports. I cannot think of any other person that is a GW alumni, coach, and teacher that is so singularly destined to be the namesake of GW Field, [snorts] as is Loring Santos Cruz. And it would be a great and fitting honor to coach Cruz and his family that the field be named Loring Santos Cruz Field. Thank you very much for your time and we hope for your support.

CHAIRMAN CHRIS M. DUENAS: Thank you *Si Yu'os Ma'ase* Jon Denight and I know we had the request of the first and the last but I got one more to read into the record and it's a Denight family member so I'm sure it will be accepted that it's the last one to be read into the record before we go to the panel for questions. And this is from Mana **(Reading)** *Hafa Adai* Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Mana and I'm writing in support of bill 195-38 COR to rename the George Washington High School football field after coach Loring Santos Cruz. I'm not writing to tell you about championships. I'm writing to tell you about what he meant to those of us who were lucky enough to experience Coach Cruz. Well, Uncle Loring, my uncle never married. He never had children of his own, but he raised us. His nieces and nephews were like his. And somehow, he still had enough left to show up for thousands of kids who needed him just as much as we did. When I think about Uncle Loring, I think about how he made you feel. Not just noticed, seen. He had a way of looking at a kid, especially the one everyone [snorts] else had written off, and making them believe they mattered, that they could be more than their circumstances, that someone was in their corner. That field was his home. It was where he poured everything he had into building young men who would become good fathers, good citizens, good people. It is where he taught us family isn't just blood. It is who shows up for you. And my uncle always showed up. My uncle taught me that you show up even when it's hard. That you fight for the underdog. that you give everything you've got without exception receiving or receiving anything in return. He lived that way for 37 years as an educator and every day of his life as a man. The field was his life's work, but his impact reached far beyond football. He taught thousands of students across every sport and every walk of life. He was my second father and he was the father to this island's youth. I asked this committee to name the Loring Santos Cruz Field so that each athlete, every student he who steps onto it knows that the name of the man who spent 37 years believing in our kids were worth everything he had to give. *Si Yu'os Ma'ase*.



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This is the testimony of Mana Denight. So, at this time, I'd like to recognize my colleagues who have come this morning to probably make comments or ask questions of any of the panel members. Those that are here, if they ask you to return to the table, please do so. And so, we will start with Senator Taitague.

Sen Telo Taitague: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Biba GW, class of 19 forgotten. I'm not going to reveal my age. [laughter] No, I'm a proud 1978 grad of GW High School, you know. And I didn't know Loring very well. I think he had a good laugh when in 1977 when I went out for the boys football team and because they didn't have any girls flag football. So, um, I had Tony Posadas help me go on the field ready to, um, you know, go out for tryouts for the boys football team. And they were trying every possible way to make sure that I did not get on. The coaches were asking me, "Oh, please tell, we don't have uniforms for you, for women. We can't do this." I said, "But this is unfair. You have boys football. What about the girls football? Unless you guys put a girls football team together, flag football team, then I'm going to go out and try out for football. So, lo and behold, of course, the administration got involved and they created a women's football league at GW, Flag Football. So, I know Loring and excuse [clears throat] me, has heard the the story about that through Tony Posadas who they were very good friends. Um, but you know, um, I really wish he was here today to hear all the comments. I think he is. He's listening from above. You know, the comments that you had to say. It would have been really nice to have this done while he was he was still around alive. But, um, I think this bill will go through. I got a lot of people who called my office. Um, and you know what was ironic is it wasn't just my GW alumni or people from GW who graduated. There were actually people who graduated from FD who graduated from JFK who asked me to support this. And so I had to ask them, you know, why you're not even from GW? And they said because Loring not only gave loyalty to his players at GW and his students at GW, he showed respect whenever there was a game on any other school that came [clears throat] in front of GW to play. He made sure that people had that respect for each other for the game. And that really had me right there at Yeah. I believe this man deserves this. So, um, thank you everyone for coming and sharing his story so that those who are listening today can see how truly amazing this man was and how he truly cared. Thank you, Mr. Chair

CHAIRMAN CHRIS M. DUENAS: *Si Yu'os Ma'ase*, Senator Taitague, Senator Lujan.

Sen Jesse A. Lujan: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, panel, for being here this morning as well. You know, how fitting that today we're here listening to, of course, testimony on



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renaming GW Field after Loring Santos Cruz. And just a couple weeks ago, GW also took the championship. So, [clears throat] I'm sure he's still working his magic, you know, so while he's resting in glory, he's I'm sure still coaching. But, again, thank you for coming out and testifying and congratulations to GW on your championship as well. You know, this bill of course honors a legendary coach, physical education teacher, and mentor by renaming, of course, the GW field, the Loring Santos Cruz Field in his memory. Of course, his dedication and passion and commitment to sports and physical education have inspired countless athletes and students and shaped many lives. As we heard earlier, of course, testimony read by Senator Barnes of Senator Borja, whose life was inspired by coach Cruz. This field of course will stand as a testament of coaches Cruz enduring legacy where of course future generations will learn and grow and compete with integrity. So with that being said, um, Coach Cruz' impact will be felt for years. So with that, condolences to the family. Coach Cruz, rest in heavenly glory. And again, continue watching over the GW athletes and field because that field will be named the Loring Santos Cruz Field. Thank you for testifying this morning. Thank you very much, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN CHRIS M. DUENAS: *Si Yu'os Ma'ase*, Senator Lujan. At this time, I will recognize Senator Barnett.

Sen Chris Barnett: *Si Yu'os Ma'ase* Mr. Chair for the opportunity to speak in the strongest support possible for the bill. Of course, want to thank Coach Cruz's family for coming out to testify. And also, I just want to officially congratulate Coach Ryan Rios on winning the George Washington or winning the championship for the Geckos this year. [applause] this is your eighth title as the Gecko's coach and you know with the untimely passing of coach Cruz for you guys to be able to snap the streak of Father Duaneius and bring home the trophy. I mean the timing of it's really just legendary and so obviously a very strong supporter of the bill. I attended George Washington high school and my mother's brother played for the tradesmen. and so we used to showing my age there. but we used to go and watch coach Loring and the geckos whenever we had the chance. And you know, coach Loring you know and this is in line with your testimony, coach Mr. chair. I don't want to confuse anybody up here. but it's in line with your testimony that Loring really took high school football coaching to almost like a NFL-like level. I mean I know that he was very proud of scouting the teams, watching the tape and really doing everything he could before, during, and even after the games to keep the geckos in the in the win column. And so obviously I think this is a great step to honor the legacy of coach Cruz and I'm in very strong support of the bill and there's Biba geckos. I want to thank Mr. Chair and of course all of you



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for your testimony and support of coach Cruz who was obviously if there's a if there's a football Mount Rushmore of Guam football coach Loring is definitely going to be one of the faces up there. And so I also want to just commend the author for the timely introduction of the bill and I'm eager to vote in support of it. Susi, Mr. Chair, and *Biba* Geckos, *Biba* Coach Cruz,

CHAIRMAN CHRIS M. DUENAS: *Biba Si Yu'os Ma'ase*, Senator Barnett, Senator Gumataotao, you're recognized.

Sen Shawn Gumataotao: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you for the panel for being with us this morning. And I absolutely am in favor of this bill. I had the privilege to be able to be field-side from 1994 to 2002 on many occasions. My former boss is sitting right there and I can recall all the days that he would say, "Hey, how did that game go last night?" Not just him, but the other part of that group that was kind of kicking me in the, you know, where when I first started at KUAM. But it was an absolute privilege to be there at the sidelines to watch him. He is probably, in my opinion, one of the most unassuming persons you'd ever meet. And it goes back to Jenae's testimony earlier that he would he showed up. So, he would be in all these different places. He would be at the gym. I'm like, "What are you doing here? There's no reason for you to be here." And he's selling tickets. Or I'd see him at and the unknown factoid that he was a track and field coach because I'm I you know I had no other no other choice thanks Jon to do other sports but I did go out and I got to witness not just his being there on the field with Ryan and others, but it was really seeing him show up for every GW event, whether it was a sporting event, whether it was a graduation, whether it was just them having their spirit week. Um, I would run into him at the office when he was there walking around, he would always be there in support of not just his athletes, but just the students in general. And so I say that, hey, he's given so much. There are I think this might be one of the first facilities or for sports facilities that would bear a name and no better name to be honored than Coach Loring and very excited about this opportunity. I only have one question and I'm only asking because Jon's here, Eric's here, and I know that the three of you will probably harass those two for this, but recognizing the bill's intent to honor the life and service of coach Cruz by designating the field in his name and I do agree with it because he was so not just football it was everything else Christine to calling it the Loring Cruz field what information is available regarding any immediate or long-term plans that might be at the table at this point either through your friends at GDOE your friends at George Washington or maybe others that use the field regularly to improve it. And what, how can today's discussion ensure that repairs, replacement plans at that



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important facility be adjusted in the event that this bill becomes law and what could be the outlook for the field.

Christine Denight: Thank you, Senator for that question. Um, you know, Loring's passing was just a couple of months ago, so we're still kind we're still in grieving mode, but um, when I heard about what his players and friends wanted to do, um, was kind of I was just filled with a lot of different emotions. But by doing this my sister and I out of the nine, there are only four of us left. I'm the youngest. And we had talked about actually putting together a foundation to honor him. and look at if this thing did happen, I just felt that we would have to be the caretakers of the field and whether it was with government support or not, probably not. if it was something that we needed to go out on our own and try to figure out what to do. I did see because I was watching the games the past few weeks and were kind of disappointed that I mean I'm I was glad that it was brought I mean it was aired but just the angles of how to watch the game I was like what happened to the press box what there was just so many things that I started to think about and I said well you know what if it becomes if Loring's name says that this thing does go through, we feel that we need to be the caretakers of it. And if we're not around, then we have hundreds of other nephews and nieces that would step up. So it what it does is it just makes me more want to take care of the field and put in a press box, putting a concession stand so that the associations at the schools can make money improve. there are just improvements that can happen and I just feel compelled that we would need to be the caretakers of the field and if we did it privately on our own then that's what we would want to do. I don't know if that I think about it.

SEN SHAWN GUMATAOTAO: No, no, it's it's a it does answer that question for me because I I would say that my office I would I got to hear from a lot of his former players too and they were asking me obviously to support the bill and I said of course I think that this effort is it should just it's just should not be a naming it taking it the next step. I think that uh recently when they put in the track and I still have one kid left playing interscholastic sports. So being able to go to GW and see the track there, it was pretty amazing. But there's so many organizations that use that field. And I think moving down the road, it that's what brings the charm to it. It's the home field for the Geckos. It makes it very tough to go and play there if you're not from GW. But it also has such other charm. You can't go on certain corners of that field. you might fall in a hole or you might you might play but you know that there's someone like a Loring might have just tripped them on the 20-yard line or something from above but the idea is that creates such a great atmosphere for not just for sports for the school and again I just I'm here in support and I hope that you guys would be inspired to



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take that next step and I know looking at John too I think that and with your help I think he's probably going to volunteer but I hope that this is something that can come into fruition.

Christine Denight: Also there's no scoreboard court. So, we didn't know what the time was when the game was happening. >>

SEN SHAWN GUMATAOTAO: Maybe because without the press box and tell coach, you guys got to get rid of all those canopies on the side of the field because people can't even see anymore. But it make those games even better. But yes, I'm with you.

Christine Denight: But really, I just I feel like we would need to be the caretakers if it bore my brother's name. And if that meant we had to go in and paint or if we had to raise money to put in a scoreboard and make improvements, then that's what we would want to do so that his legacy continues.

SEN SHAWN GUMATAOTAO: Yeah. Thank you.

Jon Denight: If I if I may add, Senator, I would like to thank you for [clears throat] all your hard work on the sidelines back in the days.

SEN SHAWN GUMATAOTAO: Oh, man. Thank you for finally publicly saying it, John.

Jon Denight: But just to follow up on Christine, yeah, we've talked about this and look, if the name should if Loring should be the namesake of the field, then yeah, we would definitely, you know, go up there, do an assessment, and we would hope between, you know, some government support and also we would reach out to the private sector, you know, get the field to where it should be. Like Christie mentioned, there's no press box, there's no score. I mean, there's it's a field right now pretty much. So, yeah. Thank you.

Neil Egurrola: The other thing I want to add, senators, is that aside from GW using the football field, it's been used several decades by other teams. (Sen Gumataotao) >> 1999 South Pacific Games, it was the >> South Pacific Games. **Neil Egurrola cont.:** The Father Duenas Memorial School has used their home field for the past 20 plus years, I think. Right. And and like Christine said, we don't have the luxury of having a scoreboard. something as menial as a scoreboard, you know, should be up there. But I think with, you know, with your approval, this might be the start of something great for GW. You know, we'll start here and then we'll eventually build a lasting legacy for your brother Loring, Coach Cruz, and continue the impact that he's provided for the youth of Guam.



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SEN SHAWN GUMATAOTAO: Thank you so much. All right. Thank you, Mr. Chair, for the time.

CHAIRMAN CHRIS M. DUENAS: Appreciate you. *Si Yu'os Ma'ase* Senator Gumataotao, Vice Speaker, Vice Chair Ada, Tony Ada.

VICE CHAIR V. ANTHONY ADA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. You know, I support the measure to renaming of the field. I think it's just for clarification because of the title of the bill, right? It's the Loring Cruz football field. So, and that's a multi-purpose field. Am I correct?

Christine Denight: Yeah. So, and that's why you were mentioning the Loring Santos Cruz field. >> Yeah. instead of football field that it would be filled because it would be used for you know a lot of different things like track and field. yeah. >> Yeah.

VICE CHAIR V. ANTHONY ADA: So Mr. Chair and just in that right there were the during the committee markup just to perhaps delete football and then also on page two on section two deleting the word football. That way it just makes it the Loring Santos Cruz field. Yeah. I'm in support of this measure and I look forward to it to go onto the floor. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN CHRIS M. DUENAS: Vice Chair and Vice Speaker Ada and certainly we will make that correction during the markup of the bill. So moving along now Senator Terlaje, you're recognized.

Sen Therese M. Terlaje: *Si Yu'os Ma'ase*, Mr. Chair, thank you all for your testimony today. Really appreciate you all coming here. And someone mentioned a petition. I haven't seen it. So, if we could get a copy, I'd like to make sure that's added to the record. And our records here are supposed to be permanent. So, that will be anyone in the future from GW who would want to research why it was named that way, they will be able to also see that. And I appreciate the testimony regarding you know his professionalism and also the values that he held [clears throat] himself and also was able to teach the many, many students that he worked with and I very much appreciate that and I'm hoping with all of our efforts and those of GW continuing that we can make to teach the future generations of students that we can connect that right that when they I've seen it a lot with the schools that are rename or named after people and they're not really sure why sometimes the principles don't have that history because they didn't live at that time and I just want to make sure if you guys can help us to make sure that this is connected that we have like written history records pictures so that future generations at the school and if we can put it into our committee



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report that will be here at the legislature so that they will always be able to have a place to research and connect especially the values. I really do appreciate that coach Rios when you said that the football system on Guam or the generations of athletes and the generations of improved football that this is all comes from a dedication to learning and improvement and being generous and spreading this knowledge throughout the island. I do recognize that this field is it has been the home and the host for so many in our community different events even since my daughters were there at GW you know they tried to improve the track at that time but not the field particularly and yeah so all these efforts over the years it's not been always completely whole it's a big campus but one of our older ones but one of maybe our most number of graduates because it was our only school for a while and we all have pride in that and we want to make sure to it's not a burden on the family that's not what this should be. It is a pride for our entire island and we want to just ensure that these are the values that we put down in writing for future generations to embrace to remember and everyone who comes to that field knows that these are the values. This is the kind of sportsmanship we want and so very happy and I know he's very loved in in addition to all that he's done. He was a very loved man and so that just really speaks volumes and that we can have people from all walks of life in support of this is really very telling. So I want to thank all of you for your individual efforts and work and carrying on those values as well. Coach, I want to congratulate you and GW. I thought that was just phenomenal and I am just so happy for GW and very proud. And of course football across the island makes us all that was like one of the funnest things to be part of right throughout the island. It's just it's just island pride. Yeah. Yes. watching from everywhere we can just to see, you know, schools that have challenges really overcome those and excel. It's awesome and that's thanks to all of you and of course to coach Cruz *Si Yu'os Ma'ase* and thank you Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN CHRIS M. DUENAS: *Si Yu'os Ma'ase* Senator Terlaje, and so what Senator Terlaje has brought up, I want to let you know that I am the vice chair of the rules committee and the legislative operations, but I'm going to ask the chairman you know, Senator Ada, as Senator Terlaje mentioned, please feel free, we'll be preparing for the January session for this bill to bring in any photos, any standup boards and others. we can put them in the foyer here and also can put some on the floor when we're hearing the bill in order to commemorate what Senator Terlaje mentioned in his honor. So I'm sure that request will be granted and so feel free to bring in any material, standup boards, pictures, historical information in the January session. We'll notify you when the bill's about to be heard in that



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session and you'll be welcome to do that to solidify and bring more importance to why this is a very fitting tribute. Senator Parkinson, you're recognized.

Sen Will Parkinson: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And I rise in strong support of this bill. I am a former player of coach Loring Cruz. I played under coach Loring and coach Rios and coach Cruz in 2002 to 2004. Coach Ferejan handled the offense. Coach Ruiz did the amazing defense. And on Fridays, Coach Cruz would come and give his wisdom on our special teams. And I remember how I got into GW football was because of Coach Cruz. I had never played football on Guam. I had actually played one season of football in the States and I played for a team that lost every game we played. And so really turned me off to the whole experience. But I met Coach Cruz during PE of my sophomore year. And he said to me, it's like, "Oh man, the team would love to have you. You should come out and try out and play next year because you've got some talent, kid." And I thought that was so kind of him to say because, you know, when you've been getting your butt whooped for an entire season, it's hard to find love for a sport. And he helped me find it. And I tried out my junior year and I made the football team. But even then, you know, there were trials and tribulations that come with all high school sports. And I at the time had earned a starting position from somebody who had already been there. And I remember, you know, that person was a very friendly and popular person. So I dealt with my fair share of hazing. And there was a point where I almost quit on the team. And it was actually Coach Cruz that made me feel welcome and part of the team. At the time, [snorts] um, I recognized that I had talent as an athlete, but I had chased individual excellence because, you know, when you're on a losing team, that's the best you could hope for. But I was in an opportunity with a real team that had real championship aspirations. And he taught me to be humble. Taught me to be humble, to play for more than myself, for play to play for my team, to play for the person next to me. And so I stuck it out. And those some of those guys that gave me a hard time came some of my best friends. We didn't win a championship my junior year. But we stuck it out. And me and those guys that became my brothers on the field, these coaches that became like a father to me. We won it my senior year. start of a new dynasty. And to think like I would have lost out on that experience if it wasn't for Coach Cruz actually caring, not giving up on any of his students. And I'm just one story in an ocean of stories that Coach Cruz has contributed to. And so it is entirely worthy that this field should be named after him. That the history and the legacy and the values of what he taught should be memorialized so that people when they ask why is this field named this field, they know. They know why we call it after him. what he stood for, what he did for this island, for the



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generations of men he shaped. Truly, what a beautiful life he lived to influence so many people while doing something that he truly loved every day. It's truly a beautiful life and should be celebrated. should be celebrated that you could do so much by building community exactly where you are. You don't need to go anywhere to change the world. You could change the world right at home. So, thank you, Coach Cruz, and thank you all to everyone who testified today. I support this legislation.

CHAIRMAN CHRIS M. DUENAS: Thank you, *Si Yu'os Ma'ase*, Senator Parkinson. I just have a couple of closing comments and once again to thank everyone for being here today. Um, you know, it's interesting because I was going over with my staff. I have a couple of days on the calendar this year or this month to hear bills. And so, this discussion about how much Loring has been influencing things to include possibly the championship was, to hear this bill today when, the NFL is playing Guam time on Monday, a bunch of games that I'm sure he's watching. I chose this day and to hear your testimony his sister saying that you know he would make sure that the dialysis appointments were scheduled not on the days that the NFL was playing. So Coach Loring, you got your way again today.

So anyways, one other thing is that you know the two things that stood out to me when this bill was introduced was first of all the overwhelming amount of support and you know requests that came in to my committee. The second is that you know the people that are requesting this I it's amazing on how the ask for this to come forward and for it to pass it's really out of gratitude you know and it tells you what the man was you know the fact is that humility gratitude is something that are attributes that are very distinguishable right and so you know I've just been amazed at all of the I mean I I put bills on for hearing and you know, it's okay. The bill is going to be heard. So many people just for the bill going on were texting me and emailing me, hey, thanks for putting the bill on. And it's our job, right? But just for the bill going on, it just tells you how many people exude the example that that coach Loring Cruz put forward and not just on the field, but off the field. I also one thing that I always derive my vision from about people is how other people talk about those individuals and one of them was is my brother Kevin Duenas you know was a fierce competitor also I didn't watch much high school football here I was actually state side for most of my high school years but my brother Kevin played in the MFL and he would always note when he was going to play Loring Cruz's team because I was a big Miller Bears fan and he would say "Man, we're playing Loring this weekend." And I said, "What's up?" He goes, "Well, it's going to be a tough game." But he goes, "You know that guy, I not only rever him as a coach, but I revere him as a person." So when other people speak that way about you from, you know,



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the bottom of their heart and also fierce competitors speak that way about you, you know that you know you've made an impact. And so for that reason and many other reasons that is why I also will be making sure that this committee report moves forward quickly. I anticipate it in the January session was great way to start on a new year. And you can be assured that it will committee report will be completed. amendments as the vice speaker said will be put forward and I believe that this honor will be bestowed in in my humble opinion with unanimous support. So, like I said, we'll keep you a breast of when it will be held in the in the January session. For any of you who want to come down you know, and maybe just view the session live if you want. Like I said, please feel free to bring any memorabilia and others to really you know, extort our colleagues to do the right thing and and pass this bill. So, with that, folks, thank you for coming forward. one of the most enjoyable bills that I've ever had to hear in my history of being a legislator. And so that will conclude the testimony on bill #195-38. Thank you for being here, folks. And God bless you. Enjoy this beautiful Monday and maybe catch the Sunday night game in his honor. Should be starting about maybe 12:30 or 1. >> It just started. Okay. [laughter] Coach Loring's watching, so go watch with him. *Si Yu'os Ma'ase*. Having concluded that portion of the business. Bill #195-38 is officially heard.

3) Legislative Findings and Recommendations

The committee finds that this measure has overwhelming support and zero costs outside of signage to implement upon passage. Testimonies presented are all of strong support for the renaming of the field to **Loring Santos Cruz Field**.

One minor amendment has been proposed by the family of Coach Cruz, and mark-up has been duly approved by the Committee.

Accordingly, after careful review and consideration of the testimony received and the intent of the measure marked up by the committee, the Committee finds that Bill No. 195-38 (COR) is sound and in the best interest of the island community.

Therefore, the Committee on Finance and Government Operations recommends to I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan that Bill No. 195-38 (COR) to do pass.

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

Bill No. 195-38 (COR)

Introduced by:

Vincent A.V. Borja *VAB*

**AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §849.18 TO CHAPTER 8, TITLE
1 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO
RENAMING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON FOOTBALL
FIELD AS THE LORING SANTOS CRUZ FOOTBALL
FIELD**

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

2 **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds
3 that the late Loring Santos Cruz dedicated over 36 years of his life as a Physical
4 Education teacher at George Washington High School, where he impacted the lives
5 of thousands of students, faculty, and staff through his unwavering commitment to
6 education and mentorship. In addition to his role as an educator, Loring Santos Cruz
7 was a legendary coach whose contributions extended beyond the classroom to the
8 football fields and track and field facilities of Guam, where he became one of the
9 island's most celebrated and respected sports figures.

10 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that Coach Cruz began his coaching
11 career in 1976, serving as both an Assistant and Head Coach for the George
12 Washington High School football and track and field teams. He also served as the
13 Defensive Coach for the University of Guam Tritons and Head Coach for the Pepsi
14 Giants, leading his teams to numerous championships in the Interscholastic Football

1 League (IFL) and Miller Football League (MFL). His leadership and mentorship
2 inspired generations of students, many of whom have gone on to become leaders in
3 Guam's sports community and beyond.

4 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* also finds that Coach Cruz's legacy is evidenced by
5 his inclusion in multiple editions of "Who's Who Among America's Teachers,"
6 recognizing his excellence and influence as an educator and mentor. The George
7 Washington High School Football Field served as a central venue for Coach Cruz's
8 storied career, where he not only coached championship teams but also instilled
9 values of discipline, teamwork, and perseverance in his players.

10 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that renaming the George Washington
11 High School Football Field in honor of Loring Santos Cruz would serve as a lasting
12 tribute to his extraordinary contributions to education, sports, and the community,
13 ensuring that his legacy continues to inspire future generations.

14 **Section 2. A new §849.18 is added to Chapter 8, Title 1, Guam Code**
15 **Annotated to read as follows:**

16 **"§849.18 Designation of George Washington High School Football Field**
17 **as the "Loring Santos Cruz Football Field".**

18 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the George Washington High
19 School Football Field shall be renamed the Loring Santos Cruz Football Field in
20 recognition of the late Loring Santos Cruz, a distinguished athlete, coach, and
21 educator who devoted his life to promoting health, sports, and education for the
22 people of Guam.

23 **Section 3. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or its application to any
24 person or circumstance is found to be invalid or inorganic, such invalidity shall not
25 affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be given effect without
26 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are
27 severable.

1 **Section 4. Effective Date.** This Act shall be effective upon enactment.

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

Bill No.195-38 (COR)

As amended by the Committee on Finance and Government Operations.

Introduced by:

Vincent A.V. Borja

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COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

October 10, 2025

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. 195-38 (COR)**

Håfa Adai!

Find the attached, Fiscal Note for the following bill:

Bill No. 195-38 (COR).

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



**Bureau of Budget & Management Research
Fiscal Note of Bill No. 195-38 (COR)**

AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 849.18 TO CHAPTER 8, TITLE 1, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO RENAMING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON FOOTBALL FIELD AS THE LORING SANTOS CRUZ FOOTBALL FIELD.

Department/Agency Appropriation Information

Dept./Agency Affected: Guam Department of Education (GDOE)	Dept./Agency Head: Dr. Kenneth E. Swanson, Superintendent
Department's General Fund (GF) appropriation(s) to date: P.L. 38-60: Operations (\$228,187,734); School Maintenance & Repairs (\$10,000,000); Chamoru Studies (\$513,824); Menstrual Hygiene Products (\$25,000); Textbooks from UOG Press (\$481,578); and Y Kuantan Salappe Prinsepap (\$1,200,000)	240,408,136
Department's Other Fund (Specify) appropriation(s) to date: Guam Educational Facilities Fund (\$11,328,487); Public School Library Resources Fund (\$815,331); Healthy Futures Fund (\$891,754); School Lunch/Child Nutritional Meal Reimbursement Fund (\$12,504,000); Limited Gaming Fund (\$343,564)	25,883,136
	266,291,272

Fund Source Information of Proposed Appropriation

	General Fund:	(Special Fund): 1/	Total:
FY 2025 Unreserved Fund Balance		\$0	\$0
FY 2026 Adopted Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0
FY 2026 Appro. (P.L. 38-60)	\$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 2026 (if applicable)	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030
General Fund	1/	1/	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Special Fund	1/	1/	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	1/	1/	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

- Does the bill contain "revenue generating" provisions? / / Yes / X / No
If Yes, see attachment 1/
- 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
- Does the Bill establish a new program/agency? / / Yes / X / No
If yes, will the program duplicate existing programs/agencies? / X / N/A / / Yes / / No
Is there a federal mandate to establish the program/agency? / / Yes / X / No
- Will the enactment of this Bill require new physical facilities? / / Yes / X / No
- Was Fiscal Note coordinated with the affected dept/agency? If no, indicate reason: / X / Yes / / No
/ / Requested agency comments not received by due date / / Other:

Analyst: William P. Tatingpong, Acting BMA Supvr. Date: 10/9/25 Director: Lester L. Carlson, Jr., Director Date: **OCT 10 2025**

Footnotes:

1/ According to comments received on Bill 195-38 (COR), the GDOE has noted that it will have no financial impact. However, the Bureau does anticipate that Bill 195-38 (COR) may have the potential costs in terms of new signage and installation expenses to conduct the renaming of the GWHS Football Field to the Loring Santos Cruz Football Field. The Bureau is unable to provide an estimated cost as the signage is dependent on the approved signage type, the dimensions, and installation. As Bill 195-38 (COR) does not provide for an appropriation to fund such purpose, the GDOE would then have to absorb these costs from its annual fiscal year appropriation.