

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
78-38 (COR)	Shelly V. Calvo	AN ACT TO <i>AMEND</i> §§ 2701, 2702, AND 2703; AND TO <i>ADD</i> A NEW § 2707; ALL OF ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM (RMP) UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP); AND TO CITE THIS ACT AS THE "MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025."	3/5/25 3:26 p.m. ^3/10/25 11:24 a.m.	3/14/25 4:51 p.m.	Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs.	Request: 3/14/25 3/21/25	4/15/28 2:00 p.m.	5/13/25 As Amended.	



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

May 9, 2025

Honorable Frank Blas Jr., Speaker
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
163 W. Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guåhan 96910

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

RE: **Committee Report on the Public Hearing relative to Bill No. 78-38 (COR) – As Amended by the Committee.**

Håfa Adai Speaker Blas,

Transmitted herewith is the Committee Report relative to Bill No. 78-38 (COR) – As Amended by the Committee – AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 2701, 2702, AND 2703; AND TO ADD A NEW § 2707; ALL OF ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM (RMP) UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP); AND TO CITE THIS ACT AS THE “MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025.”

Committee votes are as follows:

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

Sincerely,



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



COMMITTEE ON RULES

RECEIVED:

May 9, 2025 10:15 a.m.

Marie Crisostomo

Revisions Received:

May 13, 2025 6:04 p.m.



Office of Legislative Secretary

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE

I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 38th Guam Legislature

Chairperson, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

COMMITTEE REPORT

Public Hearing

Bill No. 78-38 (COR)

As Amended by the Committee

AN ACT TO *AMEND* §§ 2701, 2702, AND 2703; AND TO *ADD* A NEW § 2707; ALL OF ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM (RMP) UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP); AND TO CITE THIS ACT AS THE “MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025.”



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

May 7, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: All Members
Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

From: Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane *Smart*
Committee Chairperson

Subject: Committee Report on the Public Hearing relative to [Bill No. 78-38 \(COR\)](#) – As Amended by the Committee.

Håfa Adai Committee Members,

Transmitted herewith for your consideration is the Committee Report relative to [Bill No. 78-38 \(COR\)](#) – As Amended by the Committee – AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 2701, 2702, AND 2703; AND TO ADD A NEW § 2707; ALL OF ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM (RMP) UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP); AND TO CITE THIS ACT AS THE “MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025.”

The report contains the following:

- COR Referral Memorandum
- Notice of Hearing
- Hearing Agenda
- Hearing Sign-in Sheet
- Submitted Testimonies and Supporting Documents
- Committee Report Vote Sheet
- Committee Report Digest
- Copy of Bill No. 78-38 (COR)
- Bill No. 78-38 (COR), As amended by the Committee
- Bill No. 78-38 (COR), As amended by the Committee
- Fiscal Note

Please take appropriate action on the attached vote sheet. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Office of Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane.



COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

March 14, 2025

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

Attorney Darleen Hiton
Legislative Legal Counsel

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

Subject: **Referral of Bill No. 78-38 (COR)**

Håfa Adai,

As per my authority as Acting 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. 78-38 (COR)** Shelly V. Calvo. – “AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 2701, 2702, AND 2703; AND TO ADD A NEW § 2707; ALL OF ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM (RMP) UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP); AND TO CITE THIS ACT AS THE “MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025.”

Please ensure that the subject bill is referred to the Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs chaired by Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane. I also request that the same be forwarded to the Prime Sponsor of the subject bill and to Management Information Services (MIS) for posting on our website.

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

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





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

April 8, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media

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

Subject: First Notice of Public Hearing: Tuesday April 15, 2025

Håfa Adai! The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, beginning at 9:00 A.M., in the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building.

The agenda is as follows:

9:00 A.M.

Bill No. 56-38 (COR) - Therese M. Terlaje - AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCLUDING PODIATRY UNDER THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS, AND TO ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS AND CODE OF ETHICS FOR PODIATRY BY ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION (9) AND AMENDING SUBSECTION (7) OF §12202(a), AMENDING SUBSECTIONS (4), (7), (8) OF §12202(b), SUBSECTIONS (a)(1) AND (2) OF §12203, SUBSECTION (b)(1) AND (i)(2) OF §12205, AND ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION(10) AND (11) TO §12215(a), ALL OF CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED

Bill No. 78-38 (COR) - Shelly V. Calvo - AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 2701, 2702, AND 2703; AND TO ADD A NEW § 2707; ALL OF ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM (RMP) UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP); AND TO CITE THIS ACT AS THE "MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025.

Bill 94-38 (COR) - Sabrina S. Matanane - AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 4301.1(g), 4302(c)(8), 4302(c)(9), §4302(e) OF CHAPTER 4, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND ALL OF § 5118 OF CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND §§ 13102(c), 13107, 13108, 13110(b), AND 13115(d)(11) OF CHAPTER 13, TITLE 2, GUAM ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS, RELATIVE TO CLARIFYING SELECTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE CONTRACTS

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



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

Please confirm your attendance by contacting the Office of Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane via email at Office.SenatorBri@guamlegislature.gov or via voice call at (671) 989-2572.

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

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



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

First Notice of Public Hearing: Tuesday April 15, 2025

2 messages

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov> Tue, Apr 8, 2025 at 8:00 AM
 To: phnotice@guamlegislature.gov, committeeonrules@guamlegislature.gov, mis@guamlegislature.gov, Ed Pocaigue <sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov>, av@guamlegislature.gov
 Cc: genese.morrison@guamlegislature.gov, senator.sabrina@guamlegislature.gov, isaiah.aguon@guamlegislature.gov

Håfa Adai! The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, beginning at 9:00 A.M., in the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building.

The agenda is as follows:

9:00 A.M.

Bill No. 56-38 (COR) - _Therese M. Terlaje -AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCLUDING PODIATRY UNDER THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS, AND TO ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS AND CODE OF ETHICS FOR PODIATRY BY ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION (9) AND AMENDING SUBSECTION (7) OF §12202(a), AMENDING SUBSECTIONS (4), (7), (8) OF §12202(b), SUBSECTIONS (a)(1) AND (2) OF §12203, SUBSECTION (b)(1) AND (i)(2) OF §12205, AND ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION(10) AND (11) TO §12215(a), ALL OF CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED

Bill No. 78-38 (COR) - Shelly V. Calvo - AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 2701, 2702, AND 2703; AND TO ADD A NEW § 2707; ALL OF ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM (RMP) UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP); AND TO CITE THIS ACT AS THE “MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025.

Bill 94-38 (COR) - Sabrina S. Matanane - AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 4301.1(g), 4302(c)(8), 4302(c)(9), §4302(e) OF CHAPTER 4, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND ALL OF § 5118 OF CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND §§ 13102(c), 13107, 13108, 13110(b), AND 13115(d)(11) OF CHAPTER 13, TITLE 2, GUAM ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS, RELATIVE TO CLARIFYING SELECTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE CONTRACTS

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

Please confirm your attendance by contacting the Office of Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane via email at Office.SenatorBri@guamlegislature.gov or via voice call at (671) 989-2572.

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

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

**Office of Legislative Secretary****SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE***I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guahan | 38th Guam Legislature*

Chairperson, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

163 W. Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov

671-989-2572

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**PH_2025.04.015_FN.pdf**

372K

Ed Pocaigue <sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov>

Tue, Apr 8, 2025 at 8:18 AM

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

HAfa Adai,

Posted on calendar.

[Quoted text hidden]

**Edward S. Pocaigue, Jr.**

Sergeant-at-Arms

I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guahan

Guam Congress Building, 1st Floor

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

1-671-969-3514

sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov

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First Notice of Public Hearing: Tuesday April 15, 2025

 PRINT

First Notice of Public Hearing: Tuesday April 15, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING



 **Posted on:** 04/08/2025 08:17 AM

 **Posted by:** Genese Morrison

 **Public Hearing Date:** 04/15/2025 02:00 PM

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

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

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

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

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

 **Share this notice**

The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, beginning at 2:00 P.M., in the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building. The agenda is as follows:

2:00 P.M..

Bill No. 56-38 (COR)

([https://d.docs.live.net/b58cf672887cc0df/Desktop/PUBLIC%20HEARING%2004.01.25/Bill%20No.%2056-38%20\(COR\)](https://d.docs.live.net/b58cf672887cc0df/Desktop/PUBLIC%20HEARING%2004.01.25/Bill%20No.%2056-38%20(COR))) - Therese M. Terlaje -AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCLUDING PODIATRY UNDER THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS, AND TO ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS AND CODE OF ETHICS FOR PODIATRY BY ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION (9) AND AMENDING SUBSECTION (7) OF §12202(a), AMENDING SUBSECTIONS (4), (7), (8) OF §12202(b), SUBSECTIONS (a)(1) AND (2) OF §12203, SUBSECTION (b)(1) AND (i) (2) OF §12205, AND ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION(10) AND (11) TO §12215(a), ALL OF CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED

Bill No. 78-38 (COR)

([https://d.docs.live.net/b58cf672887cc0df/Desktop/PUBLIC%20HEARING%2004.01.25/Bill%20No.%2078-38%20\(COR\)](https://d.docs.live.net/b58cf672887cc0df/Desktop/PUBLIC%20HEARING%2004.01.25/Bill%20No.%2078-38%20(COR))) - Shelly V. Calvo - AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 2701, 2702, AND 2703; AND TO ADD A NEW § 2707; ALL OF ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM (RMP) UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP); AND TO CITE THIS ACT AS THE "MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025.

Bill 94-38 (COR)

([https://d.docs.live.net/b58cf672887cc0df/Desktop/PUBLIC%20HEARING%2004.01.25/Bill%20No.%2094-38%20\(COR\)](https://d.docs.live.net/b58cf672887cc0df/Desktop/PUBLIC%20HEARING%2004.01.25/Bill%20No.%2094-38%20(COR))) - Sabrina Salas Matanane - AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 4301.1(g), 4302(c)(8), 4302(c)(9), §4302(e) OF CHAPTER 4, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND ALL OF § 5118 OF CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND §§ 13102(c), 13107, 13108, 13110(b), AND 13115(d)(11) OF CHAPTER 13, TITLE 2, GUAM ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS, RELATIVE TO CLARIFYING SELECTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE CONTRACTS

How to Participate: How to Participate: Written testimony may be delivered to the Office of Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane at

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

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Office of Legislative Secretary

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE

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

PUBLIC HEARING

The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs will conduct a Public Hearing on
Tuesday, April 15, 2025, AT 2:00 P.M. | GUAM CONGRESS BUILDING

The Committee will hear and receive testimony on the following:

- **Bill No. 56-38 (COR)** - Therese M. Terlaje -AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCLUDING PODIATRY UNDER THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS, AND TO ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS AND CODE OF ETHICS FOR PODIATRY BY ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION (9) AND AMENDING SUBSECTION (7) OF §12202(a), AMENDING SUBSECTIONS (4), (7), (8) OF §12202(b), SUBSECTIONS (a)(1) AND (2) OF §12203, SUBSECTION (b)(1) AND (i)(2) OF §12205, AND ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION(10) AND (11) TO §12215(a), ALL OF CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.
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Office of Legislative Secretary

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE

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

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2718-00006-0000 O 04/16/2025 1

OFFICE OF SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE
38TH GUAM LEGISLATURE
GUAM CONGRESS BUILDING
163 CHALAN SANTO PAPA
HAGATNA, GUAM 96910

Purchase Order Number: **2538PO029**
Est. Number:
Co-Op:
Description:
Salesperson: San Agustin, Christie

Date	Day	Length		Qty	Rate	Total
04/16/2025	WED		KUAM TV PUBLIC HEARING – APRIL 15, 2025 AIR DATE: 04/08/25 1x :15 SECOND AD 1x :15 SECOND AD (KUAM MATCH) AIRDATE: 04/13/25 1x :15 SECOND AD 1x :15 SECOND AD (KUAM MATCH)			\$200.00

PAYMENT DUE UPON RECEIPT OF INVOICE.

Quantity	4	Total	\$200.00
Total Due			\$200.00

INVOICE



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

April 13, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media

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

Subject: Second Notice of Public Hearing: Tuesday April 15, 2025

Håfa Adai! The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, beginning at 2:00 P.M., in the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building.

The agenda is as follows:

2:00 P.M.

Bill No. 56-38 (COR) - Therese M. Terlaje - AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCLUDING PODIATRY UNDER THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS, AND TO ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS AND CODE OF ETHICS FOR PODIATRY BY ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION (9) AND AMENDING SUBSECTION (7) OF §12202(a), AMENDING SUBSECTIONS (4), (7), (8) OF §12202(b), SUBSECTIONS (a)(1) AND (2) OF §12203, SUBSECTION (b)(1) AND (i)(2) OF §12205, AND ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION(10) AND (11) TO §12215(a), ALL OF CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED

Bill No. 78-38 (COR) - Shelly V. Calvo - AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 2701, 2702, AND 2703; AND TO ADD A NEW § 2707; ALL OF ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM (RMP) UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP); AND TO CITE THIS ACT AS THE "MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025.

Bill 94-38 (COR) - Sabrina Salas Matanane - AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 4301.1(g), 4302(c)(8), 4302(c)(9), §4302(e) OF CHAPTER 4, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND ALL OF § 5118 OF CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND §§ 13102(c), 13107, 13108, 13110(b), AND 13115(d)(11) OF CHAPTER 13, TITLE 2, GUAM ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS, RELATIVE TO CLARIFYING SELECTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE CONTRACTS

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

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

Second Notice of Public Hearing: Tuesday April 15, 2025

1 message

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov> Sun, Apr 13, 2025 at 9:00 AM
To: phnotice@guamlegislature.gov, committeeonrules@guamlegislature.gov, Ed Pocaigue <sgtarms@guamlegislature.gov>, mis@guamlegislature.gov, av@guamlegislature.gov
Cc: genese.morrison@guamlegislature.gov, isaiah.aguon@guamlegislature.gov, senator.sabrina@guamlegislature.gov

Håfa Adai! The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, beginning at 2:00 P.M., in the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building.

The agenda is as follows:

2:00 P.M.

Bill No. 56-38 (COR) - _Therese M. Terlaje -AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCLUDING PODIATRY UNDER THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS, AND TO ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS AND CODE OF ETHICS FOR PODIATRY BY ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION (9) AND AMENDING SUBSECTION (7) OF §12202(a), AMENDING SUBSECTIONS (4), (7), (8) OF §12202(b), SUBSECTIONS (a)(1) AND (2) OF §12203, SUBSECTION (b)(1) AND (i)(2) OF §12205, AND ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION(10) AND (11) TO §12215(a), ALL OF CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED

Bill No. 78-38 (COR) - Shelly V. Calvo - AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 2701, 2702, AND 2703; AND TO ADD A NEW § 2707; ALL OF ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM (RMP) UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP); AND TO CITE THIS ACT AS THE “MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025.

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

Please confirm your attendance by contacting the Office of Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane via email at Office.SenatorBri@guamlegislature.gov or via voice call at (671) 989-2572.

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

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

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Respectfully,

Sabrina Salas Matanane

Senator, 38th Guam Legislature

Chairperson, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs



Office of Legislative Secretary

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE

I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 38th Guam Legislature

Chairperson, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

163 W. Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov

671-989-2572

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Second Notice of Public Hearing: Tuesday April 15, 2025

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Second Notice of Public Hearing: Tuesday April 15, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING



 **Posted on:** 04/13/2025 06:22 AM

 **Posted by:** Genese Morrison

 **Public Hearing Date:** 04/15/2025 02:00 PM

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

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

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

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

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Office of Legislative Secretary

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE

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

PUBLIC HEARING

The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs will conduct a Public Hearing on
Tuesday, April 15, 2025, AT 2:00 P.M. | GUAM CONGRESS BUILDING

The Committee will hear and receive testimony on the following:

- **Bill No. 56-38 (COR)** - Therese M. Terlaje -AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCLUDING PODIATRY UNDER THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS, AND TO ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS AND CODE OF ETHICS FOR PODIATRY BY ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION (9) AND AMENDING SUBSECTION (7) OF §12202(a), AMENDING SUBSECTIONS (4), (7), (8) OF §12202(b), SUBSECTIONS (a)(1) AND (2) OF §12203, SUBSECTION (b)(1) AND (i)(2) OF §12205, AND ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION(10) AND (11) TO §12215(a), ALL OF CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.
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Chairperson, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

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

April 8, 2025

TRANSMITTED VIA EMAIL:

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sanctuary.exec@gmail.com

Major Eric Tumale

The Salvation Army
Eric.Tumale@usw.salvationarmy.org

Subject: Invitation to Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at 2:00 P.M.

Håfa Adai,

The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs has scheduled a Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, beginning at 2:00 P.M., in the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building. Your attendance is requested to provide insights on the following agenda item:

- **Bill No. 78-38 (COR)** – Shelly V. Calvo – AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 2701, 2702, AND 2703; AND TO ADD A NEW § 2707; ALL OF ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM

(RMP) UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP); AND TO CITE THIS ACT AS THE “MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025.”

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

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

Thank you,



Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane
38th Guam Legislature

cc:

Senator Shelly V. Calvo
officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov

Rob San Agustin
rob.sanagustin@guam.gov

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

Invitation to Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at 2:00 P.M.

2 messages

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov> Tue, Apr 8, 2025 at 8:32 AM
 To: "Theresa C. Arriola" <theresa.c.arriola@dphss.guam.gov>, president@ghra.org, info@ghra.org, Michelle.Perez@disid.guam.gov, daniel.somerfleck@guamlsc.org, jermaine.alerta@gddc.guam.gov, connect@guamwomenschamber.com, caguon.naswgu@socialworkers.org, sphattori@guampdsc.org, office@gumamami.net, info@cssguam.org, sanctuary.exec@gmail.com, Eric.Tumale@usw.salvationarmy.org
 Cc: Office of Senator Shelly Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, rob.sanagustin@guam.gov, chinkle-sanchez@guamclc.org, Audrey.J.Topasna@disid.guam.gov, Reuel.Drilon@disid.guam.gov, Joseph.Cameron@disid.guam.gov

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Respectfully,

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Senator, 38th Guam Legislature

Chairperson, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs



Office of Legislative Secretary

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE

I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 38th Guam Legislature

Chairperson, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

163 W. Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

• office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov

• 671-989-2572

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

Public Hearing

April 15, 2025

Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building

Agenda

- I. **Bill No. 56-38 (COR)** - Therese M. Terlaje – AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCLUDING PODIATRY UNDER THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS, AND TO ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS AND CODE OF ETHICS FOR PODIATRY BY ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION (9) AND AMENDING SUBSECTION (7) OF §12202(a), AMENDING SUBSECTIONS (4), (7), (8) OF §12202(b), SUBSECTIONS (a)(1) AND (2) OF §12203, SUBSECTION (b)(1) AND (i)(2) OF §12205, AND ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION (10) AND (11) TO §12215(a), ALL OF CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED
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I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 38th Guam Legislature
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Check all that apply. Please provide staff with written testimony for photocopying.

Name	Agency/Organization	Contact Information	Bill No.	Participation	Stance
Graham Kofler	DOH/BA		☐ 56-38 (COR) ☐ 78-38 (COR) ☒ 94-38 (COR)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☒ Verbal	☒ In Support ☐ Not In Support
Frank Campillo	Calvo's belief		☐ 56-38 (COR) ☐ 78-38 (COR) ☒ 94-38 (COR)	☐ Observing ☒ Written ☐ Verbal	☒ In Support ☐ Not In Support
Dylon, Catherine			☒ 56-38 (COR) ☒ 78-38 (COR) ☐ 94-38 (COR)	☒ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☒ In Support ☐ Not In Support
VERA Nyaniz	GBM &		☒ 56-38 (COR) ☐ 78-38 (COR) ☐ 94-38 (COR)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☒ Verbal	☒ In Support ☐ Not In Support
Sungwaok Kim	GBAHE		☒ 56-38 (COR) ☐ 78-38 (COR) ☐ 94-38 (COR)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☒ In Support ☐ Not In Support
Lenora Cardoza	DOA		☐ 56-38 (COR) ☐ 78-38 (COR) ☒ 94-38 (COR)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☒ In Support ☐ Not In Support
Venera Lujan	Netcare		☐ 56-38 (COR) ☐ 78-38 (COR) ☒ 94-38 (COR)	☒ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☒ In Support ☐ Not In Support
Francis Santos	Takecare		☐ 56-38 (COR) ☐ 78-38 (COR) ☒ 94-38 (COR)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☒ Verbal	☒ In Support ☐ Not In Support



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

Name	Agency/Organization	Contact Information	Bill No.	Participation	Stance
Stepher Itztari	PDSC		☐ 56-38 (COR) ☒ 78-38 (COR) ☐ 94-38 (COR)	☐ Observing ☒ Written ☐ Verbal	☒ In Support ☐ Not In Support
Coral Hinkel Smith	Civil Law Centre		☐ 56-38 (COR) ☒ 78-38 (COR) ☐ 94-38 (COR)	☐ Observing ☒ Written ☐ Verbal	☒ In Support ☐ Not In Support
Samantha Taitano	GHC		☐ 56-38 (COR) ☒ 78-38 (COR) ☐ 94-38 (COR)	☐ Observing ☒ Written ☐ Verbal	☒ In Support ☐ Not In Support
Francene Salas	DPHSS		☐ 56-38 (COR) ☒ 78-38 (COR) ☐ 94-38 (COR)	☒ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support
CHRISTINE SAN NICOLAS	DPHSS		☐ 56-38 (COR) ☒ 78-38 (COR) ☐ 94-38 (COR)	☒ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support
Breanna Sablan	DPHSS		☒ 56-38 (COR) ☐ 78-38 (COR) ☐ 94-38 (COR)	☒ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☒ In Support ☐ Not In Support
			☐ 56-38 (COR) ☐ 78-38 (COR) ☐ 94-38 (COR)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support
			☐ 56-38 (COR) ☐ 78-38 (COR) ☐ 94-38 (COR)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support



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

PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, April 15, 2025, 2:00 P.M.
 Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building

- I. **Bill No. 56-38 (COR)** - Therese M. Terlaje – AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCLUDING PODIATRY UNDER THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS, AND TO ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS AND CODE OF ETHICS FOR PODIATRY BY ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION (9) AND AMENDING SUBSECTION (7) OF §12202(a), AMENDING SUBSECTIONS (4), (7), (8) OF §12202(b), SUBSECTIONS (a)(1) AND (2) OF §12203, SUBSECTION (b)(1) AND (i)(2) OF §12205, AND ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION (10) AND (11) TO §12215(a), ALL OF CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED
- II. **Bill No. 78-38 (COR)** – Shelly V. Calvo – AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 2701, 2702, AND 2703; AND TO ADD A NEW § 2707; ALL OF ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM (RMP) UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP); AND TO CITE THIS ACT AS THE “MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025.”
- III. **Bill No. 94-38 (COR)** – Sabrina Salas Matanane – AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 4301.1(g), 4302(c)(8), 4302(c)(9), §4302(e) OF CHAPTER 4, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND ALL OF § 5118 OF CHAPTER 5, TITLE 5, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND §§ 13102(c), 13107, 13108, 13110(b), AND 13115(d)(11) OF CHAPTER 13, TITLE 2, GUAM ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS, RELATIVE TO CLARIFYING SELECTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE CONTRACTS.

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

Name	Agency/Organization	Contact Information	Bill No.	Participation	Stance
Reuel Dribn	DISID		☐ 56-38 (COR) ☒ 78-38 (COR) ☐ 94-38 (COR)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☒ Verbal	☒ In Support ☐ Not In Support
Teresa Borge	Podiatrist / GMA		☒ 56-38 (COR) ☐ 78-38 (COR) ☐ 94-38 (COR)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☒ Verbal	☐ In Support ☒ Not In Support
Edward Lim	DOA		☐ 56-38 (COR) ☐ 78-38 (COR) ☒ 94-38 (COR)	☐ Observing ☒ Written ☒ Verbal	☒ In Support ☐ Not In Support
Dena R. Pangelinan	GWCC		☐ 56-38 (COR) ☒ 78-38 (COR) ☐ 94-38 (COR)	☐ Observing ☒ Written ☐ Verbal	☒ In Support ☐ Not In Support
Theresa Arrivola	GWCC DPHSS		☒ 56-38 (COR) ☒ 78-38 (COR) ☐ 94-38 (COR)	☐ Observing ☒ Written ☒ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support
HERMAN DOA	NETCARE		☐ 56-38 (COR) ☐ 78-38 (COR) ☒ 94-38 (COR)	☐ Observing ☒ Written ☐ Verbal	☒ In Support ☐ Not In Support
			☐ 56-38 (COR) ☐ 78-38 (COR) ☐ 94-38 (COR)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support
			☐ 56-38 (COR) ☐ 78-38 (COR) ☐ 94-38 (COR)	☐ Observing ☐ Written ☐ Verbal	☐ In Support ☐ Not In Support



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Archdiocese of Agaña
President / Chairman
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Diana B. Calvo
Executive Director

Paula Perez Siguenza
Deputy Director

Loeda Dalmacio
Comptroller

April 14, 2025

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane
38th Guam Legislature
Chairperson, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs
Hagatna, Guam 96910

Re: Testimony – Bill 78-38

Hafa Adai, Senator Matanane:

My name is Diana Calvo, Executive Director of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Agaña, Inc., DBA Catholic Social Service (CSS). CSS submits herewith written testimony in general support of Bill 78-38 sponsored by Senator Shelly Calvo.

On an island where meals are central to strengthening nuclear and extended family systems, it is a sad commentary that our most vulnerable populations of children, individuals with disabilities, the elderly, and the homeless experience food insecurity which greatly affects their physiological growth and development, and mental wellness, and increases the risk of developing acute medical conditions because their nutritional needs are not met on a daily basis. Some households may be eligible for and receive SNAP assistance, but may live alone and are not able to purchase and prepare meals without outside supports such as transportation and/or a caregiver. Some households likewise receive SNAP assistance but live in substandard housing with no power or running water due to financial limitations.

CSS supports Bill 78-38 in general because it allows for an eligible SNAP beneficiary to receive a hot meal presumed to be prepared with nutritional values. The hot meal provides not only 'food in the belly,' but also provides an opportunity to meet and improve the hierarchy of basic needs. Homeless individuals and persons with disabilities and the elderly who are fairly mobile will have access to this additional benefit which will add to their respective quality of life.

Where we need to focus attention is on those households who live alone, and who may be otherwise isolated with little or no natural supports, or with government-funded supports that are provided on specific days only. This would be true for



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Comptroller

those households who live in remote areas that lack access to public transportation. We will assume that DPHSS will develop and/or expand its public awareness, but the critical goal is how to enable access to these hot meals. Further, strong internal controls need to be implemented to ensure that these benefits are not abused by non-eligible individuals.

Additionally, there will be a positive economic impact on participating restaurants as this will increase their respective revenue streams. In most states, 'fast food' restaurants are the majority of participating restaurants and are generally in close proximity to enable access to these meals. The caveat is to ensure that it will not be a contributing factor to increased BMI or add to chronic medical conditions.

We appreciate the insight of freshman Senator Calvo to provide an option to address hunger and food insecurity. If there are any questions, please send email to info@cssguam.org or through telephone contact at 671-635-1406.

Saina Ma'ase,

Diana Calvo (e-signature)
Executive Director



Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero
GOVERNOR

Joshua F. Tenorio
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Department of Integrated Services For Individuals with Disabilities

Dip ttamenton Prugrama Para I Maninutet



Michelle L. C. Perez
DIRECTOR

Testimony on Bill No. 78-38 **Restaurant Meals Program Option for Eligible SNAP Clients** Submitted by: Reuel C. Drilon

H fa Adai, Madam Chair, Bri Salas-Matanane, Honorable Senators, all those present here today and those watching online. Good afternoon. My name is Reuel Drilon and I am the Support Services Administrator for the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities (DISID). I am honored to be here this afternoon to provide insight on Bill No. 78-38, relative to implementing the Restaurant Meals Program (RMP), an option for eligible clients under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

I begin by saying that any program that helps to narrow the gap of accessibility to health, nutrition, safety, education, and family supports - especially to those who experience economic limitations or restrictions - is a fundamentally good program. The RMP is one such program. As defined by the United States Department of Agriculture, the RMP is an option that allows certain SNAP clients - specifically the elderly (60 years of age and older), persons with disabilities, the homeless, and a spouse of an eligible SNAP client - to extend their benefits for use at participating restaurants to purchase prepared meals. Indeed, a program worthy of consideration for the target population it seeks to serve.

Like all new and well-intentioned programs, however, it is necessary to ensure that the time and effort put into implementation is well spent, that is, that all considerations are

Department of Integrated Services For Individuals with Disabilities

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thoroughly reviewed and vetted to address the objective of the program today and its sustainability in the future. Today, I would like to share some of those considerations.

A study conducted by Robertson (2020) from Occidental College, Urban and Environmental Policy, sought to evaluate the impact of California's RMP, specifically in the county of Los Angeles in which an RMP had been in place since 2005. Some key findings to consider as we look to implement an RMP for our community include:

1. **Restaurant Types:** The referenced research showed a disproportionately large number of national chain fast-food restaurants such as Jack-in-the-Box, Pizza Hut, and Kentucky Fried Chicken as participating. These amount to approximately 86% of total participating restaurants. From the perspective of "nutritional meals", these restaurants are often seen as falling short of providing healthy food options, that is, foods typically lower in sodium, fat, and added sugar. With the limited number of local restaurants, obtaining fast food is the quickest and most accessible, even to those with limited to no transportation.
2. **Misunderstanding by Participating Restaurants and SNAP clients on how exactly the RMP is designed to work:** The study suggests that many restaurants are not allowing certain purchases because of the uncertainty of what is and what is not allowed, often resulting in wrongful denial of purchases.
3. **Accessibility and Equal Treatment:** The study further suggests that challenges exist around accessibility to dine-in, particularly for persons with disabilities. Restaurants must account for adequate space to accommodate wheeled devices, for instance. Additionally, the stigma around low-income eating at fast food restaurants is furthered by a restaurant's

Department of Integrated Services For Individuals with Disabilities

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labeling of “EBT Accepted Here” affixed to doors or windows. This often causes outrage in the general public that the government supports such programs. Lastly, while the RMP tends to favor on-site ordering of food with dine-in or take-out options, consideration must be made to those eligible, yet are unable to leave home and with no stable support. On-line ordering and delivery may be suitable options to consider.

The research further discusses issues around the lack of data collection and program evaluation, areas which, I am sure, may pose an obstacle for us, as well, in the absence of a formidable monitoring system.

So now, how can we take these key learnings and apply to the RMP as proposed?

First, best efforts must be made to balance the number and type of participating restaurants, focusing on meals or menu items that can offer the most balanced and nutritional options. With such diversity of cultures on our island, choices are plentiful. The key is in providing the right incentives to encourage participation and sustainability.

Second, best efforts must be made to educate participants - restaurants and clients alike - on the specifics of the RMP. This includes, where applicable, limits on the number of meals that can be purchased per day, limits on amounts that can be spent, and who are authorized to make such purchases.

Third, be intentional on communicating the details of the RMP so as to be careful not to widen any gaps or further any barriers. Allowing for the integration of customers dining, for

Department of Integrated Services For Individuals with Disabilities

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example, as opposed to segregating the EBT eligible clients, such as the homeless, from the general public.

Lastly, create a mechanism that would allow for effective collection of data to monitor program effectiveness. Such data can help to improve and expand the program, potentially triggering the development of similar programs to address SNAP clients who may not meet the specific requirement of the RMP, but who still have the need for nutritional meals.

In closing, I reiterate that any program that helps to narrow the gap of accessibility to health, nutrition, safety, education, and family supports - especially to those who experience economic limitations or restrictions - is a fundamentally good program. Prudence in design and implementation make good programs great and lasting ones.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse for allowing me this opportunity.



GOVERNMENT OF GUAM

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



LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
MAGA'ILAGAN GUAIAN
GOVERNOR OF GUAM

JOSHUA F. TENORIO
SEGUNDO MAGA'ILAHEN GUAIAN
LT. GOVERNOR OF GUAM

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DIRECTOR

PETERJOHN D. CAMACHO, MPH
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

AMANDA LEE SHELTON, MPA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Honorable Sabrina Salas Matanne
Chariwoman on Health and Veterans Affairs
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagatna, GU 96910

REP: Testimony on the Bill 78-38 (COR) Restaurant Meals Program (RMP)

An act to amend §§ 2701, 2702, and 2703; And to add a new § 2707; All of Article 7, Chapter 2, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, relative to implementing the Restaurant Meals Program (RMP) under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); and to cite this Act as the "Meals for At-Risk Households Act of 2025."

I appreciate the opportunity to speak before you today regarding the proposed expansion of the Restaurant Meals Program (RMP) within the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in Guam. The RMP is a vital initiative designed to empower our most vulnerable SNAP participants by enabling them to purchase hot, prepared meals from designated restaurants using their SNAP benefits.

The Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) is in support of Bill 38-78. DPHSS is dedicated to supporting the people of Guam in achieving self-sufficiency in health and social welfare. Our vision is to empower individuals to lead dignified, healthy lives in a safe environment. Through the introduction of Bill 78-38, the expansion of SNAP to include RMP aligns directly with this mission by removing barriers that prevent many of our most vulnerable residents from accessing nutritious meals.

Program Background and Rationale

Currently, SNAP benefits are restricted to foods intended for home preparation and consumption. As a result, many nutritious and readily available meal options—such as rotisserie chicken, hot soups, and pre-cooked pizzas—remain inaccessible to individuals who lack the ability or resources to prepare meals due to physical limitations or unstable housing conditions.

The RMP offers a state option that allows specific SNAP recipients to purchase hot, prepared meals at participating restaurants. Eligible participants must have an active EBT card flagged for RMP use and a secure PIN issued by the Issuance Section within the Division of Public Welfare,

Bureau of Economic Security. This minor yet impactful policy adjustment would provide an essential lifeline to those for whom home meal preparation is simply not feasible.

Key Benefits of the RMP

The expansion of the RMP would offer several significant advantages, including:

- **Increased Access to Nutritious Meals:** Enables eligible SNAP recipients to consume hot, prepared meals when home cooking is not an option.
- **Enhanced Food Security:** Expands food access for vulnerable populations, ensuring they have reliable meal options.
- **Economic Stimulus:** Provides direct economic benefits to local businesses by increasing revenue for participating restaurants.

National Perspective and Local Opportunity

As of **February 7, 2025**, nine states—Arizona, California, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New York, Rhode Island, and Virginia—have successfully implemented the RMP. These states provide valuable insights into the program’s benefits and challenges. The Department of Public Health and Social Services, through the Division of Public Welfare and the Bureau of Economic Security, has carefully reviewed these models as we consider a similar initiative for Guam.

Eligibility and Local Impact

To comply with federal policy guidelines, the RMP is available only in states that offer the program, and eligibility is limited to SNAP-certified households in which all members meet one of the following criteria:

- **Elderly:** Individuals 60 years of age or older
- **Disabled:** Individuals receiving disability or blindness payments or disability retirement benefits due to a permanent disability
- **Homeless:** Individuals lacking permanent housing for meal preparation
- **Spouse of an Eligible SNAP Client:** Partners of clients who qualify under the above categories

Our local data indicate that within Guam’s current SNAP benefit-receiving population:

Fiscal Year 2025	10/2024-03/2025
Elderly ONLY	3352
Elderly ONLY with Spouse	1275
Disabled ONLY	401
Disabled ONLY with Spouse	33
Homeless ONLY	311
Homeless ONLY with Spouse	26

These figures highlight the significant potential impact of the RMP expansion, as a substantial portion of our community could benefit from improved access to meals.

Sustainability and Implementation Considerations

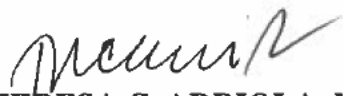
While we strongly support expanding the RMP, we must ensure its long-term sustainability and effective implementation. Several key factors must be addressed:

1. **Financial Considerations:** Currently, financing for this program would rely entirely on local government funding, with no federal assistance. This could potentially cost the Government of Guam an estimated \$400,000 for the first year.
2. **EBT System Modifications:** Our EBT card vendor, FIS, would need to reprogram existing EBT cards or issue RMP-specific cards, which would require additional resources. The implementation fee alone with our EBT vendor is \$70,000 plus a monthly operational cost of \$2,500 or \$30,000 annually.
3. **Administrative Oversight:** Increased staffing and administrative support would be necessary to ensure compliance, monitor implementation, and prevent misuse.
4. **Application Processing Delays:** Restaurants interested in participating must submit paper applications via mail, as online or email submissions are not permitted. The approval process can take over six months.
5. **Program Misuse Risk:** There is a concern that benefits could be used on less nutritious meal options, potentially undermining the program's nutritional goals.

The Restaurant Meals Program is more than just a policy change—it is a crucial step toward ensuring food security for our most vulnerable residents while supporting local businesses and fostering community well-being. By expanding access to prepared meals, we can create a more inclusive, supportive public assistance framework that aligns with our core values of dignity, health, and self-sufficiency.

We urge you to consider Bill 78-38 as a meaningful investment in the well-being of our community. Thank you for your time and attention. I welcome any questions and look forward to discussing how we can move forward with this important initiative.

Respectfully,



THERESA C. ARRIOLA, MBA
Director

Cc: Honorable Shelly V. Calvo



Guma' Mami, Inc.

A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

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The Honorable Sabrina Salas Matanane
Chairperson, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guahan
38th Guam Legislature
163 W. Chalan Santo Papa
Hagatna, Guam 96910

Bill No. 78-38 (COR)

Tuesday April 15, 2025

In Support of Meals for At-risk Households Act of 2025

Buenas yan Hafa Adai! I am Samuel Ilesugam, Executive Director of Guma' Mami, Inc., a local nonprofit organization dedicated to providing supports and services to adults with disabilities, including serious mental illness, on Guam. Guma' Mami currently operates a housing supports program, consisting of two (2) homes, for adults with serious mental illness with or without developmental disabilities; a day Enrichment Center and an evening Drop-In Center for adults with serious mental illness who are either unhoused or at-risk of becoming unhoused; and a case management program for adults with disabilities who are survivors of sexual assault

I am submitting my testimony in support of Bill No. 78-38 (COR). The challenge of purchasing, preparing, and storing food is a reality for most of the participants of Guma' Mami's programs, for the same reasons as stipulated in the bill. Passage of this bill will surely benefit most of our programs' participants and those similarly situated in our community.

Aside of the practical and health benefits of the proposed program mentioned in the bill, Bill No. 78-38 (COR) also advances some of the values Guma' Mami advocates for:

- It provides *choices* for individuals with disabilities by offering access to varied nutritious food options;
- It promotes *independence* for individuals with disabilities by ensuring individuals can meet their basic needs and make choices about their lives;
- It encourages *community inclusion & integration* for individuals with disabilities by providing the ability and the opportunity to access restaurants just like everyone else.

Although the bill is great as is for individuals with disabilities, including those who may be unhoused or fleeing sexual violence, it may also be helpful to expand the program beyond restaurants to include food trucks and concession stands. Such expansion would further increase food security and access to "nutritionally adequate and safe foods".



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In closing, the proposed program will improve the health and welfare of the individuals and families that Guma' Mami supports through its programs. I therefore urge the good Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs and the august body of the *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guahan* to pass Bill No. 78-38 (COR), and if possible, include the aforementioned expansion to include food trucks and concession stands.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to share my testimony. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (671) 477-1505 or email at samuel@gumamami.net.



Samuel S. Ilesugam
Guma' Mami, Inc.



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF BILL NO. 78-38 (COR) "Meals for At-Risk Households Act of 2025" – Restaurant Meals Program (RMP)

President

Dena Rendon Pangelinan

Vice President

Michaela Pangillinan Gogue

Secretary

Marie Calvo-Monge

Treasurer

Samantha Taitano

Board Members

Aileen Cruz

Amber Dydasco

Corine Chaco

Jamie Shimizu Cook

Judy Rosario

Kseniia Quinata

Myracle Mugol

Ex-Officio

Maria Leon Guerrero

Executive Director

Rachel Davis

Buenas yan háfa adai Honorable Members of I Liheslaturan Guåhan,

The Guam Women's Chamber of Commerce (GWCC) submits this testimony in strong support of Bill No. 78-38 (COR), the Meals for At-Risk Households Act of 2025, which seeks to implement the Restaurant Meals Program (RMP) as part of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) on Guam.

As a business advocacy organization committed to advancing opportunities for women in business, promoting inclusive economic growth, and building a sustainable, resilient local economy, the Guam Women's Chamber believes this legislation is a timely and forward-thinking policy solution.

This bill not only enhances access to food for vulnerable residents—especially those who are unhoused, elderly, or disabled—but also opens the door for Guam's food service sector, particularly small, local, women-owned, and family-run restaurants, to play an active role in public health and community well-being while growing their businesses.

The Restaurant Meals Program, implemented successfully in other jurisdictions, represents an innovative intersection of social services and economic development. By allowing eligible SNAP recipients to use their benefits at participating restaurants offering low-cost, nutritious meals, this legislation activates underutilized federal dollars already circulating in our community and puts them to use in a way that can generate meaningful economic activity.

Participating restaurants, many of which are small and locally owned, will benefit from a new revenue stream while contributing to an essential public good. In doing so, they build brand loyalty, expand their customer base, and position themselves as champions of social responsibility—all values that align with our Chamber's commitment to sustainable and inclusive business practices.

As part of implementation, we urge the Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) to ensure equitable access to the program for small businesses through a simple establishment registration process with DPHSS. Technical assistance and community education will be critical, particularly for businesses unfamiliar with EBT systems or SNAP eligibility.

The Guam Women's Chamber of Commerce believes this bill is more than a social safety net—it is an economic catalyst. It reflects a commitment to smart policy, rooted in compassion, dignity, and opportunity.

We thank Senator Shelly V. Calvo for her leadership on this measure and stand ready to support its implementation in ways that uplift our community and strengthen Guam's business ecosystem.

Senseramente,

Dena Rendon Pangelinan
President
Guam Women's Chamber of Commerce

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Stephen P. Hattori

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR**

John P. Morrison

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

Shane G.L. Ngata

PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE CORPORATION

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April 14, 2025

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane
 Chairperson, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs
 38th Guam Legislature
 office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov

RE: Testimony in Support of Bill 78-38, Meals for At-Risk Households Act of 2025

Buenas yan Håfa Adai Chairperson Senator Matanane and Honorable Members of I Liheslaturan Guåhan:

I am Stephen P. Hattori, the current Executive Director of the Guam Public Defender Service Corporation. PDSC represents indigent residents in both criminal and civil matters. We also provide legal services to our Manåmko's as a part of our Civil Law Center. We actively partner with the Guam Homeless Coalition to assist our unhoused clients.

Needless to say, we wholeheartedly support this measure that will undoubtedly increase food access for our islands at risk residents, the homeless, our Manåmko and our disabled.

The purpose of this program is to provide access to food for qualified persons who may not be able to prepare food, or who do not have a place to store and cook food. Guam would join nine other states that have established a restaurant meals program.

The benefits of this program are quite obvious. It would allow Snap benefits to be used at qualified restaurants by qualifying individuals and their household members. As our Manåmko age and are unable to cook for themselves, utilizing the RMP benefits will help ensure they get a hot meal.

Imagine 1,000 homeless individuals receiving \$400 in SNAP benefits a month, that could generate over \$4,500,000 in revenue annually. Food for our homeless would generate income to restaurants and stores that sell hot meals and tax revenues for the Government. A sense of dignity will be restored as homeless individuals will be able to participate more fully in Guam's economy. The restaurant meals program may also reduce panhandling on our roadways by reducing the need to engage panhandle to feed oneself.

I would like to thank Senator Shelly V. Calvo for introducing this important measure that will provide food access to our Manāmkō, Disabled and Homeless communities. Food security is a growing concern and this bill seeks to address one of the many problems facing our at-risk communities. Please support this measure.

SINCERELY YOURS,



STEPHEN P. HATTORI

Executive Director,
Public Defender Service Corporation



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

Written Testimony for Bill No. 78-38 (COR)

1 message

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

Thu, May 1, 2025 at 4:24 PM

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

Cc: senator.sabrina@guamlegislature.gov

Dear Chairperson Matanane:

Please find attached written testimony from Atty. Carol Hinkle Sanchez, Managing Attorney for the Civil Law Center / Elder Justice Center, for Bill No. 78-38 (COR). This email rescinds and replaces previous correspondence that included a thread of messages that were not relevant to the instant bill.

Thank you for your time and kind attention to this matter.

Very respectfully,
Tessa Mae Borja



Office of the People • Senator Shelly V. Calvo

Majority Whip & Chairwoman

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

38th Guam Legislature

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Written Support of Bill No. 78-38 from CLC.pdf

247K



CIVIL LAW CENTER
The Advocacy Center & Elder Justice Center
Provide • Promote • Preserve
Peace of Mind

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April 28, 2025

Honorable Senator Shelly V. Calvo

Minority Whip, *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

Guam Congress Building

163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

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(671) 989-5682/3

Re: Letter of Support for Bill No. 78-38 (COR), relative to the “Meals for At-Risk Household Act of 2025”

Hafa Adai Honorable Senator Calvo, and all the Honorable Senators of *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*:

My name is Carol Hinkle-Sanchez, and I am the Managing Attorney with the Civil Law Center/Elder Justice Center, which is the Civil Division of the Public Defender Service Corporation. I am writing this letter to express my strong support of Bill No. 78-38 (COR), which seeks to establish a Restaurant Meals Program (RMP) in Guam, that will be a supplemental or alternative program under the existing Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). There are many reasons that I support this Bill, which will be fully explained below, but my support, along with the support of many others, doesn't mean anything without the support of each of you. I humbly ask for the support of all the Senators in making this happen for Guam because Bill No. 78-38 (COR) is really just the first step that is required so that the ball could start moving for Guam to establish such a program.

The RMP program is an optional program under the USDA - Food Nutrition Service (FNS), and as such, jurisdictions who would like to avail of this particular program must first opt into it with the USDA. That is why this piece of legislation is very critical for Guam. The passage of Bill No. 78-38 (COR) will allow Guam to take that first essential step of opting into this federal program – a program that when fully established and implemented will greatly benefit those most in need of the government's help, and a program that is designed to improve the livelihood, health and well-being of many of our vulnerable, indigent populations, that includes our manamko/elders, persons with disabilities, and those without adequate living space homeless.

I submit this written testimony today as a representative to those in our vulnerable population who otherwise could not be present or who could not submit testimony supporting this cause. As I mentioned, I am the Managing Attorney at the Civil Law Center/Elder Justice Center, which is a division that falls under Guam's Public Defender Service Corporation Act. This division

represents the most vulnerable populations in Guam that include the Guam's manamko/elders, persons with disabilities, victims of family violence, sexual abuse, and stalking, as well as Veterans who are at-risk for homelessness. Our division also assists the indigent individuals living on Guam, who qualify based on strict income guidelines, and subject to restrictions and limitations set out by our local mandates and our Board of Trustees, as well as by restrictions set out in the federal grant we receive.

As such, it is very important that the Civil Law Center/Elder Justice Center be present at the public hearing to advocate for our consumers - the many in our community, who are most vulnerable, and who cannot be present here today to advocate for themselves. In advocating for the rights of others, I simply want to be sure that we raise awareness on this particular matter, and that we ensure that the public and all those who listened in at the public hearing are provided with important information about the Restaurant Meals Program so that they can fully understand what the intent of this bill is, and the positive impact that it will bring to the people of Guam.

I hope that the testimony provided, both in this written letter of support, as well as during the public hearing, serves to clarify any misunderstandings the public may have, as well as educate those about this bill. My concern stems from comments made in some social media platforms relative to this bill, which hopefully, after providing correct information on it will resolve any misunderstandings as to the true purpose of this bill. I truly believe that educating the community and others about the Restaurant Meals Program will bring a clearer picture as to how this bill will benefit the people of Guam, to include local businesses. I specifically want to make note that the purpose of this bill is not to give more federal monies to SNAP recipients to them to eat out at restaurants, nor does this bill allow everyone currently receiving SNAP benefits to be able to avail of the services offered under RMP. This program is very limited and will only be provided to certain groups of individuals - those who otherwise would not be able to access food because they are not able to store, cook or prepare it as a result of their circumstances.

With that said, I thank Minority Whip Senator Shelly Calvo, for sponsoring Bill No. 78-38, as well as Vice Speaker Tony Ada, for quickly stepping up as a co-sponsor of this bill. Bill No. 78-38 (COR) is "An Act to Amend and to Add a New Section under Title 10, Article 7, Chapter 2, relative to implementing the Restaurant Meals Program, otherwise called "RMP" under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and to cite this act as the "Meals for At-Risk Household Act of 2025." I also thank all the Senators, in advance, for their time and their support, and for the opportunity to testify (written and verbal) in support of Bill No. 78-38.

The intent of this bill and the establishment of the Restaurant Meals Program is not something that Senator Shelly Calvo just made up. In fact, the Restaurant Meals Program (RMP) is not a new program at all, and it is actually an initiative of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, under its Food Nutrition Service (FNS) programs, that permits a very limited group of SNAP recipients, specifically, older adults (60 years or older), persons with disabilities, and those experiencing homelessness or housing instability, to use their current SNAP benefits to buy prepared meals from DPHSS approved local restaurants. Guam's decision to opt into the Restaurant Meals Program (RMP) does not in any way negatively affect or cut the current SNAP

Program or the SNAP benefits that Guam receives. Guam's SNAP benefits will remain the same. In fact, under this program, SNAP recipients will not even have to do anything. There are no additional application process for this program. What will happen is the Department of Public Health and Social Services, who manages the SNAP and USDA – FNS Programs, will automatically identify those currently receiving SNAP benefits, who qualify for RMP, and send them a notice as to their eligibility for the RMP, and the instructions as to how they can utilize the program under their current SNAP benefits. So the only difference when Guam implements RMP with respect to the SNAP Program, is those limited group of SNAP recipients who qualify for the RMP will have access to an alternative option of using their current SNAP benefits, that is, the will be to access and purchase cooked meals from a limited list of FNS-authorized local restaurants that are deemed eligible to provide meals based on federal requirements.

The Restaurant Meals Program, which is referred interchangeably as RMP is a defined federal program that was established and authorized under the Food Stamps Act of 1964, and reauthorized when the Food Stamp Act of 1964 was later updated and revised under the Agricultural Act of 2014. This federal law not only created the Food Stamp Program, which we all know of today as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), but it also contained a provision, known as Restaurant Meals Program or RMP, which is an optional component of SNAP, that permitted each state with the right to opt into the program that would allow for a limited class of individuals - homeless, disabled, and elderly (aged 60 years and up) - who are qualified SNAP recipients to buy prepared foods at restaurants. The Restaurant Meals Program has been in existence since 1977. RMP helps expand food access to the elderly and disabled, and their spouses, as well as to homeless SNAP households who may not be able to prepare food, or who do not have a place to store and cook food.

The federal government was very clear that states could offer this program, but that it was not mandatory to do so. It continued to be a program that each state could voluntarily elect to operate, and if a state opted in, that state was required to submit an application to the USDA that details how they plan to manage the program while staying within the revisions of the Agricultural Act. The first step for any state or territory to be able to avail their jurisdiction of the benefits that this particular federal program was that the state or territory must opt into the program. Bill 78-38, as proposed, would permit the Guam's Department of Public Health and Social Services to apply for federal approval to launch a Restaurant Meals Program in Guam. This piece of legislation is very important as it is not just a critical step, but it is the first step that is required for Guam to move forward, and for Guam to be able to set up and successfully implement and operate a Restaurant Meals Program that will benefit our most vulnerable populations, as well as to help generate business and income to our struggling local restaurants and small businesses. The benefits of RMP goes beyond ensuring that those most in need are given greater access to food, and are fed warm meals, but this program provides a source of revenue to our island, stimulating Guam's local economy.

I humbly ask all the Senators to give Bill 78-38 (COR) the urgent attention that it needs to get enacted into law so that Guam will be able to opt into this federal program. This bill is a necessary step, and the starting point for Guam to develop and establish a Restaurant Meals Program (RMP). This isn't to say that there isn't work ahead of this bill because there is. The

Department of Public Health and Social Services (“DPHSS”) is the key agency who currently handles the SNAP Program, and they will be tasked with the development and implementation of the RPM. The enactment of this bill is what is needed as the initial step so Guam can finally move forward and opt into this program with the USDA. It will require DPHSS to submit an application to the USDA that contains a detailed plan as to how the DPHSS will establish and manage this program while staying within the revisions of the Agricultural Act.

The bill, as written, includes a provision that allows DPHSS to develop and establish the necessary regulations and policies for this program to successfully operate, and be in compliant with the federal regulations. The specific details of the plan do not need to be embedded within the laws, because as stated earlier, the Food Stamps Act of 1964 continues to be updated and revised over the years, and the language in this bill allows for DPHSS to make necessary changes to its internal policies in the future to ensure that the department will meet the future updates and revisions without having to seek a statutory amendment since the plan will be adopted under the department as internal departmental policies and regulations.

Aside from providing the long history of the existence of the Restaurant Meals Program, I think an understanding as to why this program came into existence will shed light to the real benefits that this program will have to the people of Guam. This program originated in response to the realization that certain groups of SNAP beneficiaries, particularly the elderly, disabled, and homeless, often struggled with meal preparation. As provided in my verbal testimony at the public hearing, many homeless people or families don’t even have the ability to store food safely, or they don’t have the equipment or place to cook food properly, making traditional grocery shopping burdensome, wasteful and sometimes even dangerous. Similarly, many of our manamkos and many persons with disabilities, are not capable of cooking. This could be because they are not physically capable of cooking, or because they suffer from a disability that prevents them from knowing how to cook, or knowing how to operate equipment to cook, which affects their accessibility to food and consumption of food. The RMP aims to ensure that these individuals have access to prepared meals, acknowledging the diverse needs within the SNAP community.

Under this program, Guam will now have the option, through the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food Nutrition Service, to allow a specific group of individuals receiving SNAP benefits, which as noted in the bill identifies, our manamkos/elders, persons with disabilities, and those homeless individuals and families facing housing instability, to use their current SNAP benefits to access prepared meals at restaurants. This program is meant to extend food accessibility to the most vulnerable populations who would otherwise have no other means to access, store, prepare, or cook meals on their own.

The Restaurant Meals Program (RMP) is a long-standing federally approved program for states that allows eligible people in vulnerable communities, such as seniors, those with disabilities, and individuals experiencing homelessness, to use their Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to purchase prepared meals at qualifying restaurants, at a 10% discounted rate. Participating restaurants will also not be allowed to add service charges. It does

not in any way affect Guam's SNAP program, it does not change the criteria for SNAP, nor does it provide more money to those who qualify for RMP.

As of June 2024, there are nine (9) states that have adopted this program, making it easier for eligible individuals to access ready-to-eat meals. Arizona, California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, New York, Rhode Island and Virginia have received authority from the USDA to implement the program. There are two other states that have passed legislation to opt into this program, but they are inactive, which is Hawaii and Nevada. Like Guam, Colorado is currently seeking to pass legislation similar to Guam to establish the RMP.

California was the first state to participate in the Restaurant Meals Program in the early 2000s, around 2003, as a pilot program, and it was specifically implemented in the San Francisco County. This was about 25 years after the RMP program was initially established by USDA in 1978. When the RMP was initially implemented in 1978 by USDA, it only provided the alternative assistance to older adults and people with disabilities who receive SNAP benefits, offering them the option to purchase prepared food at authorized restaurants. By 1996, the federal government expanded its RMP to include SNAP recipients who are homeless.

Over time, California eventually expanded its RMP program to include 18 counties across the State of California. By October 12, 2019, California reached a significant milestone as their legislature passed Assembly Bill (AB) 942, which mandated the implementation of the RMP as a statewide program. This expansion meant that restaurant vendors federally approved could participate in the RMP across all 58 counties in California. It wasn't until September 1, 2021, that the RMP became a statewide program, with over 3,000 participating restaurants in California, indicating a widespread acceptance and utility within the state, and a substantial increase in the program's reach and accessibility that has met the food needs of those most vulnerable residents of California.

California's accomplishments and success in developing a statewide RMP should be a true motivation for Guam to attain the same successful Restaurant Meals Program. If you looked at it this way, California is the most populous state in the United States, with an estimated population of 39.66 million people as of 2025. Compared to Guam, who based on the 2022 count, has a population of 168,801 people. That means that California has a population that is about 235 times larger than Guam's population.

If California was able to achieve a statewide RMP, in all 58 of its counties, Guam should be able to do the same to service the people of our island. California's movement shows that there is a significant benefit for communities to have such a program in place for those most in need. It also shows the commitment of California's leaders to providing greater access to nutritious meals for those who may face barriers in preparing and storing food, such as older adults, people with disabilities, and the homeless. The statewide implementation of the RMP in California represents a significant step in addressing food insecurity and enhancing the quality of life for vulnerable populations. The harsh reality is that many places have been faced with economic challenges and food insecurities since the COVID Pandemic, and these hardships continue to be present today. Our leaders have to take action and find alternative means that will benefit its people and its local businesses, and the RMP program is seen as one of those viable options.

The right to food is a fundamental human right. It is recognized in the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights as an essential component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and it is enshrined in the 1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. This program plays a crucial role in extending food assistance beyond traditional grocery shopping, and it is designed to cater to a very specific group under our SNAP program who face challenges in preparing meals at home, or who lack adequate cooking facilities, or even lack the ability to store food or prepare food because of their circumstances, such as our manamkos/elderly, persons with disabilities, and homeless, whose accessibility to food is oftentimes limited. The RMP offers a unique solution and alternative that will benefit the most vulnerable.

I think it is also important to assure the public that like all other federal programs that provide a source of funding, the RMP has in place mechanisms that ensure states and territories comply with requirements to prevent fraud or misuse of funds/benefits. First, not all restaurants will opt into this program because of the guidelines and requirements of the RMP. And not all restaurants will be deemed eligible for this program by DPHSS or the FNS because of the guidelines and requirements needed to be able to be an authorized-restaurant under the FMP. There are strict and clear processes in place for that under the USDA Food and Nutrition Service, and DPHSS will identify these restaurants based on the qualifications and requirements, which the restaurant will still need to apply with the USDA Food and Nutrition Service for approval and authorization.

Second, the FMP does not apply to all SNAP recipients. Not every household who receives SNAP benefits will be able to be a part of this program. The RMP program has a specific intent, which again, the intentions are very clear that the program was designed to assist elderly, those with disabilities and those who are homeless who do not have the appropriate facility or equipment to prepare and cook food, who might not be able to prepare meals for themselves or who do not have permanent housing for storing and preparing food, and who are not capable of preparing food due to their circumstances. To be eligible for the RMP, SNAP clients must be certified for SNAP in a state that has an RMP, and all members of the household must be either:

- Elderly (60 years of age or older);
- disabled (receives disability or blindness payments or receives disability retirement benefits from a governmental agency because of a disability considered permanent);
- homeless; or
- a spouse of a SNAP client who is eligible for the RMP.

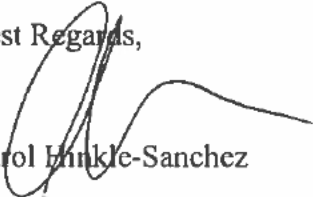
Households cannot apply for RMP. DPHSS will determine, based on current SNAP recipient's status, whether they qualify for the RMP, and if so, they will automatically be eligible and provided notice of their eligibility into the RMP.

Further, like every other federally funded program, there is always going to be measures that are required by the agency, such as reporting and program measures to provide assurances to the grantor as to accountability and transparency of the program and funds.

The CLC/EJC supports this bill because it provides options to those identified in our community as the most vulnerable. These are the same consumers that come in and out of our office seeking help and services on a daily basis. And when I say the most vulnerable, this bill limits eligibility to those household's experiencing homelessness, those households that are comprised of elders who are 60 years and older, and those households with persons with disabilities. CLC supports the intent of this bill and the program that is established as a result of the bill because this bill will create a viable, alternative options that will ensure that our most vulnerable populations are provided with a means to eat and access foods when they are otherwise not able to prepare, cook or store them properly. It will also avoid the waste of foods being purchased that can't get stored because the families have no means to properly store them, more so, no place to live. The RMP will also help stimulate Guam's economy, and provide support to our local restaurant businesses that decide to try and participate in the program.

Thank you again for this opportunity. I am hopeful that you will see the benefits that this piece of legislation will have for our island and its people, and I look forward to seeing positive votes in favor of this bill. Should you have any further questions, please feel free to reach my at [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Best Regards,



Carol Hinkle-Sanchez



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

Testimony for Bill No. 78-38 (COR)

1 message

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

Thu, Apr 24, 2025 at 8:10 PM

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

Dear Senator Matanane:

Please find attached a PDF of the 76 signatures collected by a MoveOn petition created by the Office of Senator Shelly V. Calvo. For your reference, here is a [link](#) to the petition (A Petition to Pass the "Meals for At-risk Households Act of 2025").

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Very respectfully,
Tessa Mae Borja

**Office of the People • Senator Shelly V. Calvo**

Majority Whip & Chairwoman

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

38th Guam Legislature

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A Petition to Pass the Meals for At-risk Households Act of 2025 Bill No. 78-38 (COR) - MoveOn Petition.pdf
101K

A Petition to Pass the "Meals for At-risk Households Act of 2025"

To: The 38th Guam Legislature

We, the undersigned residents and supporters of Guam, humbly urge the Honorable Members of I Liheslaturan Guåhan to enact Bill No. 78-38 (COR) that aims to establish the Guam Restaurant Meals Program (RMP) in our community.

“Approximately 23% of SNAP households in Guam include individuals who are elderly, disabled, or homeless. Because these groups often face barriers to meal preparation (such as lack of facilities or physical limitations), they are likely to experience food insecurity due to limited access to nutritionally adequate and safe foods. Food-insecure people are especially vulnerable to poor nutrition, which is linked with increased risk of diet-related diseases as well as higher healthcare costs.

The Restaurant Meals Program is a proven federally funded initiative that addresses food insecurity by allowing Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participants who face barriers to preparing meals at home—specifically the elderly, individuals with disabilities, and homeless individuals—to purchase affordable, healthy meals from authorized restaurants. In 2023 over 3,000 restaurants were participating in the RMP implemented in nine states across the nation (see the compiled image above of a few of the logos used by RMP vendors). By adopting this program, Guam can take a significant step toward reducing hunger and improving the well-being of our most vulnerable populations.

Sponsored by Senator Shelly V. Calvo, Bill No. 78-38 (COR), also known as the “Meals for At-risk Households Act of 2025, ” aims to implement the RMP under the SNAP in Guam. The bill proposes amendments to sections of Guam law to enable eligible SNAP participants to purchase prepared meals from authorized restaurants. The program will be locally administered by the Division of Public Welfare within the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS).”

Why is this important?

The RMP combats food insecurity.
Guam is not immune to the challenges of hunger. Implementing the RMP ensures equitable access to nutrition for individuals who may not have the means or facilities to cook their own meals.

The RMP empowers local businesses.
The program provides an economic boost to participating restaurants, creating new opportunities for growth and community engagement.

The RMP supports vulnerable populations.
The elderly, individuals with disabilities, and those experiencing homelessness often face unique challenges in accessing food. The RMP offers dignity and choice in meeting their nutritional needs.

We believe that passing Bill No. 78-38 (COR) is not only a compassionate and inclusive decision but also a pragmatic step toward fostering a healthier and more equitable Guam.

We urge I Liheslaturan Guåhan to take immediate action and make the Restaurant Meals Program a reality on our island.

Signed by 76 people:

Name	Zip code
Tessa Borja	██████

Name	Zip code
John Paul Manuel	
Shane Ngata	
Audre Hattori	
Ross Gutierrez	
Josielynn SanNicolas	
Emma Reese Gutierrez	
Jen Spesungel	
Samantha Taitano	
Katherine Timberman	
Formaine Babauta	
Bernie Wiemann	
Jaymee Remoket	
Lindsey Hollands	
Gab Rima	
Stephen Hattori	
Irish Davis	
Nikki U	
Marmelynn Taraw	
Marc Pacheco	
Patricia RoseAnn Torres	
Carolina Toledo	
Hentrick Eveluck	
Iteuo Itto Sammy	
Joyce Raigalipiy	
Tony Rabon	
David Lotz	
Narie Ilon	
Adriana Jimenez Cartagena	
Keke Santos	

Name	Zip code
Meilou Milligan	
Christine Mccarthy	
Albina Santos	
Regina Johnny	
Douglas Dickerman	
Chase Williamson	
Miranda Noe	
Rikkita Santos	
Dennis Pangan	
Gino Cantini	
Roma Velasco	
Debbie Quinata	
Lorie Castelo	
Lolita Pangilinan	
Joseph Meyers	
Sherdeh Thompson	
Jan S	
Jean Amato	
Christa Brown	
Ambassador Gerald J Olseski Jr	
Juanita Blaz	
Elizabeth Knaub	
C Harwood	
Elena Groza	
Al Borja	
marian brock andersen	
Nicole Roberts	
Vasudha Duggirala	
Charles Santos	

Name	Zip code
Carol Hinkle-Sanchez	
Amor Say	
Jackie Fathal	
Ashley Chester	
Michael Legaspi	
Therese Araneta	
sheryl makolin	
Sherrie Paulino	
Jeremy D	
Jenisa Camille Calilung	
Mahdi Shadkam-Farrokhi	
Christa Cape	
Cristina Bateman-Garvis	
Shane McCarthy	
Jessica Nally	
Gina Bennett	
JANET HUBBARD	



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

Petitions of Support for Bill No. 78-38 (COR)

1 message

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

Thu, May 1, 2025 at 10:53 AM

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

Hafa Adai,

Please find attached petitions in support of Bill No. 78-38 (COR). The Office of Senator Calvo respectfully requests that these documents be included as part of the committee report for the measure.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Respectfully,
Jay Milan



Office of the People • Senator Shelly V. Calvo

Majority Whip & Chairwoman

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

38th Guam Legislature

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RMP Petitions.pdf
2550K

RECEIVED

APR 04 2025

MAYORS' COUNCIL
OF GUAM

A PETITION TO PASS BILL NO. 78-38 (COR)
"MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025"

To the Honorable Members of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*:

We, the undersigned residents and supporters of Guam, humbly urge you to enact **Bill No. 78-38 (COR)** to establish the **Restaurant Meals Program (RMP)** in our community. Approximately 23% of SNAP households in Guam include individuals who are elderly, disabled, or homeless. Because these groups often face barriers to meal preparation (such as lack of facilities or physical limitations), they are likely to experience food insecurity due to limited access to nutritionally adequate and safe foods. Food-insecure people are especially vulnerable to poor nutrition, which is linked with increased risk of diet-related diseases as well as higher healthcare costs.

The Restaurant Meals Program (RMP)

The RMP is a proven federally funded initiative that addresses food insecurity by allowing Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participants who face barriers to preparing meals at home—specifically the **elderly, individuals with disabilities, and homeless individuals**—to purchase affordable, healthy meals from authorized restaurants. By adopting this program, Guam can take a significant step toward reducing hunger and improving the well-being of our most vulnerable populations.

Meals for At-Risk Households Act of 2025

Sponsored by Senator Shelly V. Calvo, **Bill No. 78-38 (COR)**, also known as the **"Meals for At-Risk Households Act of 2025,"** aims to implement the RMP under the SNAP in Guam. The bill proposes amendments to sections of Guam law to enable eligible SNAP participants to purchase prepared meals from authorized restaurants. The program will be locally administered by the Division of Public Welfare within the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS).

Why this matters to Guam

1. **Combat Food Insecurity:** Guam is not immune to the challenges of hunger. Implementing the RMP ensures equitable access to nutrition for individuals who may not have the means or facilities to cook their own meals.
2. **Empower Local Businesses:** The program provides an economic boost to participating restaurants, creating new opportunities for growth and community engagement.
3. **Support Vulnerable Populations:** The elderly, individuals with disabilities, and those experiencing homelessness often face unique challenges in accessing food. The RMP offers dignity and choice in meeting their nutritional needs.

We believe that passing **Bill No. 78-38 (COR)** is not only a compassionate and inclusive decision but also a pragmatic step toward fostering a healthier and more equitable Guam.

We urge *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to take immediate action and make the Restaurant Meals Program a reality on our island.

RECEIVED

APR 25 2025

MAYORS' COUNCIL
OF GUAM

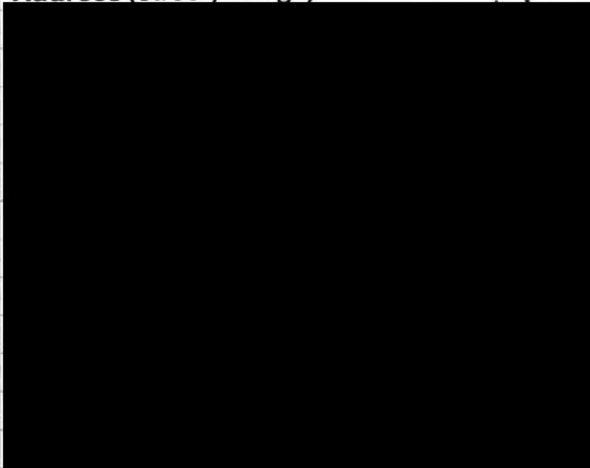
A PETITION TO PASS THE "MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025" [BILL NO. 78-38 (COR)]

To the Honorable Members of / Liheslaturan Guåhan, We, the undersigned residents and supporters of Guam,
humbly urge you to enact **Bill No. 78-38 (COR)** to establish the **Restaurant Meals Program (RMP)** in our community.

Name (please print)	Signature	Address (street, village)	Date (mm/dd/yy)
1. Wayne SA Santos	Wayne SA Santos		3/24/4/25
2. LISA C. LOUIS	Lisa C. Louis		04/14/25
3. R. Julie Posadas	R. Julie Posadas		4/8/2025
4. Jeannette Quinteros	Jeannette Quinteros		4/22/2025
5. MARTHA M. CRUZ	MARTHA M. CRUZ		4/8/25
6. Julie Cepeda	Julie Cepeda		4/8/25
7. HELEN QUINTANILLA	HELEN QUINTANILLA		4/8/25
8. Ryan San Nicolas	Ryan San Nicolas		4/9/2025
9. Anita R. Cruz	Anita R. Cruz		04/09/2025
10. Vanessa T. Fowler	Vanessa T. Fowler		76916
11. Agnes Q Diaz	Agnes Q Diaz		96910
12. Crystal Gay	Crystal Gay		9/10/25
13. Clark Sampson	Clark Sampson		4/10/25
14. Jesus J. Carrasco	Jesus J. Carrasco		4/10/25
15. Ryan Wood	Ryan Wood		4/10/25
16. HENRY ATEN	HENRY ATEN		4/10/25
17. Derrick Cepeda	Derrick Cepeda		4/11/25
18. Peter Gaan	Peter Gaan		4-11-25
19. David Johnson	David Johnson		4-11-2025
20. JIMMY MAFUAS	JIMMY MAFUAS		4/14/2025
21. Mark Quitugua	Mark Quitugua		4/14/2025
22. Rallean Mariano	Rallean Mariano		4/15/2025
23. Adrien Tebra	Adrien Tebra		4/15/2025
24. Jennin Aidan	Jennin Aidan		4/15/2025
25. Carina Santos	Carina Santos		04/15/2025
26. Alena Terese Cruz	Alena Terese Cruz		04/15/2025
27. ALICIA Q. CHAREVALAF	ALICIA Q. CHAREVALAF		04/14/25
28. Joshua Garrido	Joshua Garrido		04/17/25
29. Elijah Borge	Elijah Borge		04/21/25
30. Joel Manalastas	Joel Manalastas		4/21/25

A PETITION TO PASS THE "MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025" [BILL NO. 78-38 (COR)]

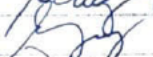
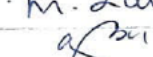
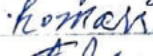
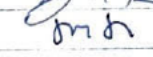
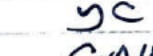
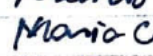
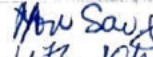
To the Honorable Members of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*, We, the undersigned residents and supporters of Guam,
humbly urge you to enact **Bill No. 78-38 (COR)** to establish the **Restaurant Meals Program (RMP)** in our community.

Name (please print)	Signature	Address (street, village)	Date (mm/dd/yy)
1. <i>Joffrey A. Quinata</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		04/25/25
2. <i>John B. Cruz</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		04/25/25
3. <i>Madison J. Sanchez</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		04/25/25
4. <i>Francisco H. Ayon</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		04/25/25
5. <i>John A. Espinoza</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		04/25/25
6. <i>Frank Sanchez</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		04/25/25
7. <i>Diane Quinata</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		04/25/25
8. <i>Evangeline Quinata</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		04/25/25
9. <i>Georgette Quinata</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		04/25/25
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APR 25 2025
MAYORS' COUNCIL
OF GUAM

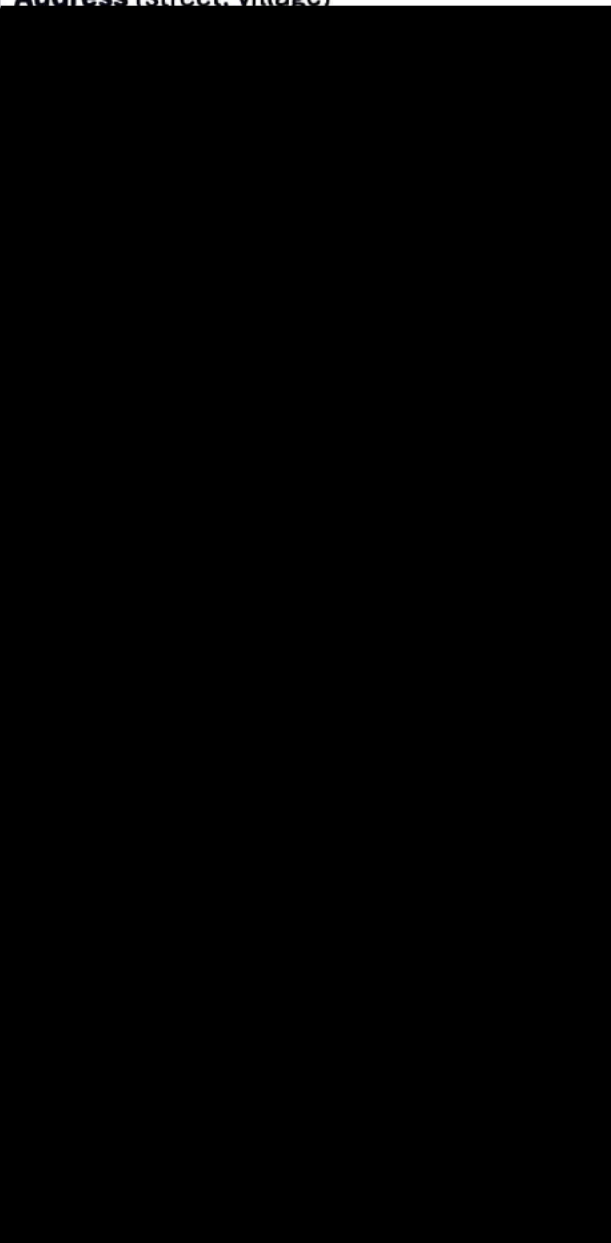
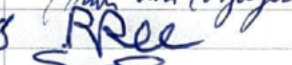
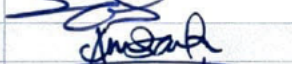
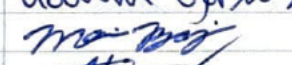
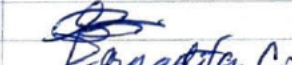
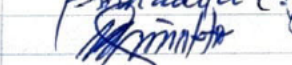
A PETITION TO PASS THE "MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025" [BILL NO. 78-38 (COR)]

To the Honorable Members of / Liheslaturan Guåhan, We, the undersigned residents and supporters of Guam,
humbly urge you to enact **Bill No. 78-38 (COR)** to establish the **Restaurant Meals Program (RMP)** in our community.

Name (please print)	Signature	Address (street, village)	Date (mm/dd/yy)
1. Ana O. Benavente			4/9/25
2. Elizabeth B. Daugherty			1/22/16
3. Rosita L. Cruz			01-6-58
4. Elizabeth S. Perez			Oct 17, 1960
5. JOHN. D. MESA			2-19-1950
6. MACRINA S. Diego			12-10-1947
7. Rosita Cruz			1-22-48
8. Helen Colay			10-19-48
9. Taitague Maria			2-22-67
10. Geraldine Bui			1/11/40
11. Young Dolores			01/28/50
12. Diane Romana			2-18-50
13. Isaac Fastu			2/20/39
14. Jesus S. Angost			4-11-2025
15. Felicisio Balut			5-30-82
16. Felix Buncasiao			11-02-67
17. DORA R. CRUZ			9-27-58
18. Mae Naut a			4-29-82
19. Theresa Castro			8/22/67
20. CLARISSA NANGAUA			7/12/51
21. MARIAN F. BLAS			1/28/52
22. Lydia Bui			2/26/50
23. Simon Rayphard			12/24/25
24. Victor			8/11/47
25. Manny Boria			2/11/51
26. Lumpy Baya			0/10/1961
27. Rosario Blanco			12/7/1940
28. Maria Cruz			11/9/1954
29. You Sou, Zou			11/25/1954
30. Vitt, Ichiko			

A PETITION TO PASS THE "MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025" [BILL NO. 78-38 (COR)]

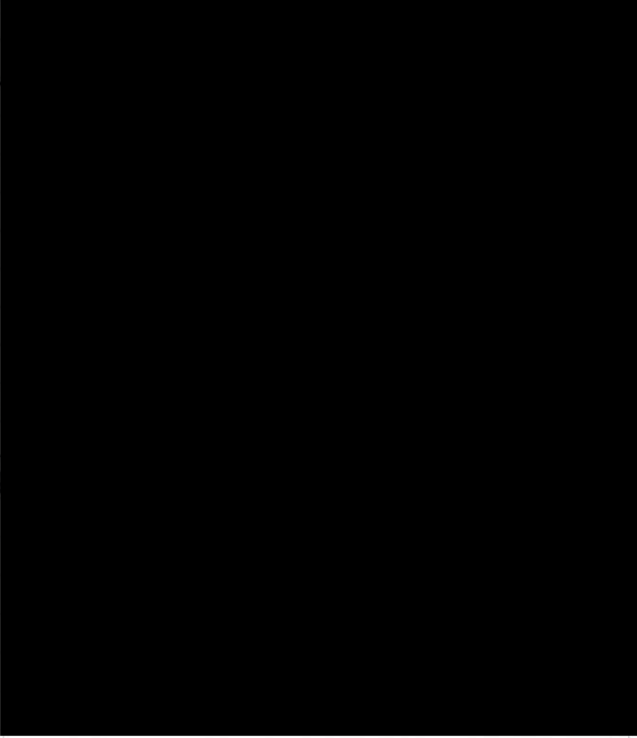
To the Honorable Members of / Liheslaturan Guåhan, We, the undersigned residents and supporters of Guam, humbly urge you to enact **Bill No. 78-38 (COR)** to establish the **Restaurant Meals Program (RMP)** in our community.

Name (please print)	Signature	Address (street, village)	Date (mm/dd/yy)
1. Alan Benavente			4/25/25
2. Vlysses Gonsalves			4/25/25
3. Wilhelm U. Nijmirela			4/25/25
4. LIZABETH LORA GONZALEZ			4.25.25
5. Glenn Cruz			4.25.25
6. Michelle Mesa			4.25.25
7. Kenaleen Titulomar			4/25/25
8. Nhon Van Nguyen			4-25-25
9. Romel - James M. Rob			4-25-25
10. Keslyn and Arrey			4/25/25
11. Anubia Santos			12/13/2020
12. MICHELLE DEL ROSARIO			04/25/2025
13. Gavin Cortez			4/25/2025
14. MARIN BORJA			4/25/2025
15. Ericka Benavente			4/25/25
16. Sean Laguarda			4/25/25
17. Gertrude M. Diaz			4/25/25
18. Pennadita C. Lizama			4/25/25
19. Idrene Amataotao			4/25/25
20. Isene Dugas			4/25/25
21. Francisco Rom			4/25/25
22. Sandra Zamora			4/25/25
23. Victor Zamora			4/25/25
24. Ramona Tha			4/25/25
25. Ike Asuncion			4/25/25
26. EVELYN MORTERA			4/25/25
27. Frank Benavente			4/25/25
28. ELIZABETH RAGADO			4-25-25
29. Florencio Sumang			4/25/25
30. Franley Rimey			4/25/25

RECEIVED
MAYORS' COUNCIL

A PETITION TO PASS THE "MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025" [BILL NO. 78-38 (COR)]

To the Honorable Members of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*, We, the undersigned residents and supporters of Guam, humbly urge you to enact **Bill No. 78-38 (COR)** to establish the **Restaurant Meals Program (RMP)** in our community.

Name (please print)	Signature	Address (street, village)	Date (mm/dd/yy)
1. <i>MARANO E. SANTI</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		<i>4-16-25</i>
2. LAURA C. RHETAMANGMED	<i>[Signature]</i>		<i>04-16-25</i>
3. MARGE LEON GUERRERO	<i>[Signature]</i>		<i>04-16-25</i>
4. <i>Sum NROC</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		<i>4-16-25</i>
5. <i>Natasha Panull</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		<i>04-16-25</i>
6. <i>AUNU Monehor</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		<i>4-18-25</i>
7. <i>Evelin Paulus</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		<i>4-18-25</i>
8. <i>Darleen RUFES</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		<i>4-18-25</i>
9. <i>Mason Aunui</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		<i>4/18/25</i>
10. <i>Carmelita D. Taisipi</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		<i>4/17/2025</i>
11. <i>Cecilia G.C. Evangelista</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		<i>04/18/2025</i>
12. <i>NELLY B. Black</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		<i>04/22/25</i>
13. <i>Taisha Taisacan</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		<i>04/22/25</i>
14. <i>Rayme Terry</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		<i>04/25/25</i>
15. <i>Frances S. Lizama</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		<i>04/24/2025</i>
16. <i>Serira U. Lizama</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		<i>04/24/2025</i>
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Office of Legislative Secretary
SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE
I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 38th Guam Legislature
Chairperson, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

Bill No. 78-38 (COR) – As Amended by the Committee – AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 2701, 2702, AND 2703; AND TO ADD A NEW § 2707; ALL OF ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM (RMP) UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP); AND TO CITE THIS ACT AS THE “MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025.”

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	SIGNATURE AND DATE	TO DO PASS	TO NOT PASS	TO REPORT OUT ONLY	TO ABSTAIN	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE
Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane Chairperson	<i>Smat</i> 05/07/2025	✓				
Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada Vice Chair, Committee on Health	evote 05/08/2025	✓				
Senator Vincent A.V. Borja Vice Chair, Committee on Veterans Affairs	evote 05/08/2025	✓				
Speaker Frank F. Blas, Jr. Member	evote 05/07/2025	✓				
Senator Jesse A. Lujan Member	evote 05/07/2025			✓		
Senator Shelly V. Calvo Member	evote 05/07/2025	✓				
Senator Christopher M. Duenas Member	evote 05/07/2025			✓		
Senator Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao Member	evote 05/07/2025	✓				
Senator Tina Rose Muna Barnes Member						



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

Request for e-vote: Committee Report relative to Bill No. 78-38 (COR).

9 messages

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

Wed, May 7, 2025 at 11:26 AM

To: Vice Speaker Tony Ada <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Vince Borja <vince.borja@guamlegislature.gov>, "Speaker Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Jesse Lujan <senator.lujan@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Shelly Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Tina Muna Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>

Hafa Adai Committee Members:

Please see attached Committee Report relative to **Bill No. 78-38 (COR)** – AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 2701, 2702, AND 2703; AND TO ADD A NEW § 2707; ALL OF ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM (RMP) UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP); AND TO CITE THIS ACT AS THE “MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025.”

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

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

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

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

--



Office of Legislative Secretary

SENATOR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE

I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 38th Guam Legislature

Chairperson, Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

163 W. Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

☎ office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov

📞 671-989-2572

The email message is intended only for the individual or entity named above and may contain confidential and privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying, distribution, or use of the information contained in this transmission is strictly PROHIBITED. If you have received this transmission in error, please immediately notify me by replying to office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov and delete the message immediately. Thank you.



CR 2025.04.15 78-38.pdf
17580K

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

Wed, May 7, 2025 at 12:45 PM

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

Cc: Vice Speaker Tony Ada <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Vince Borja

<vince.borja@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Jesse Lujan <senator.lujan@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Shelly

Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Tina Muna Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>

To Do Pass



Speaker, Frank F. Blas, Jr.

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

Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagatña

(671)969-6456

speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov

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

Wed, May 7, 2025 at 1:23 PM

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

Cc: Vice Speaker Tony Ada <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Vince Borja <vince.borja@guamlegislature.gov>, "Speaker Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Jesse Lujan <senator.lujan@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Shelly Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Tina Muna Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>

TO DO PASS

On Wed, May 7, 2025 at 11:26 AM Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Office of Senator Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao
Chairman, Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard
38th Guam Legislature
[120 Father Duenas Avenue](#) Capitol Plaza Building, Suite 103, Hagatña, Guam 96910
(671) 647-1409/1411

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

Wed, May 7, 2025 at 3:06 PM

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

Cc: Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>, Vice Speaker Tony Ada <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Vince Borja <vince.borja@guamlegislature.gov>, "Speaker Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Jesse Lujan <senator.lujan@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Shelly Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Tina Muna Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>

To report out only

--


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

[Quoted text hidden]

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

Wed, May 7, 2025 at 3:50 PM

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

Cc: Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>, Vice Speaker Tony Ada <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Vince Borja <vince.borja@guamlegislature.gov>, "Speaker Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>, Office of Senator Shelly Calvo <officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Tina Muna Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>

To report out only.


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

[Quoted text hidden]

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

Wed, May 7, 2025 at 3:52 PM

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

Cc: Senator Chris Duenas <senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Shawn Gumataotao <office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov>, Vice Speaker Tony Ada <vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Vince Borja <vince.borja@guamlegislature.gov>, "Speaker Frank Blas Jr." <speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov>, Senator Tina Muna Barnes <senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov>

Hafa Adai,

To Do Pass.

Respectfully,


Office of the People • Senator Shelly V. Calvo

Majority Whip & Chairwoman

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

38th Guam Legislature

163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

T +1 (671) 989-5682

E officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov

[Quoted text hidden]

Senator Vince Borja <vince.borja@guamlegislature.gov>

Thu, May 8, 2025 at 8:47 AM

Reply-To: Senator Vince Borja <vince.borja@guamlegislature.gov>To: office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.govCc: vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov, speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov, senator.lujan@guamlegislature.gov, officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov, senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov, office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov, senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov, office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov

To report out only.

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

[Quoted text hidden]

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

Thu, May 8, 2025 at 11:58 AM

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

To do pass

On Wed, May 7, 2025 at 11:26 AM Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane <office.senatorbri@guamlegislature.gov> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

--

**Office of Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada**

38th Guam Legislature

I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Guam Congress Building, 2nd Floor

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Phone: (671) 989-0855**Email:** vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov

[Quoted text hidden]

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

Thu, May 8, 2025 at 12:37 PM

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

Cc: vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov, speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov, senator.lujan@guamlegislature.gov, officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov, senator.duenas@guamlegislature.gov, office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov, senator.munabarnes@guamlegislature.gov

Hafa Adai Senator,

Please rescind and replace my earlier message stating "To Report Out Only"

The correct message should read **"To Do Pass."**

Thank you for your attention to this correction and I apologize for the confusion.

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 Wed, 7 May at 6:47 PM , Senator Vince Borja <vince.borja@guamlegislature.gov> wrote:
To report out only.

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 Wed, 7 May at 1:53 AM , Office of Senator Shelly Calvo
<officeofsenatorshellycalvo@guamlegislature.gov> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]



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

COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

I. OVERVIEW:

The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs conducted a Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, scheduled to begin at 2:00 P.M., in the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building.

Among the other items, on the agenda for discussion was:

Bill No. 78-38 (COR) – Shelly V. Calvo – AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 2701, 2702, AND 2703; AND TO ADD A NEW § 2707; ALL OF ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM (RMP) UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP); AND TO CITE THIS ACT AS THE “MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025.”

Public Notice Requirements

In accordance with Open Government Law, public notice for the Public Hearing was disseminated via email to all senators and main media broadcasting outlets on April 8, 2025, and April 13, 2025. The public notice was also posted on the Guam Legislature website and the Public Notice Portal.

Senators Present

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane, Chairperson of the Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs
Senator Shelly Calvo, Committee Member
Senator Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao, Committee Member
Senator Telo T. Taitague
Senator Therese M. Terlaje

Written Testimony Submitted By:

Diana Calvo, Executive Director – Catholic Social Service
Ruel Drilon, Support Services Administrator – Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities
Theresa Arriola, Director – Department of Public Health and Social Services
Samuel Ilesugam, Executive Director – Guam’ Mami
Dena Rendon Pangelinan, President – Guam Women’s Chamber of Commerce
Stephen Hattori, Executive Director – Public Defender Services Corporation
Carol Hinkle-Sanchez, Managing Attorney – Civil Law Center

Petitions Submitted:

MoveOn: A Petition to Pass the “Meals for At-Risk Households Act of 2025”
A Petition to Pass the “Meals for At-Risk Households Act of 2025”

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II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY AND DISCUSSION:

The Public Hearing was called to order at 2:03 P.M.

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane, Committee Chairperson: THANK YOU SENATOR TERAJE WE HOPE TO HAVE BILL 56 ON THE NEXT SESSION AGENDA AND PASSED SWIFTLY WE WILL NOW BE PROCEEDING WITH PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON BILL 78 INTRODUCED BY SENATOR SHELLY CALVO AGAIN THIS IS AN ACT IMPLEMENT THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM OR RMP UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OR SNAP AT THIS TIME I ASK THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE SIGNED UP TO TESTIFY TO PLEASE TAKE A SEAT AT THE TABLE SENATOR CALVO YOU HAVE 10 MINUTES TO PROVIDE YOUR OPENING REMARKS ON YOUR BILL

Senator Shelly V. Calvo, Committee Member: MADAME CHAIR THANK YOU EVERYONE HELLO Hafa Adai AND GOOD AFTERNOON EVERYONE I AM SO HAPPY TO SEE THAT THE WHOLE PANEL IS FULL I NEED ONE MORE PLEASE OVER THERE THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING HERE TODAY AND FOR TAKING THE TIME TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS TRULY IMPORTANT PUBLIC HEARING I WANT TO EXTEND MY GRATITUDE TO OUR COMMITTEE CHAIR SENATOR MATANANE FOR GRACIOUSLY SCHEDULING THIS PUBLIC HEARING AND TO THE REPRESENTATIVES OF AGENCIES AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS EVERYDAY MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY WHO HAVE JOINED US YOUR PRESENCE AND PERSPECTIVES ARE INVALUABLE AS WE DISCUSS BILL NUMBER 78 38 THE MEALS FOR AT RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025 I ALSO LIKE TO THANK MY COLLEAGUES THAT ARE HERE WITH ME TODAY THANK YOU FOR SHOWING UP THIS BILL IS DESIGNED TO ADDRESS A CRITICAL ISSUE THAT AFFECTS MANY OF OUR NEIGHBORS HERE IN GUAM FOOD INSECURITY FOOD INSECURITY IS DEFINED AS THE LACK OF CONSISTENT ACCESS TO ENOUGH FOOD FOR AN ACTIVE HEALTHY LIFE IT IS NOT JUST ABOUT HUNGER IT'S ABOUT THE UNCERTAINTY OF WHERE THE NEXT MEAL WILL COME FROM AND THE STRESS THAT ACCOMPANIES IT FOR VULNERABLE POPULATIONS LIKE THE ELDERLY LIVING WITH DISABILITIES AND THOSE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS FOOD INSECURITY HAVE CAN HAVE DEVASTATING EFFECTS OR CONSEQUENCES WHEN FOOD INSECURITY GOES UNADDRESSED THE NEGATIVE OUTCOMES RIPPLE ACROSS PHYSICAL MENTAL AND SOCIAL WELL-BEING PHYSICALLY IT CAN LEAD TO MALNUTRITION CHRONIC DISEASES SUCH AS DIABETES AND HYPERTENSION AND WEAKENED IMMUNE SYSTEMS MENTALLY IT CONTRIBUTES TO ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION AND THE STRESS OF MAKING IMPOSSIBLE CHOICES LIKE WHETHER TO PAY FOR FOOD OR OTHER ESSENTIALS LIKE RENT OR MEDICATION SOCIALLY IT EXACERBATES

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INEQUALITY AND LIMITS OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS TO THRIVE WITHIN COMMUNITIES THE MEALS FOR AT RISK HOUSEHOLD ACT PROPOSES THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM OR RMP UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OR SNAP THIS PROGRAM WOULD ALLOW ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS TO USE THEIR SNAP BENEFITS AT PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS TO PURCHASE PREPARED MEALS AT CONCESSION COST TO ENSURE THE PROGRAM IS IMPLEMENTED EFFECTIVELY THE BILL DIRECTS THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DPHSS TO ADOPT THE PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH FEDERAL SNAP REGULATIONS THIS ENSURES COMPLIANCE WITH NATIONAL STANDARDS WHILE TAILORING THE PROGRAM TO MEET GUAM'S UNIQUE NEEDS ADDITIONALLY THE BILL TASKS DPHSS WITH DEVELOPING THE APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESSES FOR RESTAURANTS INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THE RMP THIS INCLUDES ESTABLISHING CRITERIA TO ENSURE PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS CAN PROVIDE AFFORDABLE NUTRITIOUS AND ACCESSIBLE MEALS TO ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS BY INVOLVING LOCAL BUSINESSES THE PROGRAM NOT ONLY ADDRESSES FOOD INSECURITY BUT ALSO SUPPORTS GUAM ECONOMY CURRENTLY THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM IS BEING IMPLEMENTED IN NINE STATES ARIZONA CALIFORNIA ILLINOIS MARYLAND MASSACHUSETTS MICHIGAN NEW YORK RHODE ISLAND AND VIRGINIA CALIFORNIA FOR EXAMPLE HAS EXPANDED ITS PROGRAM TO INCLUDE THE 58 COUNTIES DEMONSTRATING THE POTENTIAL FOR WIDESPREAD IMPACT ACROSS THE NATION OVER 3,000 RESTAURANTS ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE RMP PROVIDING A VITAL SERVICE TO THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST I INTRODUCED THIS BILL BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT NO ONE IN OUR COMMUNITY SHOULD GO HUNGRY ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO ARE MOST AT RISK FOOD INSECURITY IS NOT JUST ABOUT HUNGER IT'S ABOUT HEALTH DIGNITY AND ABILITY TO LIVE A FULL MEANINGFUL LIFE BY EXPANDING ACCESS TO PREPARED MEALS WE CAN REDUCE THE BURDEN ON FAMILIES IMPROVE NUTRITION AND SUPPORT THE WELL-BEING OF OUR COMMUNITY THIS INITIATIVE IS MODELED AFTER SUCCESSFUL PROGRAMS IN THE STATES AND I AM CONFIDENT THAT I THAT IT CAN MAKE A SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE HERE ON GUAM IN OUR COMMUNITY HOWEVER THE SUCCESS OF THIS LEGISLATION DEPENDS ON COLLABORATION AND INPUT FROM ALL OF YOU THAT'S WHY TODAY'S HEARING IS SO IMPORTANT YOUR INSIGHTS EXPERIENCES AND DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES WILL HELP ENSURE THAT THIS BILL IS NOT ONLY EFFECTIVE BUT ALSO REFLECTIVE OF THE NEEDS AND VALUES OF OUR ISLAND AS WE MOVE FORWARD LET US REMEMBER THAT THE LAWMAKING PROCESS IN THIS SHARED RESPONSIBILITY IT IS THROUGH DIALOGUE DEBATE AND COLLABORATION THAT WE CREATE POLICIES THAT

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TRULY MATTER THAT TRULY SERVE OUR PEOPLE I AM DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR ENGAGEMENT AND COMMITMENT TO THIS EFFORT AND THANK YOU AGAIN FOR BEING HERE AND FOR CONTRIBUTING TO THE VITAL CONVERSATION TOGETHER WE CAN TAKE MEANINGFUL STEPS AND ACTION TO ADDRESS FOOD INSECURITY AND BUILD A STRONGER MORE COMPASSIONATE GUAM SI YU'OS MA'ASE AND THANK YOU

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane, Committee Chairperson: THANK YOU SENATOR CALVO WE WILL NOW BEGIN WITH PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON BILL 78 WE'LL BEGIN TO MY RIGHT IF YOU COULD PLEASE SPEAK INTO THE MICROPHONE STATE YOUR NAME AND TITLE

Carol Hinkle Sanchez, Managing Attorney - Civil Law Center: GOOD AFTERNOON SENATORS MY NAME IS CAROL HINKLE SANCHEZ I'M THE MANAGING ATTORNEY AT THE CIVIL LAW CENTER WHICH IS THE CIVIL DIVISION OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE CORPORATION OUR OFFICE ACTUALLY REPRESENTS THE EXACT INDIVIDUALS THAT'S IDENTIFIED IN THIS PARTICULAR BILL OUR OFFICE REPRESENTS THE MOST VULNERABLE IN OUR COMMUNITY WHICH INCLUDES OUR ELDERS THE DISABLED AT RISK VETERANS FOR HOMELESSNESS AS WELL AS VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE WHICH IS FAMILY VIOLENCE SEXUAL ABUSE AND STALKING AND WE ALSO REPRESENT THE INDIGEN COMMUNITY OF GUAM AND WITH THAT SAID THAT'S THE REASON WHY I'M HERE BECAUSE I'M ADVOCATING IN THE INTERESTS OF THESE INDIVIDUALS THAT ARE VULNERABLE TO OUR COMMUNITY THAT CAN'T BE HERE TODAY TO TESTIFY AND I FEEL IT THIS PARTICULAR BILL IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR OFFICE TO ADVOCATE FOR THEIR ON THEIR BEHALF BECAUSE WE DEAL WITH THEM EVERY DAY OUR OFFICE IT IN FACT WAS REALLY BUSY THIS AFTERNOON AND I KIND OF JUST LUCKILY HAD TWO ATTORNEYS ON BOARD THAT WAS ABLE TO COVER BUT I'M HERE TODAY BECAUSE YOU KNOW I WANT TO THANK OF COURSE SENATOR SHELLY CALVO FOR INTRODUCING BILL 78 38 AND THE SENATORS HERE TODAY FOR ALLOWING US THE OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY ON BEHALF OF THIS BILL AND SUPPORT IT I WANT TO FIRST CLARIFY BECAUSE I DID READ SOME OF THE OPINIONS PUT IN THE MEDIA AND POST WITH RESPECT TO THIS BILL SO I JUST WANT TO SAY WHAT'S IMPORTANT FOR THE LISTENING VIEWERS OR ANYONE THAT'S LISTENING TO THIS PUBLIC HEARING IS THAT THERE'S MANY MISUNDERSTANDINGS AS TO WHAT IT IS AND I'M NOT GOING TO GO OVER EVERY MISUNDERSTANDING BUT I THINK THE KEY THING TO REMEMBER IS THAT THIS PARTICULAR BILL IS DESIGNED FOR A VERY SPECIFIC POPULATION AND FOR A VERY SPECIFIC REASON THE POPULATIONS THAT ARE MENTIONED IN HERE ARE INDIVIDUALS THAT EITHER CAN'T COOK ON THEIR OWN

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THEY CAN'T BUY FOOD AND STORE IT BECAUSE THEY DON'T HAVE THE PROPER EQUIPMENT AT THEIR HOME FACILITIES OR THEY DON'T EVEN HAVE A HOME THEY DON'T HAVE THE ABILITY TO STORE FOOD COOK FOOD PREPARE FOOD FOR WHATEVER REASON OR WHATEVER CIRCUMSTANCE THAT IS THIS POPULATION THAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT AND VERY CLEARLY BECAUSE I LIKE AS I MENTIONED I READ THROUGH SOME OF THE MEDIA STUFF I JUST WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT THE PUBLIC IS AWARE THAT THIS BILL ISN'T MEANT OR DESIGNED FOR EVERY PERSON RECEIVING SNAP IS VERY LIMITED IN WHAT IT IS FOR AND IT'S MEANT TO AS SENATOR CALVO MENTIONED THE FOOD INSECURITIES THAT EXIST IN NOT JUST OUR COMMUNITY BUT THE COMMUNITY ACROSS THE ENTIRE UNITED STATES REALLY IT'S BEEN AN ISSUE AND NOT ONLY WILL IT ALLOW INDIVIDUALS THESE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE VULNERABLE TO ACCESS FOOD AND BE ABLE TO ACCESS FOOD THAT THEY CAN ACTUALLY EAT IT ALSO STIMULATES THE ECONOMY AND THE SMALL BUSINESSES THAT WILL BE IDENTIFIED AS RESTAURANTS BECAUSE NOT EVERY RESTAURANT IS GOING TO OPT INTO THIS PARTICULAR BILL BECAUSE IT REQUIRES THINGS THERE'S REQUIREMENTS THAT NEED TO BE MET IT'S REGULATED THROUGH IT'S A FEDERAL STATUTE I ALSO WANT TO POINT OUT THAT THIS ISN'T JUST A BILL THAT SENATOR CALVO JUST MADE UP THIS BILL STEMS FROM WHAT WAS ENACTED IN 1964 AS THE FOOD STAMPS ACT OF 1964 WHICH IS NOW WHAT COVERS OUR SNAP PROGRAM WHICH IS OUR SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IT WAS AMENDED LATER BY THE AGRICULTURAL ACT OF 2014 AND THAT'S WHAT CREATED WHAT IS CALLED RESTAURANTS MEALS PROGRAM BUT BACK IN 1964 IT ALREADY EXISTED THERE WAS ALREADY OPPORTUNITIES THE DIFFERENCE IS THE FEDERAL LAW BECAUSE OF THE RESTRICTIONS AND THE GUIDELINES AND THE REQUIREMENTS THEY ALLOWED THE STATES TO OPT INTO THIS PROGRAM IF THE STATES FELT THAT YOU KNOW THEY WANTED TO UTILIZE THIS PARTICULAR PROGRAM TO SERVICE THIS PARTICULAR COMMUNITY AND SO THAT'S PRETTY MUCH LIKE A VERY BRIEF HISTORY OF IT BUT IT'S A PROGRAM THAT EXISTED IT'S A PROGRAM THAT YOU'VE HEARD HER SAY NINE STATES HAVE ENACTED THERE ARE TWO OTHER INACTIVE STATES THAT ARE STILL WORKING TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION COLORADO NOW HAS PUT A BILL BEFORE THEIR LEGISLATORS TRYING TO IMPLEMENT THIS PARTICULAR PROGRAM BECAUSE WHEN COVID HIT A LOT OF THINGS CLOSED A LOT OF BUSINESSES GOT AFFECTED A LOT OF RESTAURANTS GOT AFFECTED RESTAURANTS WE LOVE ARE NOT OPEN ANYMORE AND SO THIS WILL STIMULATE THE GROWTH OF THAT AS WELL BUT IT WILL ALSO ALLOW INDIVIDUALS AGAIN THE MAIN THE KEY THING TO THIS IS ALLOW THESE VULNERABLE POPULATIONS OUR ELDERS ESPECIALLY OUR ELDERS ARE

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DISABLED WHO CAN'T COOK WHO HAVE CARETAKER WHO IS PROBABLY THEIR SPOUSE AND THIS BILL ONLY COVERS THE SPOUSE SO IT'S VERY LIMITED RIGHT IT'S GOING TO BE THE EITHER THE ELDER AND THEIR SPOUSE OR THE DISABLED AND THEIR SPOUSE IT DOESN'T COVER EVERYBODY IT ONLY ALLOWS THEM TO USE THEIR SNAP BENEFITS TO PAY FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR SPOUSE SO IT'S A LIMITED YOU KNOW I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT THERE'S NO MISUNDERSTANDING IN THE COMMUNITY THAT THIS IS GOING TO APPLY TO EVERYBODY BECAUSE THAT WAS ONE OF THE BIG ISSUES I THINK I SAW AND WITH CLARITY HOPEFULLY PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THAT THERE THE INTENTIONS OF THIS BILL IS VERY IS WORTH IT IT'S MEANT FOR A GOOD REASON AND IT'S NOT A PROGRAM THAT IS NEW SO I MEAN IT'S BEEN IN IT'S BEEN IN EFFECT SINCE 1977 SO ON BEHALF OF CIVIL LAW CENTER WE BASICALLY SUPPORT THIS BILL WE HOPE THAT THE SENATORS WILL CONSIDER THE SUPPORT OF THIS BILL AS WELL IT IMPACTS THE GREATEST OF OUR COMMUNITIES THE ONES THAT WE CARE ABOUT THE MOST WHICH IS OUR ELDERS OUR DISABLED THE HOMELESS AND YOU KNOW HOPEFULLY THAT THIS BILL CAN PASS QUICKLY AND GET IMPLEMENTED BECAUSE I KNOW THAT PUBLIC HEALTH IS GOING TO HAVE YOU KNOW THAT'S WHERE THE WORK IS GOING TO BE DONE IT'S GOING TO BE THROUGH PUBLIC HEALTH IDENTIFYING RESTAURANTS THAT WILL MEET THE CRITERIAS AND THE REQUIREMENTS AND ALSO YOU KNOW IDENTIFYING WHETHER AND IT'S A PROCESS THEY STILL HAVE TO APPLY TO THE USDA FNS WHICH IS OUR FOOD AND NUTRITIONAL SERVICE SO THERE'S A PROCESS THAT HAPPENS AND THERE ARE QUALIFICATIONS AND CRITERIAS THAT NEED TO BE MET AND IT'S NOT JUST SOMETHING YOU IT'S GOING TO HAPPEN AND THEN EVERY RESTAURANT IS GOING TO BENEFIT IT DOESN'T WORK THAT WAY SO WE SUPPORT THIS BILL ON BEHALF OF OUR CLIENTS OUR CONSUMERS AND WE BELIEVE THAT'S IN THEIR BEST INTEREST

Samantha Taitano, Member - Guam Homeless Coalition: GOOD AFTERNOON AND SUS MA HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE FOR ONE INTRODUCING THIS BILL AND THEN ALSO HAVING US HERE TODAY TO PROVIDE TESTIMONY MY NAME IS SAMANTHA TAITANO AND I AM HERE TO PROVIDE TESTIMONY ON BEHALF OF THE GUAM HOMELESS COALITION WE ARE IN STRONG SUPPORT OF BILL NUMBER 78-38 KNOWN AS THE MILLS FOR AT RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025 WHICH SEEKS TO IMPLEMENT THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM AS AN OPTIONAL COMPONENT OF THE SNAP PROGRAM THAT IS ELIGIBLE FOR GUAM RESIDENTS SO AS A COALITION OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS PUBLIC AGENCIES AND FAITH-BASED GROUPS WORKING COLLECTIVELY TO PREVENT AND END HOMELESSNESS ON GUAM OUR MISSION IS GUIDED BY THE VALUES OF

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COMPASSION DIGNITY COLLABORATION AND SYSTEMS CHANGE WE BELIEVE THAT EVERY PERSON REGARDLESS OF THEIR HOUSING STATUS DESERVES ACCESS TO BASIC HUMAN NEEDS WHICH INCLUDES SAFE NUTRITIOUS AND READILY ACCESSIBLE MEALS THIS BILL HAS THE POTENTIAL TO REMOVE A REALLY CRITICAL BARRIER EXPERIENCED BY MANY OF THE PEOPLE THAT WE SERVED BOTH THOSE WHO ARE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS AND AS MANY PEOPLE KNOW THAT CAN ALSO INCLUDE OUR ELDERLY AND THOSE WHO HAVE DISABILITIES SO THE INABILITY TO PREPARE STORE OR COOK FOOD EVEN WHEN SNAP BENEFITS ARE AVAILABLE AS I SAID A LOT OF OUR CLIENTS EXPERIENCE BARRIERS WHEN TRYING TO UTILIZE THEIR SNAP BENEFITS TO THEIR FULLEST EXTENT CAROL ALSO MENTIONED YOU KNOW THE LACK OF BEING ABLE TO REFRIGERATE OR MAYBE EVEN TO COOK ALSO WE DO RECOGNIZE THAT OUR ELDERLY INDIVIDUALS AND THOSE LIVING WITH DISABILITIES OFTEN EXPERIENCE THOSE SIMILAR BARRIERS SO THE PROPOSED RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM DIRECTLY ADDRESSES THIS GAP IN SERVICE BY ALLOWING THOSE VERY SPECIFIC SNAP RECIPIENTS WHO ARE EITHER HOMELESS ELDERLY OR DISABLED TO PURCHASE LOW-COST PREPARED MEALS AT PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS THE PROGRAM EMPOWERS THEM WITH DIGNITY CHOICE AND IMPROVED FOOD SECURITY ADDITIONALLY THIS PROGRAM WOULD STIMULATE LOCAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITY BY INVOLVING COMMUNITY RESTAURANTS PARTICULARLY IF IMPLEMENTATION INCLUDES OUTREACH TO SMALL AND FAMILY-OWNED EATERIES ACROSS THE ISLAND WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THOUGH THE IMPORTANCE OF GROUNDING THIS DECISION IN DATA MANY OF OUR CLIENTS RELY ON SNAP BENEFITS AS A LIFELINE ACCORDING TO THE GUAM HOMELESS COALITIONS OUR GUAM CONTINUE OF CARE HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM WHICH IS USED BY ALL OF THE DIFFERENT SERVICE PROVIDERS THAT ARE PART OF THE COALITION AROUND THE ISLAND TO TRACK KIND OF DATA IN 2024 THERE WERE 251 INDIVIDUALS WHICH CAME OUT TO 199 HOUSEHOLDS THAT ARE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN GUAM AND ARE RECEIVING SNAP ASSISTANCE AND SO THINKING ABOUT THE 199 HOUSEHOLDS THAT'S ABOUT HALF OF THE HOUSEHOLDS THAT WE RECORDED DURING THE 2024 PIT COUNT SO THESE BENEFITS ARE VITAL TO THEIR SURVIVAL BUT WITHOUT ACCESS TO COOKING OR REFRIGERATION FACILITIES MANY ARE UNABLE TO FULLY USE THEM THIS MAKES THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RMP NOT ONLY TIMELY BUT ESSENTIAL TO EQUITY AND ACCESS IN OUR SOCIAL SAFETY NET IN CLOSING WE COMMEND SENATOR SHELLY CALVO FOR INTRODUCING THIS THOUGHTFUL LEGISLATION AND URGE THE LEGISLATURE TO SUPPORT THIS BILL BILL NUMBER 78-38 HONORS THE DIGNITY OF GUAM'S MOST VULNERABLE

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RESIDENTS AND PROVIDES A MEANINGFUL PATHWAY TO FOOD SECURITY FOR THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THE DEPARTMENT AND THE LEGISLATURE TO ENSURE THE PROGRAM IS SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTED AND TRULY SERVES THE PEOPLE OF GUAM THANK YOU ALL AGAIN SO MUCH FOR YOUR TIME AND COMMITMENT TO THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF OUR ISLAND COMMUNITY

Stephen Hattori, Director - Public Defender Services Corporation: THANK YOU GOOD AFTERNOON CHAIRPERSON SABRINA SALES MATANANE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE AND ESPECIALLY SENATOR SHELLY CAVO FOR INTRODUCING THIS IMPORTANT PIECE OF LEGISLATION LAST TERM YOU KNOW WE TESTIFIED ON A BILL THAT LIFTED THE SNAP BAN FOR FELONS AND AS YOU KNOW YOU KNOW I'M THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE CORPORATION OUR CLIENTS ARE PEOPLE CHARGED WITH CRIMES AND THEY YOU KNOW WHEN THEY DO THEIR TIME AND THEY GET PUNISHED WHEN THEY'RE RELEASED OFTENTIMES THAT BILL DEALT WITH PEOPLE WHO WERE NOT GIVEN THE TOOLS NEEDED TO SUCCEED RIGHT AFTER THEY'RE RELEASED FROM JAIL AND SO THIS BILL ALSO TARGETS ANOTHER LARGE GROUP OF OUR POPULATION AND THESE ARE THE HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS WE REPRESENT MANY INDIVIDUALS CHARGED WITH CRIME WHO ARE HOMELESS AND IF YOU SEE ALL THE HOMELESS ENCAMPMENTS YOU SEE THE PEOPLE WHO ARE PANHANDLING RIGHT AND THEY'RE OUT THERE ASKING FOR MONEY FOR FOOD RIGHT THIS BILL WOULD ADDRESS IT RIGHT IT INCENTIVIZES PARTICIPATION IN THE SNAP PROGRAM AND IT ALSO ALLOWS THEM YOU KNOW A DIGNIFIED WAY OF REALLY I THINK CONTRIBUTING BACK TO OUR ECONOMY RIGHT I KNOW THAT SAM MENTIONED THAT THERE WERE MAYBE 250 HOUSE 199 HOUSEHOLDS RIGHT AND I THINK THAT MIGHT INCORPORATE THAT'S JUST THE PEOPLE ARE REGISTERED NOW I THINK THERE ARE MANY MORE I KNOW ONE COUNT THERE WERE LIKE 1,200 RIGHT HOMELESS PEOPLE THAT WERE REGISTERED OR COUNTED AND SO EVEN IF LIKE SAY A THOUSAND OF THOSE INDIVIDUALS RIGHT REGISTERED OR SIGNED UP FOR SNAP AT \$400 A MONTH THAT WOULD GENERATE OVER \$4.5 MILLION WORTH OF REVENUE FOR OUR RESTAURANTS OUR MOM AND POP STORES YOU KNOW AND ALSO LIKE SOME OF THESE STORES THAT SELL PREPARED FOODS SO THIS REALLY BENEFITS OUR CLIENTS IT ALSO GIVES THEM A WAY OF PARTICIPATING IN SOCIETY BY SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES AND IT ALSO HELPS YOU KNOW LOCAL BUSINESSES I MEAN OUT OF THE PRETTY MUCH EVERY SUBWAY IN CALIFORNIA IS A MEMBER PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM IN CALIFORNIA SO YOU CAN EAT HEALTHY AT A LOW PRICE WITH YOUR SNAP CARD IN CALIFORNIA AND SO WE REALLY WANT TO THANK THE SENATORS FOR ADDRESSING THIS BILL AT THIS

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TIME I MEAN I KNOW THAT YOU HAVE VERY MANY OTHER IMPORTANT MEASURES BUT THIS IS ONE THAT REALLY CAN AFFECT A LARGE SEGMENT OF OUR POPULATION RIGHT I MEAN OUR ENTIRE ISLAND RECEIVES FREE LUNCH RIGHT BECAUSE WE'RE CONSIDERED A DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE SO YOU CAN IMAGINE HOW MANY PEOPLE WILL BENEFIT FROM THIS ESPECIALLY OUR HOMELESS AND OUR SENIOR CITIZENS OUR MANOMKO WHO CAN NOW GO OUT TO EAT TOGETHER HOPEFULLY AT KINGS OR SOME OTHER RESTAURANT BUT ALSO OUR DISABLED AND HOMELESS AS WELL I'M NOT GOING TO READ THE REST OF MY TESTIMONY BUT I JUST WANT TO THANK YOU AND I REALLY HOPE THAT YOU GUYS SUPPORT THIS BECAUSE IT REALLY WILL BENEFIT YOU KNOW OUR CLIENTS IT WILL REDUCE CRIME IT'LL ENCOURAGE YOU KNOW ACCESS TO FOOD AND HOPEFULLY REDUCE PAN HANDLING YOU KNOW I WAS SUGGESTING THAT INSTEAD OF LIKE TICKETING PAN HANDLERS THAT THEY SIGN THEM UP FOR SNAP INSTEAD AND I THINK THAT WOULD BE A LONG-TERM SOLUTION TO DEALING WITH PAN HANDLING ON OUR STREETS BRINGING SAFETY BACK TO OUR ISLAND THANK YOU

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane, Committee Chairperson: IF YOU COULD STATE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD

Stephen Hattori, Director - Public Defender Services Corporation: I'M SORRY STEVEN HATTORI THE CURRENT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR THE PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE CORPORATION THANK YOU

Ruel Drilon, Support Services Administrator - Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities: MADAME CHAIR BRI SALES MATANANE HONORABLE SENATORS ALL THOSE PRESENT HERE TODAY AND THOSE WATCHING ONLINE GOOD AFTERNOON MY NAME IS RUEL DRILON AND I AM THE SUPPORT SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF INTEGRATED SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES DISID I AM HONORED TO BE HERE THIS AFTERNOON TO PROVIDE INSIGHT ON BILL NUMBER 78-38 RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM RMP AN OPTION FOR ELIGIBLE CLIENTS UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SNAP I BEGIN BY SAYING THAT ANY PROGRAM THAT HELPS TO NARROW THE GAP OF ACCESSIBILITY TO HEALTH NUTRITION SAFETY EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORTS ESPECIALLY TO THOSE WHO EXPERIENCE ECONOMIC LIMITATIONS OR RESTRICTIONS IS FUNDAMENTALLY A GOOD PROGRAM THE RMP IS ONE SUCH PROGRAM AS DEFINED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO THE RMP IS AN OPTION THAT ALLOWS CERTAIN SNAP CLIENTS SPECIFICALLY THE ELDERLY 60 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER PERSONS WITH

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DISABILITIES THE HOMELESS AND A SPOUSE OF AN ELIGIBLE SNAP CLIENT TO EXTEND THEIR BENEFITS FOR USE AT PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS TO PURCHASE PREPARED MEALS INDEED A PROGRAM WORTHY OF CONSIDERATION FOR THE TARGET POPULATION IT SEeks TO SERVE LIKE ALL NEW AND WELL-INTENTIONED PROGRAMS HOWEVER IT IS NECESSARY TO ENSURE THAT THE TIME AND EFFORT PUT INTO IMPLEMENTATION IS WELL SPENT THAT IS THAT ALL CONSIDERATIONS ARE THOROUGHLY REVIEWED AND VETTED TO ADDRESS THE OBJECTIVE OF THE PROGRAM TODAY AND ITS SUSTAINABILITY IN THE FUTURE TODAY I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE SOME OF THOSE CONSIDERATIONS A STUDY THAT WAS CONDUCTED BY ROBERTS IN 2020 FROM OCCIDENTAL COLLEGE URBAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY SOUGHT TO EVALUATE THE IMPACT OF CALIFORNIA'S RMP SPECIFICALLY IN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES IN WHICH AN RMP HAD BEEN IN PLACE SINCE 2005 SOME KEY FINDINGS TO CONSIDER AS WE LOOK TO IMPLEMENTATION OF AN RMP FOR OUR COMMUNITY INCLUDE NUMBER ONE RESTAURANT TYPES THE REFERENCED RESEARCH SHOWED A DISPROPORTIONATELY LARGE NUMBER OF NATIONAL CHAIN FAST FOOD RESTAURANTS SUCH AS JACK-IN-THE-BOX PIZZA HUT AND KENTUCKY FRIED CHICKEN AS PARTICIPATING THESE AMOUNT TO APPROXIMATELY 86% OF TOTAL PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF QUOTE NUTRITIONAL MEALS THESE RESTAURANTS ARE OFTEN SEEN AS FALLING SHORT OF PROVIDING HEALTHY FOOD OPTIONS THAT IS FOODS TYPICALLY LOWER IN SODIUM FAT AND ADDED SUGARS WITH THE LIMITED NUMBER OF LOCAL RESTAURANTS OBTAINING FAST FOOD IS THE QUICKEST AND MOST ACCESSIBLE EVEN TO THOSE WITH LIMITED TO NO TRANSPORTATION NUMBER TWO MISUNDERSTANDING BY PARTICIPATING RESTAURANT AND SNAP CLIENTS ON HOW EXACTLY THE RMP IS DESIGNED TO WORK THE STUDY SUGGESTS THAT MANY RESTAURANTS ARE NOT ALLOWING CERTAIN PURCHASES BECAUSE OF THE UNCERTAINTY OF WHAT IS AND WHAT IS NOT ALLOWED OFTEN RESULTING IN WRONGFUL DENIAL OF PURCHASES NUMBER THREE ACCESSIBILITY AND EQUAL TREATMENT THE STUDY FURTHER SUGGESTS THAT CHALLENGES EXIST AROUND ACCESSIBILITY TO DINE IN IN PARTICULARLY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES RESTAURANTS MUST ACCOUNT FOR ADEQUATE SPACE TO ACCOMMODATE WHEELED DEVICES FOR EXAMPLE ADDITIONALLY THE STIGMA AROUND LOW-INCOME EATING AT FAST FOOD RESTAURANTS IS FURTHERED BY A RESTAURANT'S LABELING OF QUOTE EBT ACCEPTED HERE A FIXED TO DOORS OR WINDOWS THIS OFTEN CAUSES OUTRAGE IN THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT THE GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS SUCH PROGRAMS LASTLY WHILE THE RMP TENDS TO FAVOR ON-SITE ORDERING OF FOOD WITH DINE IN OR TAKEOUT OPTIONS CONSIDERATION MUST BE MADE TO

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THOSE ELIGIBLE YET ARE UNABLE TO LEAVE HOME AND WITH NO STABLE SUPPORT ONLINE ORDERING AND DELIVERY MAY BE SUITABLE OPTIONS TO CONSIDER LASTLY THE RESEARCH FURTHER DISCUSSES ISSUES AROUND THE LACK OF DATA COLLECTION AND PROGRAM EVALUATION AREAS WHICH I AM SURE MAY POSE AN OBSTACLE FOR US AS WELL IN THE ABSENCE OF A FORMIDABLE MONITORING SYSTEM SO NOW HOW CAN WE TAKE THESE KEY LEARNINGS FROM THIS RESEARCH AND APPLY TO THE RMP AS PROPOSED FIRST BEST EFFORTS MUST BE MADE TO BALANCE THE NUMBER AND TYPE OF PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS FOCUSING ON MEALS OR MENU ITEMS THAT CAN OFFER THE MOST BALANCED AND NUTRITIONAL OPTION WITH SUCH DIVERSITY OF CULTURES ON OUR ISLAND CHOICES ARE PLENTIFUL THE KEY IS IN PROVIDING THE RIGHT INCENTIVES TO ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION AND SUSTAINABILITY SECOND BEST EFFORTS MUST BE MADE TO EDUCATE PARTICIPANTS RESTAURANTS AND CLIENTS ALIKE ON THE SPECIFICS OF THE RMP THIS INCLUDES WHERE APPLICABLE LIMITS ON THE NUMBER OF MEALS THAT CAN BE PURCHASED PER DAY LIMITS ON THE AMOUNTS THAT CAN BE SPENT AND WHO ARE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE SUCH PURCHASES THIRD BE INTENTIONAL ON COMMUNICATING THE DETAILS OF THE RMP SO AS TO BE CAREFUL NOT TO WIDEN ANY GAPS OR FURTHER ANY BARRIERS ALLOWING FOR THE INTEGRATION OF CUSTOMERS DINING FOR EXAMPLE AS OPPOSED TO SEGREGATING THE EBT ELIGIBLE CLIENTS SUCH AS THE HOMELESS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC LASTLY CREATE A MECHANISM THAT WOULD ALLOW FOR EFFECTIVE COLLECTION OF DATA TO MONITOR PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS SUCH DATA CAN HELP TO IMPROVE AND EXPAND THE PROGRAM POTENTIALLY TRIGGERING THE DEVELOPMENT OF SIMILAR PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS SNAP CLIENTS WHO MAY NOT MEET THE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENT OF THE RMP BUT WHO STILL HAVE THE NEED FOR NUTRITIONAL MEALS IN CLOSING I REITERATE THAT ANY PROGRAM THAT HELPS TO NARROW THE GAP OF ACCESSIBILITY TO HEALTH NUTRITION SAFETY EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORTS ESPECIALLY TO THOSE WHO EXPERIENCE ECONOMIC LIMITATIONS OR RESTRICTIONS IS A FUNDAMENTALLY GOOD PROGRAM PRUDENCE IN DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION MAKE GOOD PROGRAMS GREAT AND LASTING ONES SO I THANK YOU SENATOR CALVO FOR INTRODUCING THIS INCREDIBLE LEGISLATION AND THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE MY THOUGHTS AND MY SUPPORT FOR THIS BILL THANK YOU VERY MUCH AND HAPPY EASTER TO ALL OF YOU

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services:

THANK YOU MADAME CHAIR SABRINA SALAS MATANANE CHAIRWOMAN OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE SENATORS OF THE 38TH GUAM LEGISLATURE

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SENATOR CALVO AUTHOR OF THE BILL THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALLOWING ME THERESA ARRIOLA THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES TO PROVIDE TESTIMONY ON BILL 78-38 KNOWN AS THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM I APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK BEFORE YOU TODAY REGARDING THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM OR RMP WITH WITHIN THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OR SNAP THAT WE ARE WE KNOW IT AS IN GUAM THE RMP IS A VITAL INITIATIVE DESIGNED TO EMPOWER OUR MOST VULNERABLE SNAP PARTICIPANTS BY ENABLING THEM TO PURCHASE HOT PREPARED MEALS FROM DESIGNATED RESTAURANTS USING THEIR SNAP BENEFITS THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES IS IN SUPPORT OF BILL 38-78 DPHSS IS DEDICATED TO SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE OF GUAM IN ACHIEVING SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE OUR VISION IS TO EMPOWER INDIVIDUALS TO LEAD DIGNIFIED HEALTH HEALTHY LIVES IN A SAFE ENVIRONMENT THROUGH THE INTRODUCTION OF BILL 78-38 THE EXPANSION OF SNAP TO INCLUDE RMP ALIGNS DIRECTLY WITH THIS MISSION BY REMOVING BARRIERS THAT PREVENT MANY OF OUR MOST VULNERABLE RESIDENTS FROM ACCESSING NUTRITIONAL MEALS WITH REGARDS TO PROGRAM BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE CURRENTLY SNAP BENEFITS ARE RESTRICTED TO FOODS INTENDED FOR HOME PREPARATION AND CONSUMPTION AS A RESULT MANY NUTRITIONS AND NUTRITIOUS AND READILY AVAILABLE MEAL OPTIONS SUCH AS ROTISSERIE CHICKEN HOT SOUPS AND PRE-COOKED PIZZAS REMAIN INACCESSIBLE TO INDIVIDUALS WHO LACK THE ABILITY OR RESOURCE TO PREPARE MEALS DUE TO PHYSICAL LIMITATIONS OR UNSTABLE HOUSING CONDITIONS THE RMP OFFERS A STATE OPTION THAT ALLOWS SPECIFIC SNAP RECIPIENTS TO PURCHASE HOT PREPARED MEALS AT PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS MUST HAVE AN ACTIVE EBT CARD FLAGGED WITH A RMP USE AND A SECURE PIN ISSUED BY THE ISSUANCE SECTION WITHIN THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC WELFARE AND THE BUREAU OF ECONOMIC SECURITY THIS MINOR YET VERY IMPACTFUL POLICY ADJUSTMENT WILL PROVIDE AN ESSENTIAL LIFELINE TO THOSE FROM WHOM HOME MEAL PREPARATION IS SIMPLY NOT FEASIBLE THE KEY BENEFITS OF RMP THE EXPANSION OF RMP WOULD OFFER SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT ADVANTAGES INCLUDING INCREASED ACCESS TO NUTRITIOUS MEALS ENABLING SNAP PARTICIPANTS TO CONSUME HOT PREPARED MEALS WHEN HOME COOKING IS NOT AN OPTION ENHANCING FOOD SECURITY WHICH EXPANDS FOOD ACCESS FOR VULNERABLE POPULATIONS ENSURING THAT THEY HAVE READILY RELIABLE MEAL OPTIONS AND ECONOMIC STIMULUS PROVIDES DIRECT ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO LOCAL BUSINESSES BY

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INCREASING REVENUE FOR PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE AND LOCAL OPPORTUNITY AS OF FEBRUARY 7TH NINE STATES ARIZONA CALIFORNIA ILLINOIS MARYLAND MASSACHUSETTS MICHIGAN NEW YORK RHODE ISLAND AND VIRGINIA HAVE SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTED THE RMP THESE STATES PROVIDE VALUABLE INSIGHTS INTO THE PROGRAM'S BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES THROUGH THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC WELFARE AND THE BUREAU OF ECONOMIC SECURITY HAS CAREFULLY REVIEWED THESE MODELS AS WE CONSIDER A SIMILAR INITIATIVE FOR GUAM THE ELIGIBILITY AND LOCAL IMPACT TO COMPLY WITH FEDERAL POLICY GUIDELINES THE RMP IS AVAILABLE ONLY IN STATES THAT OFFER THE PROGRAM AND ELIGIBILITY IS LIMITED TO SNAP CERTIFIED HOUSEHOLDS IN WHICH ALL MEMBERS MUST MEET ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CRITERIAS ELDERLY WHO ARE INDIVIDUALS 60 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER THE DISABLED INDIVIDUALS RECEIVING DISABILITY OR BLINDMENT BLINDNESS PAYMENTS OR DISABILITY RETIREMENT BENEFITS DUE TO A PERMANENT DISABILITY THE HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS LACKING PERMANENT HOUSING FOR MEAL PREPARATION THEIR SPOUSE OF AN ELIGIBLE SNAP CLIENT WHICH I JUST MENTIONED ABOVE WHO ARE PARTNERS OR CLIENTS WHO QUALIFY UNDER THE ABOVE CATEGORIES MENTIONED OUR LOCAL DATA INDICATE THAT WITHIN GUAM'S CURRENT SNAP BENEFIT RECEIVING POPULATION FOR FY25 THUS FAR ELDERLY ONLY 3,352 ELDERLY ONLY WITH SPOUSE 1,275 DISABLED ONLY 401 DISABLED ONLY WITH SPOUSE 33 HOMELESS ONLY 311 HOMELESS ONLY WITH SPOUSE 26 THESE FIGURES HIGHLIGHT THE SIGNIFICANT POTENTIAL IMPACT OF THE RMP EXPANSION AS A SUBSTANTIAL PORTION OF OUR COMMUNITY COULD BENEFIT FROM IMPROVING ACCESS TO MEALS REGARDING SUSTAINABILITY AND IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS MENTIONED BY THIS FINE GENTLEMAN TO MY LEFT WHILE WE STRONGLY SUPPORT EXPANDING THE R&P WE MUST ENSURE ITS LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY AND EFFECTIVENESS EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION SEVERAL KEY FACTORS MUST BE ADDRESSED SENATORS I ALSO WANT TO INTERJECT HERE THAT THESE RECOMMENDATIONS COME VERY HIGHLY FROM FNS WHO OVERSEE THE SNAP PROGRAM WHEN INTRO WHEN BILL 78 WAS FIRST ANNOUNCED ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS THAT ME AND MY TEAM HAVE DONE IS CALL FOR A MEETING WITH FNS TO SPECIFICALLY HEAR FROM THEM WHAT DOES WHAT TRULY DOES THIS THE RESTAURANT PROGRAM IN THE SNAP SPACE REALLY WHAT DOES IT MEAN AND WHAT DOES IT TAKE SO SOME OF THOSE CONSIDERATIONS ARE FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS CURRENTLY FINANCING FOR THIS PROGRAM THEY HAVE MADE VERY CLEAR IS LOCALLY FUNDED THEY WILL NOT GIVE OUR PROGRAM THE GUAM STAMP PROGRAM ANY

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ADDITIONAL FEDERAL DOLLARS TO STAND UP THIS PROGRAM SO LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING IS WHERE WE NEED TO FUND THIS WITH NO FEDERAL ASSISTANCE THIS COULD POTENTIALLY COST THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM AN ESTIMATED 400,000 FOR THE FIRST YEAR THE EBT SYSTEM MODIFICATION OUR EBT CARD VENDOR FI FIS WILL NEED TO REPROGRAM THE EXISTING EBT CARDS OR ISSUE RMP SPECIFIC CARDS TO THOSE ELIGIBLE POPULATIONS WHICH COULD WHICH WOULD REQUIRE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES THE IMPLEMENTATION FEE ALONE WITH OUR EBT VENDOR IS ABOUT 70,000 PLUS A MONTHLY OPERATIONAL COST OF ANYWHERE FROM 2,500 TO 30,000 ANNUALLY DEPENDING ON THE NUMBER OF CARDS ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT INCREASED STAFFING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE MONITOR IMPLEMENTATION PREVENT MISUSE AND OF COURSE EDUCATION APPLICATION PROCESSING DELAYS RESTAURANTS INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING MUST SUBMIT A PAPER APPLICATION VIA MAIL AS ONLINE OR EMAIL SUBMISSIONS ARE NOT PERMITTED AT THIS MOMENT WITH FNS FOR THE RESTAURANT PROGRAM SO SNAIL MAIL MUST BE USED THE APPROVAL PROCESS CAN TAKE OVER SIX MONTHS ACCORDING TO FNS AGAIN FNS IS THE ONLY APPROVING BODY OF PARTICIPANTS RESTAURANT PARTICIPANTS SO THE LOCAL PROGRAM DOESN'T HAVE JURISDICTION IT HAS TO GO DIRECTLY TO FNS FOR APPROVAL AND OF COURSE SOMETHING THAT THIS CURRENT ADMINISTRATION FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION IS VERY KEY UPON AND THAT WE TAKE VERY SERIOUSLY AT THE DEPARTMENT IS ELIMINATING FRAUD WASTE AND ABUSE AND SO PROGRAM MISUSE RISK THERE IS A CONCERN THAT BENEFITS COULD BE USED ON LESS NUTRITIOUS MEAL OPTIONS POTENTIALLY UNDERMINING THE PROGRAM'S NUTRITIONAL GOALS SOME OF THE THINGS I WANT TO EMPHASIZE IS AGAIN GROCERS IT'S NOT LISTED GROCERS WHO SELL COOKED FOODS WHICH IS A WONDERFUL OPTION WE HAVE MANY SUPERMARKETS THROUGHOUT THE ISLAND THAT HAVE A HOT FOOD SECTION THEY NEED TO JUST SO EVERYBODY'S AWARE ACCORDING TO FNS NEED TO APPLY SEPARATELY FROM THEIR SEPARATE APPLICATION OF BEING A SNAP PARTICIPANT AS A GROCER SO YOU KNOW A GROSSER WHO DOES SELL HOT FOOD AND SELL GROCERY WOULD HAVE TWO SNAP APPLICATIONS EVEN THOUGH IT COMES FROM FNS DIRECTLY THE TIMELINE TO IMPLEMENT THIS I HIGHLY ENCOURAGE THAT THE COMMITTEE RECOGNIZE THAT IT'S GOING TO TAKE QUITE A BIT OF TIME AND SO I BELIEVE I THINK THE BILL CALLS FOR 6 TO 9 MONTHS FNS CLEARLY STATES 12 TO 16 MONTHS MINIMUM TO IMPLEMENT AGAIN THAT IS EDUCATION THAT IS GETTING OUT THERE AND RALLYING THE SUPPORT OF PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS WHO WANT TO APPLY THEN GETTING THEM TO APPLY WHICH IS ABOUT SIX MONTHS SO YOU CAN SEE

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HOW 12 TO 16 MONTHS CAN COME CAN EASILY BE MET AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST THAT I REALLY REALLY WANT TO EMPHASIZE IS THAT SNAP RECIPIENTS WHO PARTICIPATE WHO ARE ELIGIBLE WHICH ARE ELDERLY DISABLED AS WELL AS THE HOMELESS WILL NOT GET ANY MORE SNAP DOLLARS SO FOR EXAMPLE IF I'M ALREADY GETTING \$500 THE USE OF THEIR SNAP CARD WILL DECREASE WHETHER THEY USE IT AT THE GROCERY SIDE OF THE HOUSE OR THE HOT FOOD OR A RESTAURANT SO WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT EDUCATION IS REALLY REALLY OUT THERE BECAUSE AS YOU KNOW WHEN YOU EAT OUT SOMETIMES IT COSTS A LITTLE BIT IT COSTS MORE THAN PREPARING FOOD AND SO WE WANT TO JUST MAKE SURE THAT THE ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS ARE REALLY COGNIZANT OF THAT SO FOR EXAMPLE THEY CAN GO TO TOWN AND GO TO THE RESTAURANTS PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS IN THE BEGINNING OF THE MONTH BUT THEN BE VERY VULNERABLE AT THE END OF THE MONTH BECAUSE THEY'RE THEY'VE USED THEIR DOLLARS MAYBE MORE OFTEN THAN THEY SHOULD AT PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS AND BALANCING THAT IS REALLY REALLY NECESSARY SO AGAIN WE FULLY SUPPORT THE BILL BUT WE NEED TO ADD THESE CONSIDERATIONS WHEN WE LOOK AT PASSING THE LAW OR THE BILL INTO LAW THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM IS MORE THAN JUST A POLICY CHANGE IT IS A CRUCIAL STEP TOWARDS ENSURING FOOD SECURITY FOR OUR MOST VULNERABLE RESIDENTS WHILE SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES AND FOSTERING COMMUNITY WELL-BEING BY EXPANDING ACCESS TO PREPARED MEALS WE CAN CREATE A MORE INCLUSIVE SUPPORTIVE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FRAMEWORK THAT ALIGNS WITH OUR CORE VALUES OF DIGNITY HEALTH AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY WE URGE SENATORS TO CONSIDER BILL 78 38 AS A MEANINGFUL INVESTMENT IN THE WELL-BEING OF OUR COMMUNITY THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION I HAVE BROUGHT WITH ME THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC WELFARE'S CHIEF AS WELL AS OUR STAFF ADMINISTRATOR CHRISTINE SAN NICOLAS HERE AND WE ARE OPEN TO DISCUSSION AND FURTHER MARKUP OF THE BILL THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Dena Rendon Pangelinan, President - Guam Women's Chamber of Commerce:

BUENAS AND HABA ADAI MADAME CHAIR MATANANE AND SENATOR CALVO AND ALL HONORABLE SENATORS OF THE 38TH LEGISLATIVE OF GUAM THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HAVING US HERE MY NAME IS DENA RENDON-PANGELINAN AND I AM THE PRESIDENT WITH THE GUAM WOMEN'S CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ON BEHALF OF THE GWCC WE WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT THIS TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF BILL NUMBER 78-38 THE MEALS FOR AT RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025 AS A BUSINESS ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION COMMITTED TO ADVANCING OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN IN BUSINESS ON GUAM PROMOTING INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE

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RESILIENT LOCAL ECONOMY THE GUAM WOMEN'S CHAMBER BELIEVES THIS LEGISLATION IS A TIMELY AND FORWARD THINKING POLICY SOLUTION THIS BILL NOT ONLY ENHANCES ACCESS TO FOOD FOR VULNERABLE RESIDENTS ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO ARE UNHOUSED ELDERLY AND DISABLED AS MENTIONED BUT ALSO OPENS THE DOORS FOR GUAM'S FOOD SERVICE SECTOR PARTICULARLY SMALL LOCAL WOMEN-OWNED AND FAMILY RUN RESTAURANTS TO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN PUBLIC HEALTH AND COMMUNITY WELL-BEING WHILE GROWING THEIR BUSINESSES HERE LOCALLY THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM IMPLEMENTED SUCCESSFULLY IN OTHER JURISDICTIONS REPRESENTS AN INNOVATIVE INTERSECTION OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BY ALLOWING ELIGIBLE SNAP RECIPIENTS TO USE THEIR BENEFITS AT PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS OFFERING LOW-COST NUTRITION MEALS THIS LEGISLATION ACTIVATES UNDERUTILIZED FEDERAL DOLLARS ALREADY CIRCULATING IN OUR COMMUNITY AND PUTS THEM TO USE IN A WAY THAT CAN GENERATE MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC ACTIVITY PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS MANY OF WHICH ARE SMALL AND LOCALLY OWNED WILL BENEFIT FROM A NEW REVENUE STREAM WHILE CONTRIBUTING TO AN ESSENTIAL PUBLIC GOOD IN DOING SO THEY BUILD BRAND LOYALTY EXPAND THEIR CUSTOMER BASE AND POSITION THEMSELVES AS CHAMPIONS OF SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALL VALUES THAT ALIGN WITH THE GUAM WOMEN'S CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE BUSINESS PRACTICES AS A PART OF IMPLEMENTATION WE ALSO URGED THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES TO ENSURE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO THE PROGRAM FOR SMALL BUSINESSES THROUGH SIMPLE ESTABLISHMENT REGISTRATION PROCESS WITH DPHSS AND ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION WILL BE VERY CRITICAL PARTICULARLY FOR BUSINESSES THAT ARE NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE EBT SYSTEM OR THE SNAP BENEFITS AND ELIGIBILITY SO THE GUAM WOMEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BELIEVES THIS BILL IS MORE THAN A SOCIAL SAFETY NET IT'S AN ECONOMIC CATALYST IT REFLECTS A COMMITMENT TO SMART POLICY ROOTED IN COMPASSION DIGNITY AND OPPORTUNITY WE WANT TO SINCERE SINCERELY THANK SENATOR SHELLY CALVO FOR HER LEADERSHIP ON THIS MEASURE AND WE STAND BY READY TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION IN WAYS THAT UPLIFT OUR COMMUNITY AND STRENGTHEN GUAM'S BUSINESS ECOSYSTEM THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane, Committee Chairperson: THANK YOU WE WILL NOW OPEN THE FLOOR FOR QUESTIONS FROM MY COLLEAGUES BEGINNING WITH THE AUTHOR OF THE LEGISLATION SENATOR CALVO

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Senator Shelly V. Calvo, Committee Member: THANK YOU SI YU’OS MA’ASE FOR ALL YOUR POSITIVE REMARKS AND SUPPORT TO THIS BILL I TRULY LOOK FORWARD FOR THE SUPPORT OF ALL MY COLLEAGUES HERE AND I REALLY I HAVE A LONG LIST OF QUESTIONS BUT WHAT I LOOK FORWARD TO IS A WORK SESSION WITH DPHSS PUBLIC HEALTH SO WE CAN IRON OUT ALL THE KINKS AND IMPLEMENT ROLL OUT THIS RMP SMOOTHLY AND YOU DIRECTOR THERESE HAVE ACTUALLY ADDRESSED SOME OF THE MY QUESTIONS WITH YOUR TESTIMONY I JUST REALLY WANT TO THANK EVERYONE IN THE PANEL FOR AN INCREDIBLE SUPPORT TO THIS TO THIS BILL AND I'M AT THIS POINT I'M GOING TO YIELD TO MY COLLEAGUES FOR QUESTIONS AND THANK YOU SO MUCH MADAM CHAIR

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane, Committee Chairperson: VICE CHAIR SENATOR ADA

Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada, Committee Vice Chairperson: THANK YOU MADAM CHAIR AND THANK YOU TO THE PANEL FOR COMING DOWN AND TESTIFYING IN FAVOR OF THIS LEGISLATION AND I THINK IT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO KNOW THAT YOU KNOW IT'S THESE TYPES OF LEGISLATIONS THAT HAVE IMPACTS ON FAMILIES AND THE ABILITY FOR SOMEONE TO HAVE A WARM MEAL IT JUST REMINDS ME OF THESE PAST SEVERAL SUNDAYS WHERE FAMILY WAS FEEDING THE HOMELESS AT THE PARK AND HAD THIS BEEN IMPLEMENTED YEARS AGO PERHAPS THEY WOULD BEEN ABLE TO HAVE A MEAL SOMEWHERE ELSE THE KAMALEN KARIDOT DOESN'T FEED ON SUNDAYS SO THE MEAL THAT IS PROVIDED TO THOSE THAT BY THE PARK AREA THIS FAMILY THAT COMES OUT AND PROVIDES THAT MEAL THAT'S THEIR ONLY MEAL FOR THE WHOLE DAY SO SEEING THIS PIECE OF LEGISLATION BEFORE US AND HOPEFULLY THAT YOU KNOW DIRECTOR ARRIOLA JUST SAID THAT'S GOING TO TAKE ABOUT NINE PERHAPS MAYBE 12 MONTHS TO GET IT IMPLEMENTED AND STARTED AND WE BETTER GET MOVING AND GET THIS BILL PASSED SO THAT WE CAN GET IT GET THE WHEELS TURNING AND HOPEFULLY BY THE NEXT 9 TO 12 MONTHS WE CAN ACTUALLY HAVE PROGRESS AND GET PEOPLE TO HAVE THAT THAT MEAL THAT THEY'RE LOOKING FOR AND YOU KNOW I KNOW WHAT MR DRILON WAS TALKING ABOUT WHERE YOU KNOW YOU SAY EBT ACCEPTED HERE AND PROBABLY PERHAPS MAYBE WHEN THE RMP IS ROLLED OUT THAT IT SAY RMP ACCEPTED HERE VERSUS EBT RIGHT AND THEN PEOPLE WOULD KNOW EXACTLY HOW WOULD THEY BE ABLE TO GO AHEAD MISS ARRIOLA

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: VICE SPEAKER I THINK YOU SAID IT BEST YOU KNOW WHEN WE BEGIN A ANYTHING NEW IT REALLY IS ABOUT EDUCATING EDUCATION CAROL MENTIONED THAT I THINK EVERYBODY ON THE PANEL MENTIONED IT AND YES IT NEEDS TO BE VERY

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CLEAR THAT THERE'S ONLY CERTAIN ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS OF SNAP THAT ARE GOING TO BE ABLE TO AVAIL THEMSELVES TO THIS AND THAT REALLY IS THE MOST VULNERABLE OF THE VULNERABLE AND SO AND I'M REMINDED BY MY NOTES FROM MY STAFF THAT EVEN THE WORLD WORD ELDERLY NOT ALL ELDERLY ARE GOING TO BE ELIGIBLE IT'S ONLY ELDERLY THAT CANNOT COOK FROM THEMSELVES SO IF I'M AN ELDERLY SNAP RECIPIENT LIVING IN MY WONDERFUL CHILDREN'S HOME I'M NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO AVAIL THEM BUT LOOK AT THE NUMBERS I GAVE YOU THERE'S MORE THAN ENOUGH PEOPLE THE MOST VULNERABLE THE VULNERABLE THAT CAN TAKE PART IN THIS SO YES EDUCATION IS SO VERY IMPORTANT AND SO WHETHER IT'S A DIFFERENT STICKER OR EBT AND A SEPARATE STICKER THAT SAYS EBT RESTAURANT WHATEVER WE NEED TO DO TO MAKE IT VERY CLEAR BECAUSE WHAT WE ALSO WANT IS FOR THOSE RESTAURANTS OR GROCERS THAT PARTICIPATE OR OPT IN WE WANT THEM TO SUCCEED WE DO NOT WANT THEM TO BE FINED OR PENALIZED BECAUSE OF SOME AMBIGUITY ON THE IMPLEMENTATION SO WE WANT PEOPLE TO SUCCEED WE WANT BUSINESSES TO SUCCEED SO EDUCATION IS A BIG COMPONENT

Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada, Committee Vice Chairperson: YEAH DEFINITELY AND THANK YOU ALL FOR THE DIFFERENT PROFESSIONS THAT YOU GUYS REPRESENT HERE BUT YET ALL FOR THE COMMON DENOMINATOR AND THAT'S FOR OUR PEOPLE THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO WE TRULY APPRECIATE YOU THAT'S THE ONLY QUESTION COMMENTS THAT I HAVE MADAM CHAIR THANK YOU AGAIN

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane, Committee Chairperson: THANK YOU SENATOR ADA BEFORE WE GET TO SENATOR GUMATAOTAO I DID HAVE SOME A QUESTION THAT I WANTED TO ASK IT'S IT DEALS PRIMARILY WITH THE CAPACITY OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO ROLL OUT THIS PROGRAM BECAUSE YOU KNOW WE MET JUST LAST WEEK THERESA AND FRANCINE AND CHRISTINE ABOUT MY CONCERNS AND THE CONCERNS OF USDA AND FNS WHEN IT COMES TO THE APPLICATION TIMELINES AND THE RECERTIFICATION TIMELINES AND WHETHER PUBLIC HEALTH IS MEETING THE 30-DAY FEDERAL REQUIREMENT AND JUST LAST WEEK WE HAD A MEETING WITH CONGRESSMAN MOYLAN AND THE LAST RATES THAT WERE PUBLISHED ON THE USDA WEBSITE WAS FOR 2023 BUT THE UPDATE THAT WE GOT FROM CONGRESSMAN MOYLAN LAST WEEK WAS THAT PUBLIC HEALTH WAS LAST IN TERMS OF RATING FOR THE APPLICATIONS AND THE RECERTIFICATION SO THAT IS REALLY CONCERNING AND THIS IS SUCH A WORTHWHILE PROGRAM AND I STAND 110% BEHIND IT SO I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE IF THIS IS ROLLED OUT IF PUBLIC HEALTH IS GOING TO BE ABLE TO IMPLEMENT THIS

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Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services:

THANK YOU THANK YOU SENATOR YES AND WE APPRECIATE THAT THAT MEETING THAT WE HAD LAST WEEK YES BECAUSE OF THE CONCERNS WITH FNS THAT HAS BEEN SHARED WITH US THAT WE NEED TO TIGHTEN OUR TIMELINESS WE ARE DEFINITELY DOING THAT AND THAT IN ITSELF CAN BE A WHOLE DIFFERENT CONVERSATION I WE CAN SHARE WITH YOU ALL THE THINGS THAT WE'RE DOING IN SCRUBBING THE DATA BECAUSE THE DATA IS WHERE THE MISINTERPRETATION MIGHT BE LIKE WHAT REALLY WHAT IS LATE BUT THAT IS A TOTALLY DIFFERENT SUBJECT BUT I WANT TO REASSURE THE HEALTH COMMITTEE THAT WE TAKE THE CONCERNS OF FNS AND OUR STANDING ON TIMELINESS FOR EVERY FOR EVERY APPLICANT VERY SERIOUSLY AND WE ARE NOT WE ARE WORKING WITH FNS ON A WEEKLY IF NOT DAILY BASIS AND SO THEY KNOW THE PROGRESS WE'RE MAKING THEY ACKNOWLEDGE THE PROGRESS WE'RE MAKING AND I THINK YOU'RE GOING TO SEE SOME INCREDIBLE CHANGES IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE WITH REGARDS TO CAPACITY TO ROLL THIS PROGRAM OUT I EMPHASIZE THE FACT THAT CURRENTLY WE DON'T HAVE STAFF THAT COULD BE DEDICATED STRICTLY FOR THIS PROGRAM AND THAT'S WHY I EMPHASIZED THAT FNS WAS VERY CLEAR TO US WHEN WE HAD OUR INFORMATIONAL MEETING THAT I CALLED FOR THAT WE WILL NOT BE GETTING ANY MORE DOLLARS ADMINISTRATIVE DOLLARS TO STAND THIS UP THIS WOULD BE LIKE EVERY OTHER JURISDICTION THE NINE THAT HAS IS LOCAL COMMITMENT AND INPUT AND LOCAL DOLLARS AND SO WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO SIT DOWN WITH THE GOOD SENATOR AND DETERMINE JUST HOW MANY EDUCATION HOW MANY EDUCATORS DO WE NEED OUT THERE HOW MANY RESTAURANT YOU KNOW TO GO OUT AND RECRUIT RESTAURANTS SO IT'S EQUITABLE LARGE TO SMALL MOM AND POPS EVERYBODY WE DON'T WANT TO WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERYBODY WHO HAS A BUSINESS LICENSE THAT FEEDS AND IS ABLE TO IF THEY WANT TO SO WE GOT TO GET THAT EDUCATION OUT TO EVERY BUSINESS OWNER THAT HAS A BUSINESS LICENSE ON GUAM THAT THAT CAN PROVIDE MEALS AND THEN THE NUTRITIONAL VALUE NOT IT'S NOT ONE OF THESE YOU KNOW CAROL I GIGGLED A LITTLE BIT WHEN CAROL FIRST SPOKE BECAUSE YES THERE IS A VERY BIG MISUNDERSTANDING THAT WE NEED TO CURB RIGHT NOW AND THAT IS NOT EVERYBODY CAN TAKE THEIR SNAP CARD AND GO TO A RESTAURANT AND PAY LIKE A CREDIT CARD FOR THE ENTIRE TABLE NO IT'S VERY SPECIFIC VERY SPECIFIC PROGRAM THE ELIGIBLE THE ELIGIBLE APPLICANT OR RECIPIENT OF SNAP AND THEIR SPOUSE THAT DON'T HAVE THE ABILITY TO COOK SO TWO ELDERLY THAT MAYBE HAVE SOME MAYBE DISABILITY DEFINITELY HOMELESS THEY DON'T HAVE A HOME A KITCHEN AND DISABILITY PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY

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AS WELL BECAUSE THEY MIGHT HAVE A PHYSICAL DISABILITY THAT PREVENTS THEM FROM COOKING EVERY MEAL SO IT REALLY HAS TO BE MADE CLEAR THAT THIS IS NOT A CREDIT CARD THAT PEOPLE CAN GO TO ANY RESTAURANT AND CHARGE AND PAY FOR THEIR ENTIRE FAMILY IF THEY'RE GOING TO USE THAT CREDIT CARD AND THEY GO TO AN YOU KNOW ANY RESTAURANT HERE RESTAURANT A THAT THE INDIVIDUAL WHO'S ELDERLY AND IS A QUALIFIED RECIPIENT FOR THE RESTAURANT PROGRAM WILL BE ABLE TO PAY FOR THEIR MEAL AND THEIR SPOUSE SEPARATELY WITH THEIR CARD WHILE THE REST OF THE FAMILY TAKES CARE OF IT HOWEVER THEY CASH OR THEIR OWN CREDIT CARD BUT AGAIN VERY SPECIFIC ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS BECAUSE THIS IS SUCH A WONDERFUL PROGRAM IS I SAID WE NEED TO GET FNS ON BOARD I NEED TO HEAR WHAT THE CHALLENGES ARE BECAUSE THERE ARE MANY CHALLENGES AND SOME OF THOSE CHALLENGES ARE EDUCATIONAL CHALLENGES WITH EVEN THE RESTAURANT THEMSELVES RESTAURANT ALLOWING CERTAIN CHARGES IT COULD AND I JUST WANT TO POINT OUT AND I I'M SORRY BECAUSE THIS IS SO IMPORTANT THE PLAN ITSELF THAT WE NEED TO PUT TOGETHER AFTER THE LEGISLATION IS PASSED HAS TO BE APPROVED BY FNS SO FNS IS REALLY WITH US EVERY STEP OF THE WAY SO THE BILL GETS PASSED GOVERNOR SIGNS IT WE NEED TO PUT A PLAN TOGETHER HOW ARE WE GOING TO ENSURE MISUSE FRAUD WASTE AND ABUSE DOESN'T HAPPEN HOW ARE WE GOING TO REACH OUT TO MAKE SURE I'M GOING TO TALK ABOUT PARTNERSHIPS WITH THE GUAM CHAMBER OF WOMAN GUAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE THE WOMEN'S CHAMBER OF COMMERCE I'M GOING TO HAVE TO ENSURE FNS THAT WE'RE GOING TO WE'RE NOT DISCRIMINATING ANY POSSIBLE PARTICIPANT WHETHER IT'S THE PERSON ENJOYING THE BENEFIT OR THE RESTAURANT OR GROCER WHO HAS HOT FOOD SO THAT'S REALLY IMPORTANT IT'S THE APPROVAL PROCESS AND MAKE AND ENSURING THAT WE'RE DOING THIS REALLY TIGHT SO THAT THERE ARE NOT A LOT OF LEAKS AND MISUSE IN AS THINGS MOVE FORWARD SO I HOPE SENATOR SABRINA THAT HAS ANSWERED YOUR QUESTION I'M VERY COGNIZANT OF THE APPROVAL PROCESS THEY ACTUALLY MADE IT VERY CLEAR TO ME SEVERAL TIMES YOU CAN'T JUST GO OUT THERESE AND IMPLEMENT THIS YOU NEED YOU NEED TO GIVE ME YOUR PLAN AND THEY NEED TO COME BACK TO US SO I HEARD THAT LOUD AND CLEAR AT LEAST THREE TIME THREE TIMES RIGHT LADIES SO I SAID OKAY WE GET IT SO THANK YOU DIRECTOR ARIOLA SENATOR CALVO

Senator Shelly V. Calvo, Committee Member: OH YES JUST TO ADD TO WHAT DIRECTOR THERESE WAS SAYING EARLIER ABOUT THE USAGE OF THE EBT CARD IT'S NOT LIKE THEY CAN JUST GO TO ANY RESTAURANTS AND ORDER ACROSS THE BOARD WITH THE MENU PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO

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OFFER DISCOUNTED NUTRITIONAL MEAL SO THAT ALSO IS A CONCERN FOR DISID WHEN IT COMES TO LIKE MEALS THAT ARE NOT UNHEALTHY MEALS RIGHT SO THAT ALSO ADDRESSES THE CONCERN OF THE MISUSE OF THE CARD SO IT WILL BE DISCOUNTED AND THAT WOULD BE THE PART OF OUR DISCUSSION PROCESS AND LIKE WE MENTIONED EARLIER THIS IS ALREADY ROLLED OUT IN PLACE IN OTHER PLACES LARGER PLACES SO I THINK BEING THAT THIS IS NOT A PILOT YOU KNOW SITUATION THEN WE CAN ACTUALLY TAKE INTO ACCOUNT HOW THE FRAMEWORK WAS FOLLOWED IN OTHER PLACES AND JUST FOR THE RECORD ALSO I WAS JUST WITH OUR MAGA'HAGA EARLIER THE GOVERNOR FULLY SUPPORTS THIS INITIATIVE AND SHE UNDERSTANDS VERY WELL THAT THIS IS IMPERATIVE FOR US TO ROLL OUT AND THIS AFFECTS OUR COMMUNITY PROFOUNDLY AND THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO SAY THANK YOU I LOOK FORWARD TO SIT DOWN WITH YOU DIRECTOR YES

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane, Committee Chairperson: THANK YOU SENATOR CALVO

Ruel Drilon, Support Services Administrator - Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities: MAY I ADD TO THAT MAY I ADD TO THAT AND YOU KNOW SO I JUST WANTED TO SAY THAT WHEN WE LOOK AT HOLISTICALLY THE IMPLEMENTATION AND THE DELIVERY OF THIS PROGRAM YOU KNOW THE ABILITY TO ROLL OUT A PROGRAM RIGHT FOR ME IS JUST KIND OF ONE HALF OF THE OF THE TIMELINE BECAUSE THE OTHER HALF IS YOU KNOW RELATED TO THE CHANGE OF PARADIGM FOR THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY RIGHT AND I THINK DIRECTOR ARRIOLA YOU KNOW SHE MENTIONED PARTNERSHIPS RIGHT AND I FEEL THAT THAT IS IT'S GOING TO TAKE PARTNERSHIPS REALLY TO YOU KNOW BECAUSE THE PROGRAM IS SO MAGNIFICENT RIGHT AND THERE AND IT'S SUCH A SUCH A CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIETY THAT IT REALLY IS GOING TO TAKE THE EFFORT TO HAVE A PARADIGM CHANGE A SHIFT IN PARADIGM IN THE WAY THAT WE VIEW VULNERABLE POPULATIONS RIGHT SO THAT THERE IS AN EQUAL KEEL WHEN WE LOOK AT INDIVIDUALS AND SAY THIS IS NOT NECESSARILY A NEEDS-BASED POLICY MORE THAN IT CAN BE A RIGHTS-BASED POLICY AND I THINK THAT IF WE KIND OF FRAME OUR MINDS AROUND THAT I THINK IT'LL BE IT MAKES FOR A BETTER PROGRAM SO THAT WHEN WE DO RUN INTO ISSUES THAT AT LEAST EVERYBODY IN THE COMMUNITY CAN REALLY UNDERSTAND THAT AND I JUST WANT TO MAKE A CLARIFICATION I KNOW WE TALKED ABOUT THE STATES THAT HAVE IMPLEMENTED THIS BUT I DO WANT TO POINT OUT THAT MICHIGAN IN 1990 DID STOP THE RMP PROGRAM BECAUSE OF THEY STOPPED IT FOR A WHILE FOR LIKE 17 YEARS ONLY BECAUSE OF YOU KNOW THE LACK OF NUTRITIONAL VALUE

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IN SOME OF THE YOU KNOW FOLKS ARE GOING TO THE JACK IN THE BOXES AND THEN SOME OF THE UNHEALTHIER PLACES AND SO WHEN WE THINK ABOUT THAT RIGHT WE LOOK AT IT IN THAT PERSPECTIVE ALSO WHEN SENATOR CALVO WAS TALKING ABOUT THE FRAMEWORK FOR OTHER PLACES WHERE THERE WERE SUCCESSES BUT ALSO TO LOOK AT THE AREAS WHERE STATES HAVE STEPPED BACK AND SAID OKAY HOLD ON MAYBE THIS IS NOT WHAT WE THOUGHT IT OUGHT TO BE REFRAME RIGHT DO A PRACTICE READJUST AND THEN IMPLEMENT SO I JUST WANTED TO POINT THAT OUT THANK YOU

Carol Hinkle Sanchez, Managing Attorney - Civil Law Center: CAN I ALSO JUST CHIME IN AS WELL I OH IT WAS ON THIS LEGISLATION IS REALLY CRITICAL AND CRUCIAL TO US BEING ABLE TO MOVE FORWARD IN ADOP IN IMPLEMENTING THIS TYPE OF PROGRAM ON GUAM IT'S LIKE THE FIRST STEP THE OTHER STEPS THAT YOU HEARD FROM DIRECTOR THERESE ARRIOLA AND FROM MR DRILON THOSE ARE THINGS THAT THIS LEGISLATION ALSO INCORPORATES IT SAYS THAT THEY'RE GOING TO DEVELOP POLICIES AND RULES AND REGULATIONS SO REALLY WHAT THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT ARE IS THE INTERNAL POLICIES RULES IDENTIFYING RESTAURANTS IDENTIFYING THE TYPES OF FOODS THAT CAN BE ADOPTED THROUGH THEIR RULES AND REG IT DOES NOT NEED TO BE A PART OF THE LEGISLATION THE LEGISLATION IS WHAT OPS GUAM INTO THIS PROGRAM THAT ALLOWS US TO TAKE THAT STEP FORWARD THAT'S WHAT IT DOES BECAUSE EACH JURISDICTION EACH STATE HAS THE ABILITY TO OPT IN OR OPT OUT IF THEY WANT TO DO IT THEY'LL DO IT AND THEN NOW IT'S GOING TO BE UP TO THEIR DEPARTMENT OR WHOEVER RUNS THEIR SNAP PROGRAM TO DEVELOP AND PROMULGATE RULES AND REGULATIONS TO ENSURE THAT THEY FALL WITHIN THE PARAMETERS OF WHATEVER FNS NEEDS WHETHER IT'S YOU KNOW THEY NEED THIS EQUIPMENT OR THEY WANT TO IDENTIFY CERTAIN RESTAURANTS AND CERTAIN FOODS SO THIS LEGISLATION WORKS IT NEEDS TO JUST MOVE FORWARD THE THINGS THAT WERE DISCUSSED THE ISSUES THAT WERE RAISED EARLY YOU KNOW WITH BETWEEN THE TWO THOSE CAN BE ADDRESSED THROUGH INTERNAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES AND THAT'S IS YOU KNOW IT CAN CHANGE THOSE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES CAN CHANGE THROUGH TIME BUT THE STATUTE ITSELF LEAVES THAT YOU KNOW TO THE DEPARTMENT THAT IS OF COURSE PUBLIC HEALTH THAT RUNS THE YOU KNOW RUNS THIS PARTICULAR PROGRAM TO DEVELOP THOSE POLICIES THAT ARE IN LINE AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AGRICULTURE ACT OF 2014 THAT YOU KNOW IMPLEMENTS THIS FOOD THIS RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM AND SO I MEAN YOU KNOW THOSE THINGS THAT ARE BEING DISCUSSED I KNOW YOU KNOW IT'S PROBABLY MAKING YOU THINK BUT THIS NEEDS TO HAPPEN BECAUSE THIS IS THE CRITICAL POINT FOR US TO BE

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ALLOWED TO MOVE FORWARD AND YOU KNOW EVERYTHING ELSE THAT WAS DISCUSSED CAN BE PUT THROUGH POLICIES AND PROCEDURES REALLY

Senator Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao, Committee Member: THANK YOU SENATOR GUMATAOTAO THANK YOU MADAM CHAIR JUST A COUPLE THINGS IF I COULD BBMR PROVIDED A FISCAL NOTE FOR THIS BILL STATING THAT SHOULD THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED THERE MAY BE THE POTENTIAL FOR INCREASED ECONOMIC ACTIVITY WHICH IN TURN WOULD PROVIDE ADDITIONAL REVENUE VIA THE BPT PAID BY VENDORS HOWEVER ABSENT PERTINENT INFORMATION FROM DPHSS TO INCLUDE THE NUMBER OF ANTICIPATED VENDORS PARTICIPATING IN THE RMP IN ADDITION TO THE NUMBER OF POTENTIAL RMP ELIGIBLE SNAP RECIPIENTS BBMR IS UNABLE TO DETERMINE THE FINANCIAL IMPACT AT THIS TIME ONE OF THE GREAT THINGS ABOUT THIS PUBLIC HEARING IS IT OFFERS GREAT INSIGHT INTO WHAT CAN BE A SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM FOR WHAT WOULD BE IN A SENSE THE 10TH U.S. JURISDICTION TO HAVE THIS PROGRAM I THINK I JUST WANTED TO GO OFF A LITTLE BIT FROM WHAT I PREPARED BUT YOU MENTIONED EARLIER ABOUT EDUCATION AND WHAT WOULD BE THE KEY WELL NEXT TO YOU THERESE ARE FIVE OF YOUR FIRST PARTNERS IN THE EDUCATION PROCESS WHICH I BELIEVE IS A GREAT FIRST STEP AS IN TERMS OF PUTTING THE PLAN TOGETHER I KNOW IT WON'T BE YOU IT'LL BE THOSE TWO IN THE BACK THAT HAVE TO IMPLEMENT THIS PLAN OR PUT IT TOGETHER BUT ONE OF THE GREAT THINGS AS CAROL MENTIONED WE NEED THE FIRST STEP AND THEN THIS STATUTE ACTUALLY CLEARLY IS THAT VERY FIRST STEP ALSO TO STICK WITH WHAT CAROL MENTIONED EARLIER WELL ACTUALLY LET ME GO BACKWARDS A BIT THE BBMR TALKED ABOUT IN ITS FISCAL NOTE SOME OF THE FIGURES IT WAS YOUR TESTIMONY THAT HAS ALL THE FIGURES AND I THINK THAT ALSO IS AN IMPORTANT FIRST STEP TO MAKING THIS BILL MOVE ALONG IN THIS LEGISLATIVE PROCESS BUT GOING BACK TO WHAT CAROL MENTIONED IS THAT IT IS IMPORTANT FOR WHAT SHE SEES AND WHAT OBVIOUSLY MISS TAITANO SEES AND WHAT STEVE SEES IN IN THEIR ROLES AND I THINK THAT'S KEY HERE ONCE WE CAN GET THIS THING THROUGH I'M HOPING THAT YOU'LL INCLUDE THEM AND CAN'T FORGET THE WOMEN'S CHAMBER BUT TO INCLUDE THEM AS PART OF THIS BIG PROCESS TO GET THIS PLAN PUT TOGETHER SOMETIMES I THINK WE DO PLANS AND THERE'S MANY TIMES THAT OUR FOLKS CAN AGREE THAT AT PUBLIC HEALTH THEY'RE ALONE IN THAT I WAS THINKING OF THERE'S MAYBE TWO OR THREE PEOPLE PERHAPS THAT COULD HELP BUT IT'S ALWAYS THEM BY THEMSELVES THIS CAN'T BE A JOURNEY THAT'S DONE BY THEMSELVES I THINK YOU HAVE A GOOD FIRST STEP WITH THESE PEOPLE HERE

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Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services:

THANK YOU SENATOR GUMATAOTAO TO FOR RECOGNIZING THAT THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC WELFARE BES THE SNAP PROGRAM IS DEFINITELY GOING TO TAKE PUT FEET TO THIS BILL AND THIS LAW THAT HOPEFULLY WILL BE PASSED AND THEN SIGNED INTO LAW AS GOVERNOR LEON GUERRERO IS VERY SUPPORTIVE OF IT BUT YOU KNOW MY BACKGROUND IS MARKETING SO IT'S ALL ABOUT THE MARKETING IT'S IF IT'S NOT SUCCESSFUL IN THE ONSET WE WILL GET WE WILL HAVE A LOT OF HICCUPS AND SO IN THE MARKETING AND THE EDUCATION IT'S NOT JUST THE MARKETING AND THE EDUCATION OF THEIR SNAP RECIPIENTS BUT ALSO CONSTANT PARTNERSHIP MEETINGS AND MAKING SURE THAT ARE WE IMPLEMENTING THE RESTAURANT PROGRAM RESTAURANT PARTICIPANTS HAVING THAT CONTINUOUS DIALOGUE AND NOT JUST HAVING IT IN THE BEGINNING OF THE OF THE PROGRAM AND THEN NEVER TALKING TO THEM AGAIN WE GOT TO ENSURE THAT BOTH THE RECIPIENTS WHO ARE PARTICIPATING AND THE RESTAURANT PROVIDERS WHO ARE PROVIDING WERE STILL VERY GERMANE TO THE TRUE INTENT OF FNS'S PURPOSE OR ELSE WE ARE GOING TO SEE UNINTENTIONALLY SOME FRAUD WASTE AND ABUSE BECAUSE PEOPLE GET RELAXED SO YOU KNOW ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE'RE BUILDING UP AT TO ANSWER SENATOR SALAS MATANANE'S CONCERN IS WE ARE REALLY TRYING TO BUILD UP OUR EVALUATION AND AUDITING DIVISION FOR THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC WELFARE TO ENSURE THAT THESE THINGS ARE REALLY IMPLEMENTED AND THE FIDELITY THE PROGRAM FIDELITY OF EVERY PROGRAM WE DO IS IMPLEMENTED IT IN THE RIGHT WAY THE WAY THE FUNDER EXPECTS US TO AND SO EDUCATION IS VERY KEY BECAUSE AS YOU KNOW WE CAN TELL SOMEBODY YOU MUST BE AN ELDERLY BUT THEN IT'S MORE THAN JUST THE ELDERLY IT'S NOT ALL ELDERLY ARE GOING TO BE ELIGIBLE IT'S ONLY ELDERLY AND THEIR SPOUSE WHO LIVE ALONE IF YOU'RE AN ELDERLY WHO ARE LIVING WITH WONDERFUL FAMILY MEMBERS THAT COOK MEALS FOR YOU YOU'RE NOT YOU WOULDN'T BE PART OF THAT ELIGIBILITY SO WE TEND TO FRAME THINGS IN BUCKETS BUT EVEN IN THOSE BUCKETS WE NEED TO DISSECT IT RIGHT SO ELDERLY WHO LIVE ALONE IS VERY DIFFERENT FROM ELDERLY BECAUSE WE ALL HAVE ELDERLY IN OUR FAMILY BUT NOT EVERYBODY CAN QUALIFY SO EDUCATION IS VERY IMPORTANT I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT THE THAT THE ECONOMIC STIMULUS THAT COMES OUT OF THIS BECAUSE IT WILL THAT THE RESTAURANTS CONTINUE FOR A LONG TIME TO BE IN THIS PROGRAM AND VERY SIMILAR TO YOU KNOW WHEN YOU LOOK AT A MENU I'M ALREADY THINKING LIKE VERY SIMILAR TO MENUS WHERE YOU SEE THE LEAVE OR YOU KNOW WHETHER IT'S VEGAN OR GLUTEN-FREE THERE MIGHT BE A LITTLE SYMBOL NEXT TO THAT SPECIFIC MENU ITEM THAT

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YOU KNOW PARTICIPANTS CAN CHOOSE FROM SO IT'S EASY BUT IT'S VERY MAINSTREAMED AND WE DON'T ISOLATE THEM IN THE DINING ROOM OR ANYWHERE ELSE

Senator Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao, Committee Member: GOT IT AND

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: VERY IMPORTANT TO ME

Senator Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao, Committee Member: OH NO EXACTLY AND WHEN YOU GOT TWO ATTORNEYS SITTING ON THIS PANEL I'M HOPING THAT THEY'RE GOING TO HELP IN THE ASSISTING OF THIS PROCESS IN ADVANCE WHICH IS A HOLD ON WHICH IS A QUESTION TOWARDS THAT IS THAT IN THE IT SAYS THE USDA REQUIRES THAT RESTAURANTS PARTICIPATING IN THIS PROGRAM THEY HAVE TO HAVE A POINT OF SALE DEVICE THAT IS PROGRAMMED TO ACCEPT EBT SO RECOGNIZING THAT SOME RESTAURANTS INCLUDING THOSE WITH MENU ITEMS THAT ARE MORE ON THE AFFORDABLE END IF YOU WILL GENERALLY SPEAKING MAY NOT HAVE A POS DEVICE AS A WAY TO HELP KEEP ITEMS ACCESSIBLE TO THEIR CUSTOMERS IS THERE AN EXAMPLE THAT WE COULD LOOK TO IN ANY OF THE NINE PARTICIPATING STATES WHERE POS RELATED COSTS CAN BE SHARED AMONG PARTICIPATING RMP VENDORS ANYONE WANT TO TAKE A CRACK AT THAT

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: HERE'S A SUGGESTION PERHAPS THE CHAMBER CAN HELP

Senator Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao, Committee Member: SHE'S SITTING RIGHT NEXT TO YOU

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: I KNOW THAT'S WHY I SAID IT SO YOU KNOW THERE ARE GOING TO BE SMALL MOM AND POPS RIGHT THAT PROBABLY DON'T HAVE THE DEVICE IT'S EASIER FOR LIKE GROCERS WHO HAVE AS YOU GO UP YOU SEE YOU SEE THE TERMINAL THE LITTLE POINT OF SALE FOR SNAP AND YOU SEE THE ONE THAT'S NON-SNAP RIGHT BUT RESTAURANTS ARE GOING TO HAVE TO HAVE BOTH SO I THINK THE QUESTION IS THAT GOING TO BE A BURDEN FOR SOME OF THESE MAYBE SMALLER AND IT IS BECAUSE IT'S SOMETHING NEW AND SOMETHING NEW

Senator Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao, Committee Member: SO SPEAKING OF NEW LET'S GET THIS THING PASSED WE CAN GO INTO THAT

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Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services:

THERE'S PARTNERSHIPS IN THE ON THE TABLE HERE THERE'S WAYS TO SHARE THAT BURDEN TO STAND UP THIS PROGRAM

Senator Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao, Committee Member: YES AND WITH THAT SAID THERESA I JUST WANT TO ADD ONE LAST THING AND MADAM CHAIR FOR THE RECORD WHAT LIMITATIONS IF ANY DOES THE RMP IMPOSE ON NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION FOOD TRUCKS AND HOT DOG LIKE STANDUP OPERATIONS FOOD VENDORS LOCATED IN MILITARY INSTALLATIONS TO POSSIBLY INCLUDE WHAT WOULD BE A NAVAL HOSPITAL

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: OKAY PERHAPS ONE OF THE THINGS I SHOULD HAVE ADDED AS WELL IS FOOD TRUCKS CURRENTLY ARE NOT QUALIFIED FOR THIS PROGRAM THAT WAS MADE LOUD AND CLEAR TO ME FOR FNS

Senator Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao, Committee Member: BUT I THOUGHT IT WAS ALSO LOUD AND CLEAR THAT THIS ALSO A STATE PROGRAM SO WHY COULDN'T WE LOOK AT OPPORTUNITIES NO I KNOW YOU'RE SHAKING YOUR HEADS BACK THERE BUT WE'RE I'M LOOKING FOR OPPORTUNITIES BECAUSE NOT EVERYBODY CAN GO RIGHT TO THESE PLACES SO WE'RE JUST TRYING TO FIND WAYS IF WE CAN EITHER GENERATE MAYBE BPT REVENUE LOOKING AT WAYS TO GET FOOD TO PEOPLE I THINK THAT WAS THE KEY TO THE PROGRAM AND SO I KNOW I'M NOT CLOSING THE DOOR THIS POSSIBILITY

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: ONE OF THE ONE OF THE POSSIBILITIES AND WE NEED TO WORK THROUGH IT IS YOU KNOW YOU HAVE THESE GO GRAB APPLICATIONS YOU KNOW APPS YOU KNOW I WOULD LOVE TO HAVE AN ELDERLY LEARN HOW TO ORDER HOT MEALS FROM REGISTERED RESTAURANTS AND HAVE IT DELIVERED TO THEM BECAUSE ONE THEY'RE ELDERLY THEY PROBABLY DON'T HAVE A RIDE MANY THINGS RIGHT BUT WE NEED TO WORK THROUGH THAT PROCESS YOU KNOW THERE'S A WELL THERE'S A WAY WE CAN FIGURE OUT YES IT'S A COST BUT CAN WE FIGURE OUT WHO'S GOING TO PAY FOR THAT COST MAYBE SOMEBODY IN MY FRIENDS HERE IN MY PANEL CAN FIGURE OUT HOW DO WE OFFSET THOSE COSTS WE CAN FIGURE THINGS OUT

Senator Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao, Committee Member: ALL RIGHT WELL THANK YOU SO MUCH AND THAT'S ALL I HAVE MADAM CHAIR THANK YOU VERY MUCH AND YEAH THANK YOU

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Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane, Committee Chairperson: THANK YOU SENATOR GUMATAOTAO SENATOR TERLAJE

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: SI YU’OS MA’ASE MADAM CHAIR AND TO ALL OF YOU TESTIFYING THANK YOU FOR YOUR TESTIMONY AND I’M GLAD YOU CLARIFIED DIRECTOR BECAUSE WHEN YOU FIRST SAID THAT THIS PROGRAM WILL BE ENTIRELY ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING I WAS LIKE WHAT DO YOU MEAN SO YOU MEAN THE TO SET IT UP RIGHT WE’RE TALKING ABOUT TO SET IT UP BUT OTHERWISE WE’RE GOING THEY’RE GOING TO BE ABLE TO USE THEIR EXISTING SNAP BENEFITS OR WHATEVER THEY’RE ELIGIBLE FOR

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: YES

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: ALL RIGHT AND HAS THAT BECOME A CONCERN IN ANY OF THE JURISDICTIONS I’M PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE GUAM HOMELESS COALITION IF YOU HAVE ANY DATA FROM OTHER PLACES OR WHETHER THAT HAS BECOME A CONCERN WHERE THE DIRECTOR SAID THAT AT THE END OF THE MONTH THEY MIGHT BECOME MORE VULNERABLE

Samantha Taitano, Member - Guam Homeless Coalition: I DON’T HAVE DATA SPECIFICALLY FROM OTHER JURISDICTIONS ABOUT THE RMP PROGRAM BUT I THINK THAT WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT WITH REGULAR SNAP BENEFITS THAT THAT CAN ALSO STILL BE A CONCERN

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: WE’RE SEEING THAT RIGHT NOW VERY MUCH SO THAT’S I WAS THINKING I DON’T KNOW AND MAYBE I’M NOT GOING TO GUESS THEN PUBLIC HEALTH HAS NOT IMPLEMENTED THIS BEFORE HAVE THEY CONSIDERED IT AND RULED IT OUT FOR ANY REASON

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: NOT TO MY KNOWLEDGE I’M I DON’T THINK IT WAS UNLESS THE LADIES KNOW SOME HISTORY YOU WANT TO COME UP I’M NOT AWARE YOU KNOW AGAIN IF THERE IS ANY REASON THAT THEY DIDN’T CONSIDER IT IS PROBABLY BECAUSE IT WOULD COST MORE THE RESOURCES ARE NOT THERE IT’S HAD TO BE LOCALLY FUNDED BUT OTHER THAN THAT I’M NOT SURE WHAT ELSE SO

Francine Salas, Chief Human Services Administrator - Department of Public Health and Social Services: HI MY NAME IS FRANCINE SALAS I AM THE CHIEF HUMAN SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR WITH THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC WELFARE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES IT’S I’M NEW TO THE DIVISION BUT AT THE SAME TOKEN IT WAS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THERE IS A

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PLAN THERE WAS A PLAN IN PLACE TO IMPLEMENT AND I WOULD THINK THAT THERE WERE LOOKING AT IT MAYBE A YEAR OR SO AGO MAYBE A COUPLE YEARS AGO AND THINGS TOOK PLACE THAT WERE BEYOND OUR CONTROL LIKE TYPHOON MAWAR AND DSNAP AND ALL THESE AND COVID AND ALL THESE THINGS THAT DIDN'T QUITE WORK WITH WHAT OUR TIMELINE IS AND SO WE'RE SHIFTING BACK TO NORMALCY BUT AT THE SAME TOKEN WITH THE 2024 APPROVAL FOR COFA MIGRANTS AVAILING OF SNAP BENEFITS YOU ARE ALSO GOING TO SEE THIS INFLUX AS WELL SO I WE MIGHT IT MIGHT BE GREAT BECAUSE WE'RE GOING TO BE ABLE TO HAVE MIGRANTS WHO WERE NOT ELIGIBLE BEFORE NOW GREAT-GRANDPARENTS GRANDPARENTS LIVING ON THEIR OWN KIDS ARE GROWN AND GONE AVAILING OF THE RMP PROGRAM WHICH WOULD BE AMAZING BUT AT THE SAME TOKEN INITIALLY WHEN TALKING WITH MY TEAM ABOUT IT THEY HAD SAID WELL COMFORTABLY IT WOULD TAKE ABOUT INTERNALLY TWO YEARS TO GO TO FRUITION AND REALLY WHEN WE SPOKE TO FNS WE BECAME I WAS LIKE THIS THIS MAKES SENSE NOW BECAUSE IF FNS IS TELLING US EVERY POTENTIAL RESTAURANT WOULD HAVE TO APPLY DIRECTLY WITH THEM THROUGH PAPER THROUGH SNAIL MAIL LIKE IT'S THEY'RE LIKE AND I DON'T KNOW WHERE IT FALLS ON THEIR PRIORITY LIST AS WELL SO THERE WOULD BE SOME OTHER THINGS I THINK THAT WOULD BE CHALLENGING TO GET THESE RESTAURANTS ON BOARD WITH FNS BECAUSE JUST SO YOU KNOW WHEN IT COMES TO THE RETAIL THE GROCERY STORE THE MOM AND POP STORE EVERY ONE OF THOSE STORES THAT ACCEPT EBT AND SNAP BENEFITS ARE ALL APPROVED AND APPLIED DIRECTLY WITH FNS WE HAVE ACTUALLY NO AUTHORITY TO APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE ANY SORT OF ESTABLISHMENT OR BUSINESS RIGHT SO BUT WHAT IT CALLS INTO QUESTION IF THIS PROGRAM WERE TO BE IMPLEMENTED IS ONE THING WE NEED TO THINK ABOUT IS FRAUD WASTE AND ABUSE AND THAT WOULD ADD TO THE WORKLOAD OF OUR BUREAU OF MANAGEMENT SUPPORT TO BASICALLY LOOK AT THESE VENDORS AND WHAT THEIR PRODUCTION IS AND THERE MAY BE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS I KNOW WE'RE TRYING TO LIAISE WITH THE STATE OF ARIZONA TO SEE HOW THESE PROGRAMS ARE IMPLEMENTED AND WHAT KIND OF BARRIERS THEY'VE COME ACROSS OF COURSE CALIFORNIA IS KIND OF LIKE THE GOLD STANDARD BECAUSE THEY HAVE QUITE A BIT OF MONEY AND THEY HAVE A CAL-FRESH PROGRAM BUT I'M NOT EXACTLY SURE I MEAN IT'S THEY GOT A GREAT WEBSITE AND EVERYTHING BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT TYPE OF BARRIERS OR HICCUPS THEY FACE ON THEIR END SO IT'S JUST ONE OF THOSE THINGS WHERE WE HAVE TO SEE SOME A PARTICULAR MARKET THAT IS SIMILAR TO OURS THAT WILL WORK IN THE SAME CAPACITY

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Senator Therese M. Terlaje: THANK YOU DO YOU ALL RIGHT SO WE'RE ESTIMATING 400,000 TO DO THE THINGS THAT ARE REQUIRED BEFORE PUTTING IN THIS PROGRAM BETWEEN A YEAR TO TWO YEARS COMFORTABLY OR BUT IT SOUNDS LIKE A GREAT PROGRAM AS LONG AS THERE'S NOT A RISK THAT THIS PRO ENTERING INTO THIS PROGRAM IS GOING TO DECREASE OUR FLEXIBILITY FROM INCREASING ELIGIBILITY FOR SNAP IN GENERAL SO THOSE

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: NO NOT AT ALL SENATOR

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: OKAY THAT'S WHAT I WANTED TO MAKE SURE

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: IT'S A PROGRAM UNDER SNAP SO IT'S NOT ONE OR THE OTHER AND IT WON'T JEOPARDIZE ANY ELIGIBILITY OR ENROLLMENT OF REGULAR SNAP

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: OKAY AND THEN YOU'LL BE MAKING RULES FOR THE ELIGIBILITY AND HOW THEY'RE GOING TO EVERYONE WILL BE

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: DEFINED

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: APPROVED THE IT SAYS FOR APPROVAL PROCESS FOR RESTAURANTS BUT SOMEONE SAID FNS APPROVES THE RESTAURANTS DIRECTLY

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: CORRECT

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: THINGS LIKE THAT I GUESS HOW YOU SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION YOU'RE GOING TO TELL THEM HOW TO DO THAT I WOULD RECOMMEND MADAM CHAIR THAT THIS BE PURSUANT TO THE TRIPLE A PROCESS DO YOU HAVE ANY OBJECTION TO THAT DIRECTOR THAT THE RULES BE CREATED PURSUANT TO THE TRIPLE A OR ARE THESE GOING TO BE FM FNS

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: WE WOULD HAVE TO WE WOULD SEND EVERYTHING TO FNS AND THEY WOULD APPROVE OUR ABILITY TO GET ONTO THE PROGRAM

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: OKAY

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: NONE OF THE APPROVAL IS ON A LOCAL LEVEL IT'S ALL HAS TO BE APPROVED THE PLAN HAS TO

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Senator Therese M. Terlaje: THIS BILLS AUTHORIZING IT AND AUTHORIZING REGULATIONS BE ADOPTED SO I GUESS JUST FOR ALL VENDORS OR ALL RESTAURANTS TO KNOW THE SAME RULES AS WELL AS APPLICANTS AND THEN THOSE WHO ARE ELIGIBLE SO YOU'RE GOING TO DETERMINE WHO'S ELIGIBLE AND YOU'VE ALREADY SAID IT'S GOING TO BE NOT JUST ELDERLY BUT ELDERLY WHO LIVE ALONE LIVE ALONE AND ELDERLY AND DO NOT HAVE A PLACE TO STORE AND COOK FOOD IS THAT A REQUIREMENT

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: YES

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: SO THIS PART B IS GOING TO BE MANDATORY DO NOT HAVE A PLACE TO STORE AND COOK FOOD NOT ABLE TO PREPARE FOOD OR DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO A GROCERY STORE

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: WELL FNS IS VERY CLEAR AND THEIR DEFINITION WE DIDN'T PUT THE DEFINITION BUT WE DON'T NEED TO DEFINE IT THEY'VE DEFINED IT VERY CLEARLY

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: YOU MEAN EACH OF THESE THEY'VE DEFINED

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: VERY CLEARLY

Carol Hinkle Sanchez, Managing Attorney - Civil Law Center: SENATOR SO THEY ACTUALLY HAVE CRITERIAS AND THEY ALSO DEFINE WHAT QUALIFIES AS INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES NORMALLY THEIR PERSON'S BEING PAID OUT OF THE DISABILITY BUT THEY HAVE CERTAIN CRITERIAS UNDER THE FNS GUIDELINES SO IT'S 60 AND OLDER INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES AND THEN

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: THE ONLY REASON I'M ASKING IS BECAUSE B DOESN'T SAY SHALL IT JUST SAYS THE PURPOSE IS TO EXPAND TO THESE CATEGORIES AS OPPOSED TO THESE ARE MANDATORY ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS RIGHT WHEREAS C IT OR THE OTHER ONES D IT IS MANDATORY THAT YOU HAVE TO BE ONE OF THOSE CATEGORIES

Carol Hinkle Sanchez, Managing Attorney - Civil Law Center: SO YOU HAVE TO YES SO WHAT HAPPENS AS SHE MENTIONED EARLIER IS YOU HAVE ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS ACTUALLY HAVE TO ALSO QUALIFY TO BE ELIGIBLE SO I THINK IT'S FEDERALLY DEFINED

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Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: IT REALLY IS FEDERALLY DEFINED AND AS WE WORK WITH THE AUTHOR WE WILL SHARE THOSE INFINITE DEFINITIONS

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: WELL THEN THE RULES AND REGULATIONS SHOULD BE ABLE TO BE DETERMINED EASILY

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: EXACTLY BECAUSE IT'S GOING TO COME FROM FNS DIRECTLY

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: ALL RIGHT AND THEN OKAY I THINK IN THE FY25 BUDGET WE ALLOCATED 500,000 TO PUBLIC HEALTH FOR THE HOMELESS COALITION OR FOR SHELTER FOOD MEDICAL CARE FOR THE HOMELESS HAS THAT BEEN USED ALREADY

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: WE ARE IN THE WELL PROCESS OF USING IT AND WE'VE PARTNERED WITH THE GUAM HOMELESS COALITION FOR MOST OF IT

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: IS THAT FOR FOOD OR WHAT

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: FOR VARIOUS THINGS EVEN MANY GRANTS WE HAVE PARTNERED WITH KARIDOT I'M SORRY KATIDOT KITCHEN

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: KAMALEN KARIDOT

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: CAROLYN CAMEL KAMALEN KARIDOT THE KITCHEN THAT FEEDS OUR HOMELESS POPULATION AND WE HAVE USED THE MONEY TO IDENTIFY THE GAPS BECAUSE AS YOU KNOW KERRIDOT IS BY VOLUNTEER LIKE FAMILIES DECIDE ON WHICH NIGHT AND SO WE'VE COME IN AND SAID WELL THAT MONEY WILL BE USED FOR THE GAPS OF THOSE NIGHTS THAT THERE IS NO SPONSOR

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: WAS ANY OF THAT MONEY USED TO PURCHASE ANY PROPERTY

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: NO

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: OKAY AND IN I THINK IT WAS 2023 OR MAYBE BEFORE THAT WE HAD ALSO ALLOCATED FIVE MILLION FOR TO PUBLIC HEALTH TO DISTRIBUTE TO NONPROFITS FOR FOOD AND COMMODITIES FOR THE HOMELESS FOR THOSE WITH DISABILITIES FOR OTHER CATEGORIES AS WELL HOWEVER AND

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THEN WE REALLOCATED TO INCLUDE NOT JUST FOOD BUT COMMODITIES AND I'M JUST CURIOUS THE LAST TIME I GOT AN UPDATE THEY WERE STUCK IN HOW TO DISTRIBUTE THAT OUT AND I'M JUST CURIOUS IF YOU KNOW OR ANYONE ELSE AT PUBLIC HEALTH LONGER KNOWS WHETHER THAT WAS DISTRIBUTED OUT

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: FIVE MILLION WHEN

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: IT WAS IN JUNE 2023 WHEN IT WAS REALLOCATED TO INCLUDE COMMODITIES NOT JUST FOOD BUT IT WAS BEFORE THAT IN THE BUDGET BEFORE THAT WHEN IT WAS 5 MILLION FOR FOOD FOR THE HOMELESS AND THAT ONE SPECIFICALLY LISTED THE NONPROFITS INCLUDING THE HOMELESS COALITION THE CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES AND THEIR TESTIMONY BY THE WAY IS VERY CONSISTENT WITH WHAT YOU'VE BEEN SAYING ABOUT THE YOU KNOW WE CAN GET THIS FOOD TO THEM THE WARM FOOD THIS THE COOKED MEALS BUT WE REALLY HAVE TO CONCENTRATE ON THOSE WHO ARE ISOLATED AND ARE NOT ABLE TO GET TO THOSE RESTAURANTS AS WELL SO I LIKE YOUR IDEA AND HOPEFULLY OUR BUS PASSES WILL ALSO PLAY IN THERE AND GET THEM WHERE THEY NEED TO GO IS BUT IF YOU COULD FOLLOW UP ON THAT 5 MILLION FOR ME THAT WOULD BE GREAT THANK YOU AND SO I SUPPORT THE WARM MEALS I JUST HOPE WE HAVE MAYBE SOME TRAINING FOR THEM TO SHOW THEM HOW FAST THAT CAN GO IF YOU'RE SPENDING IT ON A RESTAURANT VERSUS BUYING YOUR GROCERIES OR I DON'T KNOW YOU KNOW THE MATH OF IT BUT I GUESS I WOULD JUST LIKE THEM EVERYONE TO BE INFORMED MAYBE THE HOMELESS COALITION IS GOING TO BE HELPING US THAT AS WELL BUT

Francine Salas, Chief Human Services Administrator - Department of Public Health and Social Services: CORRECT

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: WE HAVE A LARGE POPULATION TO HELP SO SI YU'OS MA'ASE FOR ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR WORK AND THANK YOU MADAM CHAIR

Francine Salas, Chief Human Services Administrator - Department of Public Health and Social Services: THAT'S CORRECT SENATOR WE DO HAVE A SNAP EDUCATION ARM WHEREIN WE DO GO OUT TO THE PUBLIC WE DO PERFORM OUTREACH EDUCATING DIFFERENT GROUPS OF PEOPLE COMMUNITIES AT THE SAME TOKEN THAT JUST BASICALLY MEANS WE WOULD ADD THE RMP PROGRAM KIND OF YOU KNOW ADD IT BECAUSE NOT EVERYBODY IS ELIGIBLE EVERYBODY THINKS THEY'RE JUST GOING TO GO TO THE RESTAURANTS NOW THAT USE THEIR EBT CARD BUT CLEARLY THERE'S NEED FOR OUTREACH AND EDUCATION AND

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FURTHER TO YOU KNOW WE HAVE NO PROBLEM WE HAVE A DIVISION OF SENIOR CITIZENS WHO HAVE ACCESS TO SENIORS WHO PROBABLY WOULD FALL INTO THIS ELIGIBILITY CATEGORY AND THEY CAN ALSO ASSIST IN DOING OUTREACH THROUGH SENIOR CENTERS AND THE DAYCARE CENTERS AND SHELTERS

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: THEY SAID IN ANOTHER STATE THAT THEY NEEDED TO HIRE THREE EMPLOYEES JUST FOR THE PILOT PROGRAM DO YOU ESTIMATE ABOUT THREE EMPLOYEES

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: AT SEVERAL EDUCATORS SEVERAL PCS

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: AND WOULD YOU NEED TO DO THAT BEFORE YOU DO THE RULES AND REGS AND ALL THE PLAN THE PLAN SO YOU DO A PLAN AND RULES AND REGS ACCORDING TO THE

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: WELL MY HOPE IS THAT THE LEGISLATION THAT PASSED ARE GOING TO PROVIDE SOME FUNDING AND I WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO DO IT WITHOUT IF THE IDEA THAT I'M GOING TO TAKE IT OUT OF THE CURRENT BUDGET I'M GOING TO HAVE TO SAY THEN IT CAN'T IT CAN'T FLY BECAUSE CURRENTLY OUR BUDGET IS FOR SPECIFICALLY FOR ELIGIBILITY ENROLLMENT SPECIALTIES AND NOT A VERY SPECIFIC PROGRAM TO STAND UP LIKE THIS THIS IS VERY UNIQUE

Senator Therese M. Terlaje: BUT THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN VERY HELPFUL AFTER TYPHOON MAWAR WHEN NOBODY COULD COOK THERE WERE VERY MANY MORE PROBABLY ELIGIBLE SI YU'OS MA'ASE THANK YOU

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane, Committee Chairperson: THANK YOU SENATOR TERLAJE SENATOR TAITAGUE

Senator Telo T. Taitague: THANK YOU MADAM CHAIR THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR BEING HERE TO TESTIFY I KNOW IT'S BEEN QUITE A LONG DAY SO I'LL TRY A LOT OF THE QUESTIONS I HAD WERE ANSWER ANSWERED BUT THERE IS SOMETHING THAT I'M I DO HAVE A QUESTION WITH REGARDS TO YOU KNOW DOING SOME RESEARCH ON THIS WHY THE OTHER STATES I MEAN THERE WAS ONLY WHAT SEVEN SO FAR THAT'S PARTICIPATED IN THIS PROGRAM AND THEN WHY DIDN'T THE OTHER STATES PARTICIPATE AND WHEN START THE START

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: I WOULD I WOULD HAVE TO GUESS BECAUSE THE STATES WOULD HAVE TO INVEST

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SOME INVESTMENT AND SO I THAT WOULD BE MY GUESS I DON'T KNOW SPECIFICALLY

Senator Telo T. Taitague: THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHALLENGES YEAH I CAN IMAGINE THE AND THE COST ASSOCIATED SPEAKING OF THE COST IT'S SAYING HERE THAT IT COULD POTENTIALLY BE 400,000 IS WHAT YOU MENTIONED BUT IS THAT MEANING THE 400,000 IS THAT INCLUDING THE INCREASED STAFFING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT THAT YOU HAVE IN IN SECTION SO 400,000 ALONE IS WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO NEED TO START WITH AND THEN THAT'S NUMBER ONE THEN NUMBER THREE YOU SAID ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT SO INCREASING STAFF AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT THAT'S AN ADDITIONAL FUNDING FROM THE 400 SO YOU'RE LOOKING AT A PROGRAM THAT COULD COST CLOSE TO A MILLION DOLLARS PROBABLY

Francine Salas, Chief Human Services Administrator - Department of Public Health and Social Services: PROBABLY

Senator Telo T. Taitague: OKAY

Francine Salas, Chief Human Services Administrator - Department of Public Health and Social Services: YEAH SENATOR WE IN THE TESTIMONY THE SO OBVIOUSLY THE BENCHMARK OF HOW MUCH IT WOULD COST ADMINISTRATIVELY DOES COME INTO QUESTION ON OUR END AS WELL PRIMARILY WE'RE LOOKING AT REPROGRAMMING SO IF YOU THINK ABOUT THE SUMMER EBT PROGRAM WHICH IS NOW A PERMANENT PROGRAM JUST TO DO PROGRAMMING COSTS WITH OUR VENDORS THAT WE WORK WITH FIS THE LOCAL VENDOR WE WORK WITH IT'S UPWARDS OF \$368,000 JUST FOR THE SUMMER EBT THIS IS PROGRAMMING COSTS

Senator Telo T. Taitague: OKAY THIS IS THE EM EMP YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT YOU'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT THE ELDER NUTRITION PROGRAM RIGHT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT

Francine Salas, Chief Human Services Administrator - Department of Public Health and Social Services: I AM TALKING ABOUT THE STUDENTS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR SUMMER SNAP JUST TO GIVE YOU A PICTURE SO THE SAME KIND OF PROGRAMMING WOULD BE NEEDED ON ALL INTEREST ALL VENDORS INVOLVED TO IMPLEMENT THIS PROGRAM AND IT AIN'T CHEAP

Senator Telo T. Taitague: NO YEAH

Francine Salas, Chief Human Services Administrator - Department of Public Health and Social Services: OKAY AND SO

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Senator Telo T. Taitague: SO IT IS SEPARATE FROM THE 400,000

Francine Salas, Chief Human Services Administrator - Department of Public Health and Social Services: WELL THE 400,000 IS JUST REALLY PROGRAMMING AND THEN IN THE TESTIMONY WE LISTED SORT OF MONTHLY SERVICING FEES AND SO IT DOESN'T INCLUDE THE STAFF ELEMENT AS WELL SO THAT MAY BE A CHALLENGE BUT YOU KNOW AT THE SAME TOKEN WHEN IT COMES TO GETTING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION EVERYBODY LIKE VICE SPEAKER HAD MENTIONED EARLIER IT REALLY COMES DOWN TO WHO BENEFITS AND THIS POPULATION THEY DO NEED IT I MEAN THEY'RE THE MOST VULNERABLE AND SO SOMETIMES IT YOU KNOW IT IS A LOT OF UPFRONT COSTS I'M HOPING THAT ONCE THOSE UPFRONT COSTS ARE DONE AFTER THE FIRST YEAR PERHAPS IT'S JUST MAINTENANCE BUT I'M JUST I DON'T WANT TO OVERPROMISE THAT BECAUSE I'M NOT EXACTLY SURE WHAT GOES INTO THE TECH SIDE OF EVERYTHING

Senator Telo T. Taitague: THANK YOU SO MUCH CAN WE GO TALK ABOUT THE ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM THAT'S STILL ONGOING RIGHT BECAUSE WE RIGHT NOW WE HAVE ELDERLY IN OUR COMMUNITY THAT RECEIVES HOT MEALS

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT THE MEALS ON WHEELS THE 1 MEAL 365 DAYS ABSOLUTELY IT'S STILL ONGOING AS PART OF THE DIVISION OF SENIOR CITIZENS PROF PROFILE

Senator Telo T. Taitague: AND IS THAT FUNDED THROUGH THE GENERAL FUND OR IS THAT FUNDED THROUGH FEDERAL GRANTS FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: A COMBINATION OF BOTH IT'S IN OUR BUDGET IT'S A COMBINATION OF OUR OF BOTH FEDERAL DOLLARS AS WELL AS LOCAL MATCH

Senator Telo T. Taitague: AND THESE MEALS ON WHEELS THAT THAT PROVIDE ONE MEAL A DAY TO THE IS IT THE SAME TYPE OF

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: ABOUT 3,000

Senator Telo T. Taitague: OKAY IS IT'S NOT THE SAME CRITERIA AS ELDERLY ONLY ELDERLY WITH SPOUSE WHO QUALIFIES FOR THAT

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Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services:

THERE IS A CRITERIA I DON'T HAVE THE SPECIFICS WITH ME I DIDN'T BRING THAT WITH ME BUT

Senator Telo T. Taitague: BUT IT'S A BROADER BAND RIGHT IT'S A IT'S A BROADER REACH THAN WHAT THE

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: 60

AND ABOVE AND THAT DOESN'T NECESSARILY HAVE TO BE A SNAP RECIPIENT

Senator Telo T. Taitague: RIGHT EXACTLY SO IT IT'S A WIDE RANGE

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services:

WIDER THAN SNAP CORRECT

Senator Telo T. Taitague: IS THERE ANY OPPORTUNITY TO ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO ARE LISTED ON YOUR LIST HERE ELDERLY ONLY ELDERLY WITH SPOUSE DIS OKAY BUT THEY YOU MENTIONED THAT THEY

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services:

THEY'RE ALL SNAP RECIPIENTS THAT'S THE BREAKDOWN OF THE SNAP

Senator Telo T. Taitague: OKAY SO THESE ARE ALL SNAP BUT MAJORITY OF THOSE WHO ARE RECEIVING MEALS ON WHEELS ARE PRETTY MUCH IN THE SNAP PROGRAM RIGHT WELL NOT ALL OF THEM I'M JUST SAYING BUT THE MAJORITY YEAH BUT THEY CAN BE RIGHT

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: THEY COULD BE I'M SORRY I DIDN'T BRING THAT INFORMATION WITH ME

Senator Telo T. Taitague: OKAY BECAUSE THAT THAT PROGRAM IS A REALLY GOOD PROGRAM THE ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM AND LIKE YOU SAID YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE ON THE SNAP PROGRAM TO RECEIVE THAT I MEAN WE HAVE QUITE A BIT OF ELDERLY INDIVIDUALS WHO YOU KNOW THEY REALLY RELY ON THAT I HAVE TO TELL YOU THERE'S QUITE A BIT OUT THERE THAT THAT RELY ON IT'S A IT'S A GREAT PROGRAM I THINK THIS PROGRAM WILL ENHANCE IT BUT IT'S THE COST YOU KNOW IN THIS THE ALMOST SOUNDS TO ME LIKE IT'S GOING TO BE ABOUT A MILLION DOLLARS IN ORDER TO GET THIS THROUGH AND THAT'S PROBABLY WHY THE OTHER STATES WEREN'T ABLE TO GET TO MOVE FORWARD ON THIS I KNOW THERE'S INITIAL COST WHAT IS IT GOING TO COST AFTERWARDS AND WHAT WELL HOPEFULLY IF YOU LOOK INTO THAT 5 MILLION THAT WAS GIVEN IN FY22 YOU KNOW IF THERE'S ANY FUNDING LEFT OVER FROM THAT

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Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at 2:00 P.M. | Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building

MAYBE WE CAN FIND THE MONEY OR ALLOW A BILL THAT WILL ALLOW YOU TO USE THAT FUNDING BECAUSE IT WAS INTENDED YOU KNOW THAT 5 MILLION WAS INTENDED TO HELP THOSE WHO ARE IN NEED YOU KNOW MOST VULNERABLE WHO ARE IN NEED SO MAYBE WE CAN FIND THE MONEY THERE BECAUSE WE ALL KNOW THAT A LOT OF THE FEDERAL FUNDS ARE BEING FROZEN A LOT OF OTHER AREAS ARE EXPECTED OF THIS BODY TO USE A GENERAL FUND TO SUBSIDIZE YOU KNOW FEDERAL PROGRAMS THAT ARE NO LONGER IN EXISTENCE BOTH IN THE JUDICIAL SIDE AS WELL AS YOU KNOW PUBLIC HEALTH AS WELL AND WHO WILL BE THE FNS OKAY THEY WILL BE OVERSEEING PUBLIC HEALTH RIGHT AND THIS PROGRAM ON

Theresa C. Arriola, Director - Department of Public Health and Social Services: IT'S THEIR PROGRAM SO THEY PROVIDE ALL THE GUIDELINES AND ALL THE DEFINITIONS

Senator Telo T. Taitague: SO HAS ANYBODY EVER WELL IF THEY'RE GOING TO BE OVERSEEING THIS PROGRAM ENSURE THAT YOU CROSS YOUR T'S AND DOT YOUR I'S AND MAKE SURE EVERYTHING IS DONE THEN THERE'S JUST QUITE A BIT OF RED TAPE THAT'S GOING TO BE HAPPENING IN THIS AND THAT'S PROBABLY WHY YOU MENTIONED THAT IT'S GOING TO TAKE A WHILE TO IMPLEMENT SOMETHING LIKE THIS YOU KNOW JUST TO MAKE SURE BECAUSE YOU WILL BE UNDER THE MICROSCOPE WHEN IT COMES TO THIS I MEAN IT'S OBVIOUSLY A GREAT PROGRAM YOU KNOW I WISH WE CAN DO THIS YOU KNOW FOR EVERYONE HERE NOT JUST THOSE ON SNAP BUT THOSE WHO ARE REALLY IN NEED JUST LIKE WE DO FOR THE MEALS ON WHEELS YOU KNOW THERE'S A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO RELY ON THAT SO I WISH WE COULD DO MEALS ON WHEELS AND DO THAT MORE THAN ONLY ONE TIME A DAY AND PROVIDE THE FOOD FOR THESE THOSE MOST NEEDING SO OTHER THAN THAT I APPRECIATE YOUR INFORMATION LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING SOME OF THE OTHER AREAS IN HERE THAT WE WOULD HAVE TO CROSS OUR T'S AND DOT OUR I'S AGAIN SAYING THAT BECAUSE IT IS FEDERAL FUNDING AND THE LAST THING WE WANT TO DO IS HAVE TO PAY BACK ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ANY FUNDING SO YES SO THANK YOU SO MUCH THANK YOU MISS MADAM CHAIR

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane, Committee Chairperson: THANK YOU SENATOR TAITAGUE AND THANK YOU TO THE PANEL FOR PROVIDING YOUR INPUT ON THIS PIECE OF LEGISLATION SENATOR CALVO YOUR CLOSING REMARKS

Senator Shelly V. Calvo, Committee Member: BEFORE I DELIVER MY CLOSING REMARKS I JUST WANT TO MAKE A COMMENT I THINK THAT IN GENERAL ALL OF US HERE IF WE ARE TRULY MOTIVATED TO ROLL THIS OUT IT WILL HAPPEN WE

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WILL MAKE IT HAPPEN RIGHT AND COLLABORATION OPEN COMMUNICATION WE CAN PROBABLY COMBAT ALL THESE CHALLENGES THAT WERE PRESENTED EARLIER DEPARTMENT OF INTEGRATED SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES I UNDERSTAND THAT IN YOUR TESTIMONY THERE'S A LOT OF CONCERNS BUT I BELIEVE THAT WE CAN ADDRESS THESE CONCERNS AND IF ANYTHING THIS BILL WILL HELP HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS ELDERLY AND INDIVIDUAL WITH DISABILITIES MEANING YOUR DEPARTMENT YOUR AGENCY SHOULD BE VERY SUPPORTIVE OF THIS ONE BECAUSE YOU ARE ACTUALLY ADDRESSING YOUR DEMOGRAPHIC NOW COST I'VE HEARD COST A COUPLE OF TIMES BUT IN REALITY 400,000 IF WE'RE ABLE TO FIND MONIES FOR STUDIES WORTH A MILLION A MILLION SO WHY CAN'T WE FIND MONEY 400K OR SO JUST TO START THIS CORRECT SO I'M SAYING IF WE'RE ABLE TO HELP THE UNIVERSITY AND WE WERE ABLE TO FIND 5.7 MILLION WHY CAN'T WE FIND MONEY FOR THIS I THINK IT'S POSSIBLE AND WE PUT ALL OUR HEADS TOGETHER WE CAN ROLL OUT FAST AND I AM A VERY MOTIVATED INDIVIDUAL AND I'M GOING TO PUSH FOR THIS SO I EXPECT THAT EVERYONE HERE IN THIS ROOM AND THE PEOPLE OUT THERE ARE ALSO MOTIVATED AND TO SUPPORT THIS BILL TO MAKE SURE THAT THIS BILL PASSES NOW JUST TO LET YOU KNOW THAT'S NOT EVEN MY REMARKS EVERYONE MADAME CHAIR ESTEEMED COLLEAGUES AS WE CONCLUDE TODAY'S PUBLIC HEARING ON BILL NUMBER 78 38-COR THE MEALS FOR AT RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025 I WANT TO EXTEND MY HEARTFELT GRATITUDE TO ALL OF YOU WHO TOOK THE TIME TO BE HERE AND TO RENDER YOUR TESTIMONIES VERY IMPORTANT TO THE AGENCIES COMMUNITIES AND INDIVIDUALS WHO SHARE THEIR INSIGHTS AND FEEDBACK SI YU'OS MA'ASE THANK YOU ESPECIALLY FOR ALL THE POSITIVE SUPPORT HEARTFELT THANK YOU YOUR VOICES ARE ESSENTIAL TO SHAPING LEGISLATION THAT TRULY SERVES OUR PEOPLE FOOD INSECURITY IS A PRESSING ISSUE THAT AFFECTS FAR TOO MANY OF OUR NEIGHBORS HERE ON GUAM FOR THE ELDERLY INDIVIDUALS LIVING WITH DISABILITIES AND THOSE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS THE CHALLENGES OF ACCESSING NUTRITIOUS MEALS ARE COMPOUNDED BY PHYSICAL LIMITATIONS LACK OF FACILITY AND OTHER BARRIERS THESE ARE NOT JUST STATISTICS THEY ARE REAL PEOPLE OUR FAMILY MEMBERS FRIENDS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO DESERVE OUR SUPPORT AND COMPASSION THE MEALS FOR AT RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT ADDRESSES THE ISSUE BY IMPLEMENTING THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM UNDER SNAP THIS PROGRAM NOT ONLY ENSURES THAT VULNERABLE POPULATIONS HAVE ACCESS TO HOT PREPARED MEALS BUT ALSO RESTORES THEIR DIGNITY BY GIVING THEM THE CHOICE TO DECIDE HOW TO USE THEIR BENEFITS IT'S ABOUT MORE THAN JUST FOOD IT'S ABOUT RESPECT

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EMPOWERMENT AND MEETING PEOPLE WHERE THEY ARE ADDITIONALLY THIS PROGRAM AN ECONOMIC BOOST AT A TIME WHEN OUR TOURISM INDUSTRY IS DOWN AND AT THE TIME THAT OUR TOURISM INDUSTRY HAS FACED SIGNIFICANCE CHALLENGES SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGES BY PARTNERING WITH LOCAL RESTAURANTS WE CAN STIMULATE ECONOMIC ACTIVITY SUPPORT SMALL BUSINESSES AND CREATE A RIPPLE EFFECT THAT BENEFITS OUR ENTIRE ISLAND TRUTH BE TOLD MANY RESTAURANTS EVEN BIG ONES LIKE KINGS ARE VERY EXCITED WITH THIS BILL WE NEED TO SUPPORT THIS BILL AND ROLL IT OUT TODAY'S HEARING HAS UNDERSCORED THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY INPUT IN THE LAW MAKING PROCESS THE DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES SHARED HERE WILL HELP US REFINE AND STRENGTHEN THIS BILL TO ENSURE IT MEETS THE NEEDS OF OUR PEOPLE I AM EXCITED TO TAKE THE SUGGESTIONS WE HAVE HEARD TODAY AND WORK WITH MY COLLEAGUES ON THE HEALTH COMMITTEE TO IMPROVE THE BILL DURING THE MARKUP SESSION I AM FULLY COMMITTED TO GETTING THIS BILL ON THE AGENDA FOR THE MAY SESSION FULLY COMMITTED AND TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH VICE SPEAKER FULLY SUPPORTS THIS BILL AND HE HAS ASKED TO BE MY FIRST CO-SPONSOR EARLIER THAT'S WHY I WROTE HIS NAME ALREADY I AM FULLY COMMITTED AS I HAVE MENTIONED BUT I NEED EVERYONE'S HELP TOGETHER WE CAN TAKE A MEANINGFUL STEP TOWARD ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITY AND BUILDING A MORE COMPASSIONATE AND RESILIENT GUAM IN CLOSING I WANT TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF COLLABORATION AND CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE IN GOOD GOVERNANCE IT IS THROUGH THESE CONVERSATIONS THROUGH LISTENING LEARNING AND WORKING TOGETHER THAT WE CREATE POLICIES THAT UPLIFT AND EMPOWER OUR COMMUNITY THANK YOU UN DONKOLU NA SI YU'OS MA'ASE FOR BEING PART OF THIS PROCESS AND FOR YOUR DEDICATION TO MAKING GUAM A BETTER PLACE FOR ALL SI YU'OS MA'ASE THANK YOU MADAME CHAIR

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane, Committee Chairperson: THANK YOU SENATOR CALVO THANK YOU TO THE PANEL MRS HINKLE-SANCHEZ MISS TAITANO MR HATTORI MR DRILON MISS ARRIOLA MISS SALAS AND MRS PANGELINAN AT THIS TIME WE'RE GOING TO TAKE A BRIEF RECESS TWO MINUTES BEFORE WE PROCEED WITH THE PUBLIC HEARING ON BILL 94

The Public Hearing was adjourned at 5:58 P.M.

III. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs finds that the enactment of Bill No. 78-38 (COR) could also provide an economic boost by partnering with local restaurants, thus supporting small

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businesses and stimulating the economy. The importance of collaboration, open communication, and community input was highlighted as essential to refining and successfully implementing the program. The support underscores the collective commitment to addressing food insecurity and enhancing the quality of life for Guam's residents.

Several recommendations were made to ensure the successful implementation of the Meals for At-Risk Households Act of 2025. It was advised that thorough documentation and adherence to guidelines are crucial to avoid issues with federal funding. The feedback from the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities should be considered, and their concerns addressed. Supporting small businesses and stimulating economic activity by partnering with local restaurants were also highlighted as important steps.

The Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs hereby reports out on **Bill No. 78-38 (COR)** – AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 2701, 2702, AND 2703; AND TO ADD A NEW § 2707; ALL OF ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM (RMP) UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP); AND TO CITE THIS ACT AS THE “MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025” with a recommendation
to do pass.

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

Bill No. 78-38 (COR)

Introduced by:

Shelly V. Calvo 

**AN ACT TO *AMEND* §§ 2701, 2702, AND 2703; AND
TO *ADD* A NEW § 2707; ALL OF ARTICLE 7,
CHAPTER 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE
ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING
THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM (RMP)
UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP); AND TO CITE
THIS ACT AS THE “MEALS FOR AT-RISK
HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025.”**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

SECTION 1. Short Title. This Act may be cited as the “Meals for At-risk
Households Act of 2025.”

SECTION 2. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds
that one in five of Guam residents rely on benefits from the U.S. Department of
Agriculture’s (USDA) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to
supplement their grocery budget so they can afford the nutritious food essential to health
and well-being. Locally administered by the Division of Public Welfare within the
Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS, Department), SNAP
provides federally funded food nutrition benefits to thousands of eligible low-income
island residents and households in need. The largest among the USDA’s safety net of
domestic nutrition assistance programs, SNAP allocated \$179 million to Guam in
fiscal year 2023 and distributed this assistance to recipients as electronic benefits

1 transfer (EBT) payments for food purchased at any of Guam’s 243 USDA-authorized
2 food retailers. According to the latest SNAP participation and benefits data, 33,900
3 SNAP recipients living in 12,521 households in Guam received over \$10 million in
4 SNAP payments for the period of November 2024. Whereas the program’s
5 administrative costs are shared equally by the federal and local government, SNAP
6 benefits are 100% federally funded, thus generating significant economic activity for
7 food retailers and creating jobs in a variety of sectors.

8 *I Liheslatura* however finds that purchasing, preparing or storing food can be a
9 challenge for many of the island’s SNAP recipients who are elderly, living with
10 disabilities, or experiencing homelessness—collectively accounting for approximately
11 23% of the SNAP households in Guam. These individuals may find it difficult to
12 prepare meals for themselves; or, in the case of the unhoused, do not have a place to
13 store and cook food. Without tools or appliances, or the physical abilities necessary to
14 prepare their own meals, these households are likely to experience food insecurity due
15 to limited access to nutritionally adequate and safe foods. Food-insecure and low-
16 income people are especially vulnerable to poor nutrition, which is linked with
17 increased risk of diet-related diseases as well as higher healthcare costs and decreased
18 productivity.

19 Seeking to continue this august body’s efforts to improve the food security by
20 providing more equitable resources for at-risk residents, *I Liheslatura* finds that existing
21 federal law authorizes the states and U.S. territories to provide greater access to
22 nutritious meals for households who may have barriers to acquiring, preparing and
23 storing food. Currently implemented in nine states including Arizona, California,
24 Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New York, Rhode Island, Virginia, a
25 federally approved option under SNAP called the Restaurant Meals Program (RMP)
26 allows eligible SNAP recipients who are elderly, living with disabilities, or
27 experiencing homelessness—those less able to use food assistance in traditional

ways—with the choice of using their existing EBT benefits at USDA-approved restaurants that offer low-cost meal options.

It is therefore the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*, under the authority of the Federal Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, 7 U.S.C. § 2011 *et seq.*, to implement the RMP as an optional component of SNAP no later than January 1, 2026. Subject to amendments by Section 4014 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 to the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 that include certain oversight provisions for states and U.S. territories that opt to participate in the RMP as part of SNAP, the Department will be responsible for selecting restaurants that meet a documented need in an underserved geographical area, and implementing a system that ensures that only RMP-eligible households can use SNAP benefits at the participating restaurant. All USDA-authorized restaurants approved for participation in the RMP must sign a contract with the Department to provide prepared food at concession prices for SNAP customers.

SECTION 3. § 2701 of Article 7, Chapter 2, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

“§ 2701. Definitions.

For the purposes of this Article:

(a) “Department” means the Department of Public Health and Social Services;

(b) “Food” means any food or food product for human consumption except alcoholic beverages and tobacco and shall include seeds and plants for use in gardens to produce food for the personal consumption for the eligible household;

(c) “Food coupons” means any coupon, stamp or type of certificate used under the Federal Food Stamp Act of 1977;

(d) “Food stamp program” means a program [~~under the Food Stamp Act of 1977~~](since renamed the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

(SNAP) [~~by the Federal Food and Nutrition Act of 2008~~], which provides financial assistance intended to raise levels of nutrition among low-income households pursuant to the Federal Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, 7 U.S.C. § 2011 *et seq.*;

(e) “Restaurant meals program” (RMP) means a program implemented as part of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) that provides households containing elderly or disabled members, and their spouses, as defined in 7 U.S.C. § 2012(j), or homeless individuals, as defined in 7 U.S.C. § 2012(l), the option to use SNAP benefits at private establishments that contract with the Department to offer meals for eligible individuals at concession prices in accordance with 7 U.S.C. § 2018(h);

(f) “SNAP benefits” means the value of supplemental nutrition assistance, as defined in 7 U.S.C. § 2012(d), provided to a household by means of an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) [~~under~~] pursuant to the Federal Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, or other means of provided assistance as determined by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA); and

~~[(f)](g)~~ “Temporary Assistance for Needy Families” (TANF) means the federally grant funded, time limited program, to assist families with children when the parents or other responsible relatives cannot provide for the family’s basic needs pursuant to Subtitle B, Chapter II of 45 U.S.C.”

SECTION 4. § 2702 of Article 7, Chapter 2, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

“§ 2702. Authorization.

The Department of Public Health and Social Services, through the Division of [~~Social Services~~] Public Welfare, is authorized to implement the food stamp program locally pursuant to the Federal Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, 7 U.S.C. § 2011 et seq., and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Personal

1 Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 [~~and the Food and~~
2 ~~Nutrition Act of 2008~~]:

3 (a) Householders determined by the Department to be eligible for
4 assistance under the food stamp program may obtain SNAP benefits or other
5 means of provided assistance as determined by the USDA;

6 (b) The food stamp program shall include the Restaurant Meals
7 Program in accordance with the provisions of § 2707 of this Article;

8 (c) SNAP benefits shall be used to purchase food from retail food stores
9 [~~which have been approved for the participation in the food stamp program~~]
10 and for qualified individuals to use at restaurants that participate in the
11 Restaurant Meals Program in accordance with the provisions of § 2707 of this
12 Article.”

13 **SECTION 5.** § 2703 of Article 7, Chapter 2, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated,
14 is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

15 **“§ 2703. Duties of the Department.**

16 The Department of Public Health and Social Services, through the Division
17 of [~~Social Services~~] Public Welfare, shall:

18 (a) adopt rules and regulations necessary to carry out the food stamp
19 program, which shall include the Restaurant Meals Program pursuant to §
20 2707 of this Article;

21 (b) cooperate with the federal government and do all things necessary
22 to continue eligibility under the food stamp program;

23 (c) comply with the requirements of the Federal Food and Nutrition Act
24 of 2008, 7 U.S.C. § 2011 et seq.[-]; and

25 (d) exempt individuals domiciled in Guam from the application of
26 Section 115 of the Federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity
27 Reconciliation Act of 1996, 21 U.S.C. §§ 862a(a)(1) and (2), by allowing

1 payment of SNAP and TANF benefits to an otherwise eligible individual who
2 has been convicted of a felony offense under federal, state or Guam criminal
3 law which has as an element the possession, use or distribution of a controlled
4 substance, as defined in Section 102(6) of the Federal Controlled Substances
5 Act, 21 U.S.C. § 802(c), if

6 (1) the individual has successfully completed probation, parole,
7 community corrections, a reentry court program, or any other post-
8 conviction monitoring program ordered by a court; or

9 (2) the individual is successfully complying with conditions of
10 probation, parole, or community corrections, the terms of participation
11 in a reentry court program, or the requirements of any other post-
12 conviction monitoring program ordered by a court.”

13 **SECTION 6.** A new § 2707 of Article 7, Chapter 2, Title 10, Guam Code
14 Annotated, is hereby *added* to read as follows:

15 **“§ 2707. Restaurant Meals Program.**

16 (a) Subject to federal approval of the state plan, the Department of Public
17 Health and Social Services (Department) shall establish the Restaurant Meals
18 Program (RMP) as part of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
19 (SNAP) pursuant to the Federal Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, 7 U.S.C. § 2011 *et*
20 *seq.*, and subject to the provisions of 7 U.S.C. § 2018(h) and 7 CFR § 278.1(d)(3).

21 (b) The purpose of the RMP is to expand food access to individuals who do
22 not have a place to store and cook food; may not be able to prepare food; or do not
23 have access to a grocery store.

24 (c) The Department shall develop and implement a plan to begin participation
25 in the RMP no later than January 1, 2026.

26 (d) The RMP shall permit SNAP households containing elderly or disabled
27 members, and their spouses, as defined in 7 U.S.C. § 2012(j), or homeless

1 individuals, as defined in 7 U.S.C. § 2012(l), to use their electronic benefits transfer
2 (EBT) card to purchase prepared food at concessional prices from restaurants that
3 have entered in a contract with the Department and authorized by the U.S.
4 Department of Agriculture (USDA) to participate in the RMP in accordance with
5 7 U.S.C. § 2018(h). The EBT system shall electronically identify an eligible
6 recipient at the point of sale.

7 (e) Before participating in the RMP, a restaurant shall submit an application
8 and be approved under a process determined by the Department; become a SNAP
9 provider licensed by the USDA; and be able to process EBT card payments at the point
10 of sale.

11 (f) A restaurant shall not operate as a vendor in the RMP unless the restaurant:

12 (1) offers meals at concessional prices by: serving meals that cost less
13 than that which would be charged to customers not using SNAP benefits with
14 a sales price at least 10 percent (10%) less than the sales price charged to
15 customers who are not using SNAP benefits to pay for similar meals; serving
16 meals already discounted for certain customers; or serving meals offered to
17 all customers at advertised special or sale prices;

18 (2) permits customers to make in-store purchases;

19 (3) provides full accessibility for the disabled;

20 (4) has more than fifty percent (50%) of its total sales in food;

21 (5) collects SNAP benefits at the time of meal delivery;

22 (6) posts a sign notifying the public of the restaurant's participation in
23 the RMP; and

24 (7) complies with all federal, state, and local health and safety laws and
25 regulations.

26 (g) A restaurant operating as a bar or tavern shall not be eligible to participate
27 in the RMP.

1 (h) In accordance with federal law, the Department shall adopt regulations to
2 verify household eligibility for participation in the RMP; establish eligibility
3 standards, an application process, and an approval process for restaurants to
4 participate in the RMP; and implement the provisions of this Section.”

5 **SECTION 7. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or its application to
6 any person or circumstance is found to be invalid or inorganic, such invalidity shall
7 not affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be given effect without
8 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are
9 severable.

10 **SECTION 8. Effective Date.** This Act shall become effective upon
11 enactment.

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

Bill No. 78-38 (COR)

As amended by the Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

Introduced by:

Shelly V. Calvo

**AN ACT TO *AMEND* §§ 2701, 2702, AND 2703; AND
TO *ADD* A NEW § 2707; ALL OF ARTICLE 7,
CHAPTER 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE
ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING
THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM (RMP)
UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP); AND TO CITE
THIS ACT AS THE “MEALS FOR AT-RISK
HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025.”**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

SECTION 1. Short Title. This Act may be cited as the “Meals for At-risk Households Act of 2025.”

SECTION 2. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that one in five of Guam residents rely on benefits from the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to supplement their grocery budget so they can afford the nutritious food essential to health and well-being. Locally administered by the Division of Public Welfare within the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS, Department), SNAP provides federally funded food nutrition benefits to thousands of eligible low-income island residents and households in need. The largest among the USDA’s safety net of domestic nutrition assistance programs, SNAP allocated \$179 million to Guam in fiscal year 2023 and distributed this assistance to recipients as electronic benefits

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2 food retailers. According to the latest SNAP participation and benefits data, 33,900
3 SNAP recipients living in 12,521 households in Guam received over \$10 million in
4 SNAP payments for the period of November 2024. Whereas the program’s
5 administrative costs are shared equally by the federal and local government, SNAP
6 benefits are 100% federally funded, thus generating significant economic activity for
7 food retailers and creating jobs in a variety of sectors.

8 *I Liheslatura* however finds that purchasing, preparing or storing food can be a
9 challenge for many of the island’s SNAP recipients who are elderly, living with
10 disabilities, or experiencing homelessness—collectively accounting for approximately
11 23% of the SNAP households in Guam. These individuals may find it difficult to
12 prepare meals for themselves; or, in the case of the unhoused, do not have a place to
13 store and cook food. Without tools or appliances, or the physical abilities necessary to
14 prepare their own meals, these households are likely to experience food insecurity due
15 to limited access to nutritionally adequate and safe foods. Food-insecure and low-
16 income people are especially vulnerable to poor nutrition, which is linked with
17 increased risk of diet-related diseases as well as higher healthcare costs and decreased
18 productivity.

19 Seeking to continue this august body’s efforts to improve the food security by
20 providing more equitable resources for at-risk residents, *I Liheslatura* finds that existing
21 federal law authorizes the states and U.S. territories to provide greater access to
22 nutritious meals for households who may have barriers to acquiring, preparing and
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27 experiencing homelessness—those less able to use food assistance in traditional

ways—with the choice of using their existing EBT benefits at USDA-approved restaurants that offer low-cost meal options.

It is therefore the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*, under the authority of the Federal Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, 7 U.S.C. § 2011 *et seq.*, to implement the RMP as an optional component of SNAP no later than January 1, 2026. Subject to amendments by Section 4014 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 to the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 that include certain oversight provisions for states and U.S. territories that opt to participate in the RMP as part of SNAP, the Department will be responsible for selecting restaurants that meet a documented need in an underserved geographical area, and implementing a system that ensures that only RMP-eligible households can use SNAP benefits at the participating restaurant. All USDA-authorized restaurants approved for participation in the RMP must sign a contract with the Department to provide prepared food at concession prices for SNAP customers.

SECTION 3. § 2701 of Article 7, Chapter 2, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

“§ 2701. Definitions.

For the purposes of this Article:

(a) “Department” means the Department of Public Health and Social Services;

(b) “Food” means any food or food product for human consumption except alcoholic beverages and tobacco and shall include seeds and plants for use in gardens to produce food for the personal consumption for the eligible household;

(c) “Food coupons” means any coupon, stamp or type of certificate used under the Federal Food Stamp Act of 1977;

(d) “Food stamp program” means a program ~~under the Food Stamp Act of 1977~~ (since renamed the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

(SNAP) ~~by the Federal Food and Nutrition Act of 2008~~), which provides financial assistance intended to raise levels of nutrition among low-income households pursuant to the Federal Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, 7 U.S.C. § 2011 et seq.;

(e) “Restaurant meals program” (RMP) means a program implemented as part of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) that provides households containing elderly or disabled members, and their spouses, as defined in 7 U.S.C. § 2012(j), or homeless individuals, as defined in 7 U.S.C. § 2012(l), the option to use SNAP benefits at private establishments that contract with the Department to offer meals for eligible individuals at concession prices in accordance with 7 U.S.C. § 2018(h);

(f) “SNAP benefits” means the value of supplemental nutrition assistance, as defined in 7 U.S.C. § 2012(d), provided to a household by means of an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) ~~under~~ pursuant to the Federal Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, or other means of provided assistance, as determined by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA); and

~~(f)~~(g) “Temporary Assistance for Needy Families” (TANF) means the federally grant funded, time limited program, to assist families with children when the parents or other responsible relatives cannot provide for the family’s basic needs pursuant to Subtitle B, Chapter II of 45 U.S.C.”

SECTION 4. § 2702 of Article 7, Chapter 2, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

“§ 2702. Authorization.

The Department of Public Health and Social Services, through the Division of ~~Social Services~~ Public Welfare, is authorized to implement the food stamp program locally pursuant to the Federal Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, 7 U.S.C. § 2011 et seq., and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Personal

1 Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 ~~and the Food and~~
2 ~~Nutrition Act of 2008:~~

3 (a) Householders determined by the Department to be eligible for
4 assistance under the food stamp program may obtain SNAP benefits or other
5 means of provided assistance as determined by the USDA;

6 (b) The food stamp program shall include the Restaurant Meals
7 Program in accordance with the provisions of § 2707 of this Article;

8 (c) SNAP benefits shall be used to purchase food from retail food stores
9 ~~which have been approved for the participation in the food stamp program and~~
10 for qualified individuals to use at restaurants that participate in the Restaurant
11 Meals Program in accordance with the provisions of § 2707 of this Article.”

12 **SECTION 5.** § 2703 of Article 7, Chapter 2, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated,
13 is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

14 **“§ 2703. Duties of the Department.**

15 The Department of Public Health and Social Services, through the Division
16 of ~~Social Services~~ Public Welfare, shall:

17 (a) adopt rules and regulations necessary to carry out the food stamp
18 program, which shall include the Restaurant Meals Program pursuant to §
19 2707 of this Article;

20 (b) cooperate with the federal government and do all things necessary
21 to continue eligibility under the food stamp program;

22 (c) comply with the requirements of the Federal Food and Nutrition Act
23 of 2008, 7 U.S.C. § 2011 et seq.; and

24 (d) exempt individuals domiciled in Guam from the application of
25 Section 115 of the Federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity
26 Reconciliation Act of 1996, 21 U.S.C. §§ 862a(a)(1) and (2), by allowing
27 payment of SNAP and TANF benefits to an otherwise eligible individual who

1 has been convicted of a felony offense under federal, state or Guam criminal
2 law which has as an element the possession, use or distribution of a controlled
3 substance, as defined in Section 102(6) of the Federal Controlled Substances
4 Act, 21 U.S.C. § 802(c), if

5 (1) the individual has successfully completed probation, parole,
6 community corrections, a reentry court program, or any other post-
7 conviction monitoring program ordered by a court; or

8 (2) the individual is successfully complying with conditions of
9 probation, parole, or community corrections, the terms of participation
10 in a reentry court program, or the requirements of any other post-
11 conviction monitoring program ordered by a court.”

12 **SECTION 6.** A new § 2707 of Article 7, Chapter 2, Title 10, Guam Code
13 Annotated, is hereby *added* to read as follows:

14 **“§ 2707. Restaurant Meals Program.**

15 (a) Subject to federal approval of the state plan and an identified funding
16 source, the Department of Public Health and Social Services (Department) shall
17 establish the Restaurant Meals Program (RMP) as part of the federal Supplemental
18 Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) pursuant to the Federal Food and Nutrition
19 Act of 2008, 7 U.S.C. § 2011 et seq., and subject to the provisions of
20 7 U.S.C. § 2018(h) and 7 CFR § 278.1(d)(3).

21 (b) The purpose of the RMP is to expand food access to individuals who do
22 not have a place to store and cook food; may not be able to prepare food; or do not
23 have access to a grocery store.

24 (c) The Department shall develop and implement a plan to begin participation
25 in the RMP upon enactment of this act.

26 (d) The RMP shall permit SNAP households containing elderly or disabled
27 members, and their spouses, as defined in 7 U.S.C. § 2012(j), or homeless

individuals, as defined in 7 U.S.C. § 2012(l), to use their electronic benefits transfer (EBT) card to purchase prepared food at concessional prices from restaurants that have entered in a contract with the Department and authorized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to participate in the RMP in accordance with 7 U.S.C. § 2018(h). The EBT system shall electronically identify an eligible recipient at the point of sale.

(e) Before participating in the RMP, a restaurant shall submit an application and be approved under a process determined by the Department; become a SNAP provider licensed by the USDA; and be able to process EBT card payments at the point of sale.

(f) A restaurant shall not operate as a vendor in the RMP unless the restaurant:

(1) offers meals at concessional prices by: serving meals that cost less than that which would be charged to customers not using SNAP benefits with a sales price at least 10 percent (10%) less than the sales price charged to customers who are not using SNAP benefits to pay for similar meals; serving meals already discounted for certain customers; or serving meals offered to all customers at advertised special or sale prices;

(2) permits customers to make in-store purchases;

(3) provides full accessibility for the disabled;

(4) has more than fifty percent (50%) of its total sales in food;

(5) collects SNAP benefits at the time of meal delivery;

(6) posts a sign notifying the public of the restaurant's participation in the RMP; and

(7) complies with all federal, state, and local health and safety laws and regulations.

(g) A restaurant operating as a bar or tavern shall not be eligible to participate in the RMP.”

1 **SECTION 7. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or its application to
2 any person or circumstance is found to be invalid or inorganic, such invalidity shall
3 not affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be given effect without
4 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are
5 severable.

6 **SECTION 8. Effective Date.** This Act shall become effective upon
7 enactment.

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

Bill No. 78-38 (COR)

As amended by the Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs

Introduced by:

Shelly V. Calvo

**AN ACT TO *AMEND* §§ 2701, 2702, AND 2703; AND
TO *ADD* A NEW § 2707; ALL OF ARTICLE 7,
CHAPTER 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE
ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING
THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM (RMP)
UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP); AND TO CITE
THIS ACT AS THE “MEALS FOR AT-RISK
HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025.”**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

SECTION 1. Short Title. This Act may be cited as the “Meals for At-risk
Households Act of 2025.”

SECTION 2. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds
that one in five of Guam residents rely on benefits from the U.S. Department of
Agriculture’s (USDA) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to
supplement their grocery budget so they can afford the nutritious food essential to health
and well-being. Locally administered by the Division of Public Welfare within the
Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS, Department), SNAP
provides federally funded food nutrition benefits to thousands of eligible low-income
island residents and households in need. The largest among the USDA’s safety net of
domestic nutrition assistance programs, SNAP allocated \$179 million to Guam in
fiscal year 2023 and distributed this assistance to recipients as electronic benefits

1 transfer (EBT) payments for food purchased at any of Guam’s 243 USDA-authorized
2 food retailers. According to the latest SNAP participation and benefits data, 33,900
3 SNAP recipients living in 12,521 households in Guam received over \$10 million in
4 SNAP payments for the period of November 2024. Whereas the program’s
5 administrative costs are shared equally by the federal and local government, SNAP
6 benefits are 100% federally funded, thus generating significant economic activity for
7 food retailers and creating jobs in a variety of sectors.

8 *I Liheslatura* however finds that purchasing, preparing or storing food can be a
9 challenge for many of the island’s SNAP recipients who are elderly, living with
10 disabilities, or experiencing homelessness—collectively accounting for approximately
11 23% of the SNAP households in Guam. These individuals may find it difficult to
12 prepare meals for themselves; or, in the case of the unhoused, do not have a place to
13 store and cook food. Without tools or appliances, or the physical abilities necessary to
14 prepare their own meals, these households are likely to experience food insecurity due
15 to limited access to nutritionally adequate and safe foods. Food-insecure and low-
16 income people are especially vulnerable to poor nutrition, which is linked with
17 increased risk of diet-related diseases as well as higher healthcare costs and decreased
18 productivity.

19 Seeking to continue this august body’s efforts to improve the food security by
20 providing more equitable resources for at-risk residents, *I Liheslatura* finds that existing
21 federal law authorizes the states and U.S. territories to provide greater access to
22 nutritious meals for households who may have barriers to acquiring, preparing and
23 storing food. Currently implemented in nine states including Arizona, California,
24 Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New York, Rhode Island, Virginia, a
25 federally approved option under SNAP called the Restaurant Meals Program (RMP)
26 allows eligible SNAP recipients who are elderly, living with disabilities, or
27 experiencing homelessness—those less able to use food assistance in traditional

ways—with the choice of using their existing EBT benefits at USDA-approved restaurants that offer low-cost meal options.

It is therefore the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*, under the authority of the Federal Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, 7 U.S.C. § 2011 *et seq.*, to implement the RMP as an optional component of SNAP no later than January 1, 2026. Subject to amendments by Section 4014 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 to the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 that include certain oversight provisions for states and U.S. territories that opt to participate in the RMP as part of SNAP, the Department will be responsible for selecting restaurants that meet a documented need in an underserved geographical area, and implementing a system that ensures that only RMP-eligible households can use SNAP benefits at the participating restaurant. All USDA-authorized restaurants approved for participation in the RMP must sign a contract with the Department to provide prepared food at concession prices for SNAP customers.

SECTION 3. § 2701 of Article 7, Chapter 2, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

“§ 2701. Definitions.

For the purposes of this Article:

(a) “Department” means the Department of Public Health and Social Services;

(b) “Food” means any food or food product for human consumption except alcoholic beverages and tobacco and shall include seeds and plants for use in gardens to produce food for the personal consumption for the eligible household;

(c) “Food coupons” means any coupon, stamp or type of certificate used under the Federal Food Stamp Act of 1977;

(d) “Food stamp program” means a program ~~under the Food Stamp Act of 1977~~ since renamed the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

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(SNAP) ~~[by the Federal Food and Nutrition Act of 2008]~~, which provides financial assistance intended to raise levels of nutrition among low-income households pursuant to the Federal Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, 7 U.S.C. § 2011 *et seq.*;

(e) “Restaurant meals program” (RMP) means a program implemented as part of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) that provides households containing elderly or disabled members, and their spouses, as defined in 7 U.S.C. § 2012(j), or homeless individuals, as defined in 7 U.S.C. § 2012(l), the option to use SNAP benefits at private establishments that contract with the Department to offer meals for eligible individuals at concession prices in accordance with 7 U.S.C. § 2018(h);

(f) “SNAP benefits” means the value of supplemental nutrition assistance, as defined in 7 U.S.C. § 2012(d), provided to a household by means of an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) ~~[under]~~ pursuant to the Federal Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, or other means of provided assistance, as determined by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA); and

~~[(f)]~~(g) “Temporary Assistance for Needy Families” (TANF) means the federally grant funded, time limited program, to assist families with children when the parents or other responsible relatives cannot provide for the family’s basic needs pursuant to Subtitle B, Chapter II of 45 U.S.C.”

SECTION 4. § 2702 of Article 7, Chapter 2, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

“§ 2702. Authorization.

The Department of Public Health and Social Services, through the Division of ~~[Social Services]~~ Public Welfare, is authorized to implement the food stamp program locally pursuant to the Federal Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, 7 U.S.C. § 2011 *et seq.*, and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Personal

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1 Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 ~~and the Food and~~
2 ~~Nutrition Act of 2008~~:

3 (a) Householders determined by the Department to be eligible for
4 assistance under the food stamp program may obtain SNAP benefits or other
5 means of provided assistance as determined by the USDA;

6 (b) The food stamp program shall include the Restaurant Meals
7 Program in accordance with the provisions of § 2707 of this Article;

8 (c) SNAP benefits shall be used to purchase food from retail food stores
9 ~~which have been approved for the participation in the food stamp program~~
10 and for qualified individuals to use at restaurants that participate in the
11 Restaurant Meals Program in accordance with the provisions of § 2707 of this
12 Article.”

13 **SECTION 5.** § 2703 of Article 7, Chapter 2, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated,
14 is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

15 **“§ 2703. Duties of the Department.**

16 The Department of Public Health and Social Services, through the Division
17 of ~~Social Services~~ Public Welfare, shall:

18 (a) adopt rules and regulations necessary to carry out the food stamp
19 program, which shall include the Restaurant Meals Program pursuant to §
20 2707 of this Article;

21 (b) cooperate with the federal government and do all things necessary
22 to continue eligibility under the food stamp program;

23 (c) comply with the requirements of the Federal Food and Nutrition Act
24 of 2008, 7 U.S.C. § 2011 et seq.~~{};~~ and

25 (d) exempt individuals domiciled in Guam from the application of
26 Section 115 of the Federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity
27 Reconciliation Act of 1996, 21 U.S.C. §§ 862a(a)(1) and (2), by allowing

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1 payment of SNAP and TANF benefits to an otherwise eligible individual who
2 has been convicted of a felony offense under federal, state or Guam criminal
3 law which has as an element the possession, use or distribution of a controlled
4 substance, as defined in Section 102(6) of the Federal Controlled Substances
5 Act, 21 U.S.C. § 802(c), if

6 (1) the individual has successfully completed probation, parole,
7 community corrections, a reentry court program, or any other post-
8 conviction monitoring program ordered by a court; or

9 (2) the individual is successfully complying with conditions of
10 probation, parole, or community corrections, the terms of participation
11 in a reentry court program, or the requirements of any other post-
12 conviction monitoring program ordered by a court.”

13 **SECTION 6.** A new § 2707 of Article 7, Chapter 2, Title 10, Guam Code
14 Annotated, is hereby *added* to read as follows:

15 **“§ 2707. Restaurant Meals Program.**

16 (a) Subject to federal approval of the state plan ~~and an identified funding~~
17 ~~source~~, the Department of Public Health and Social Services (Department) shall
18 establish the Restaurant Meals Program (RMP) as part of the federal Supplemental
19 Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) pursuant to the Federal Food and Nutrition
20 Act of 2008, 7 U.S.C. § 2011 et seq., and subject to the provisions of
21 7 U.S.C. § 2018(h) and 7 CFR § 278.1(d)(3).

22 (b) The purpose of the RMP is to expand food access to individuals who do
23 not have a place to store and cook food; may not be able to prepare food; or do not
24 have access to a grocery store.

25 (c) The Department shall develop and implement a plan to begin participation
26 in the RMP ~~no later than January 1, 2026 upon enactment of this act.~~

1 (d) The RMP shall permit SNAP households containing elderly or disabled
2 members, and their spouses, as defined in 7 U.S.C. § 2012(j), or homeless
3 individuals, as defined in 7 U.S.C. § 2012(l), to use their electronic benefits transfer
4 (EBT) card to purchase prepared food at concessional prices from restaurants that
5 have entered in a contract with the Department and authorized by the U.S.
6 Department of Agriculture (USDA) to participate in the RMP in accordance with
7 7 U.S.C. § 2018(h). The EBT system shall electronically identify an eligible
8 recipient at the point of sale.

9 (e) Before participating in the RMP, a restaurant shall submit an application
10 and be approved under a process determined by the Department; become a SNAP
11 provider licensed by the USDA; and be able to process EBT card payments at the point
12 of sale.

13 (f) A restaurant shall not operate as a vendor in the RMP unless the restaurant:

14 (1) offers meals at concessional prices by: serving meals that cost less
15 than that which would be charged to customers not using SNAP benefits with
16 a sales price at least 10 percent (10%) less than the sales price charged to
17 customers who are not using SNAP benefits to pay for similar meals; serving
18 meals already discounted for certain customers; or serving meals offered to
19 all customers at advertised special or sale prices;

20 (2) permits customers to make in-store purchases;

21 (3) provides full accessibility for the disabled;

22 (4) has more than fifty percent (50%) of its total sales in food;

23 (5) collects SNAP benefits at the time of meal delivery;

24 (6) posts a sign notifying the public of the restaurant's participation in
25 the RMP; and

26 (7) complies with all federal, state, and local health and safety laws and
27 regulations.

1 (g) A restaurant operating as a bar or tavern shall not be eligible to participate
2 in the RMP.

3 ~~(h) In accordance with federal law, the Department shall adopt regulations to~~
4 ~~verify household eligibility for participation in the RMP; establish eligibility~~
5 ~~standards, an application process, and an approval process for restaurants to~~
6 ~~participate in the RMP; and implement the provisions of this Section.”~~

7 **SECTION 7. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or its application to
8 any person or circumstance is found to be invalid or inorganic, such invalidity shall
9 not affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be given effect without
10 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are
11 severable.

12 **SECTION 8. Effective Date.** This Act shall become effective upon
13 enactment.



COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

March 21, 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. 78-38 (COR)**

Håfa Adai!

Find the attached, Fiscal Note for the following bill:

Bill No. 78-38 (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. 78-38 (COR)

AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 2701, 2702, AND 2703; AND TO ADD A NEW § 2707; ALL OF ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 2, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING THE RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM (RMP) UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP); AND TO CITE THIS ACT AS THE "MEALS FOR AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS ACT OF 2025."

Department/Agency Appropriation Information

Dept./Agency Affected: Department of Public Health & Social Services	Dept./Agency Head: Theresa C Arriola, Director
Department's General Fund (GF) appropriation(s) to date: Operations (\$58,150,402); Health Insurance Premiums for Foster Children (\$2,359,215); Child Protective Services Program (\$2,220,129); Bureau of Social Services Administration (\$7,558,215); Miscellaneous Appropriation for Grants for Homelessness (\$500,000)	\$70,787,961
Department's Other Fund appropriation(s) to date: Environmental Health Fund (\$1,415,223); Health Professional Licensing Office Revolving Fund (\$338,801); Office of Vital Statistics Revolving Fund (\$225,014); DPHSS Sanitary Inspection Revolving Fund (\$424,986); Healthy Futures Fund for Guam Cancer Registry (\$389,144)	\$2,793,168
Total Department/Agency Appropriation(s) to date:	\$73,581,129

Fund Source Information of Proposed Appropriation

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

Estimated Fiscal Impact of Bill

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

- Does the bill contain "revenue generating" provisions? / / Yes / X / No
If Yes, see attachment
- 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? / X / Yes / / No
If yes, will the program duplicate existing programs/agencies? / / N/A / / Yes / X / No
Is there a federal mandate to establish the program/agency? / / Yes / X / No
- 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
/ X / Requested agency comments not received by due date / / Other:

Analyst:  Tyler Bautista, BMA II	Date: 03/20/2025	Director:  Lester L. Carlson, Jr., Director	Date: MAR 20 2025
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Notes:
1/ See attached comments.

BUREAU OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT RESEARCH
COMMENTS ON BILL NO. 78-38 (COR)

The proposed legislation intends to amend §§ 2701, 2702, and 2703; and to add a new § 2707; all of Article 7, Chapter 2, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated relative to implementing the Restaurant Meals Program (RMP) under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), administered by the Division of Public Welfare under the Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS). The intent of the proposed legislation is to provide households containing eligible elderly, disabled members, or homeless individuals (as defined by 7 U.S.C. § 2012) the option of using SNAP benefits at private establishments, contracted with DPHSS, for meals at concession prices.

The proposed legislation mandates the DPHSS to develop and implement a plan to begin participation in the RMP no later than January 01, 2026. DPHSS must adopt regulations to verify household eligibility for participation in the RMP; establish eligibility standards, an application process, and an approval process for restaurants to participate in RMP. In order for vendors to participate in this program, a private entity will need to apply and be approved by the DPHSS and USDA to be a licensed provider who must be able to process EBT card payments at the point of sale. In addition, a vendor must offer meals to eligible individuals, at a rate that is at least 10% less than cost charged to a customer that does not have SNAP benefits. The vendor must also notify the public of their participation in the RMP. Further, a restaurant operation as a bar or tavern is not eligible to participate in the RMP.

The proposed legislation seeks to provide additional options for food accessibility to eligible constituents under the SNAP program. Should the proposed legislation be enacted, there may be the potential for increased economic activity and create revenues via the Business Privilege Taxes (BPT) paid by the vendor. However, absent pertinent information from DPHSS to include the number of anticipated vendors participating in the RMP, in addition to the number of potential RMP eligible SNAP recipients, the Bureau is unable to determine a financial impact at this time.