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
375-38 (LS)	Committee on Child Welfare, Youth Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women's Affairs, Disability Services, the Arts, Culture, Historic Preservation and *Hagåtña* Restoration by request of *I Kongressun Manhoben Guåhan* , the Guam Youth Congress, in accordance with 2 GCA § 7102	AN ACT TO *AMEND* § 7103, § 7105, AND § 7107 OF CHAPTER 7, TITLE 2, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO UPDATING THE MEMBERSHIP PROVISIONS OF THE GUAM YOUTH CONGRESS TO REFLECT CURRENT EDUCATIONAL DESIGNATIONS AND INCLUDE CHARTER SCHOOL REPRESENTATION.	10/15/26 12:58 p.m. ^10/23/26 11:09 a.m.						

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

Bill No. 375-38 (LS)

Introduced by: Committee on Child Welfare, Youth Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women's Affairs, Disability Services, the Arts, Culture, Historic Preservation and *Hagåtña* Restoration
by request of *I Kongressun Manhoben Guåhan*, the Guam Youth Congress, in accordance with 2 GCA § 7102

AN ACT TO *AMEND* § 7103, § 7105, AND § 7107 OF CHAPTER 7, TITLE 2, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO UPDATING THE MEMBERSHIP PROVISIONS OF THE GUAM YOUTH CONGRESS TO REFLECT CURRENT EDUCATIONAL DESIGNATIONS AND INCLUDE CHARTER SCHOOL REPRESENTATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Intent and Purpose. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that the Guam Youth Congress serves as an essential forum for the expression of youth perspectives and a vital source of representation for the concerns, aspirations, and ideas of Guam's young people. Established by law as the official voice of the island's youth in matters of public interest, the Guam Youth Congress provides a structured and democratic platform through which youth representatives may engage in legislative deliberation, articulate community priorities, and contribute to the development of public policy that reflects the needs and values of the youth.

The Guam Youth Congress also serves an important educational function by

introducing future leaders to the legislative process. Through active participation in drafting resolutions, debating measures, and collaborating with elected officials, members of the body gain first-hand experience in lawmaking and public service.

I Liheslaturan Guåhan finds that the current composition of the Guam Youth Congress includes representatives elected from each of Guam's nineteen (19) municipalities, as well as representatives from each "public and private junior or senior high schools." *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that the term *"junior/senior high school"* no longer reflects the present structure of Guam's education system, as the Guam Department of Education (GDOE) transitioned from the junior high school model to the middle school model in the early 1980s. Accordingly, the term *"high school"* more accurately describes the secondary-level institutions that exist today and should replace outdated references to *"junior or senior high schools"* in the enabling statute to reflect current educational designations and ensure consistency with existing GDOE terminology.

I Liheslaturan Guåhan further finds that the enabling statute does not presently provide representation for charter schools, which now serve a growing number of Guam's high school students. Under Chapter 12, Title 17 of the Guam Code Annotated charter schools are recognized as a distinct component of the island's public education system, differing in governance, management, and operational structure from both the Guam Department of Education and private educational institutions.

Therefore, it is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to amend the statue governing the membership of the Guam Youth Congress to ensure that its composition accurately reflects the diversity of Guam's educational systems, ensuring comprehensive representation, while aligning its language with the current school designations recognized by the GDOE.

Section 2. § 7103 of Chapter 7, Title 2, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby

amended to read as follows:

"§ 7103. Membership.

The Congress shall be composed of not to exceed fifty-one (51) members, to be known as Representatives, to be elected from the areas listed below:

1. Village Representation
    a. One (1) representative from each organized village with a population below 5,000.
    b. Two (2) representatives from each village with a population between 5,000 and 10,000.
    c. Three (3) representatives from each village over 10,000 population.
2. School Representation:
    ~~a. One (1) representative from each private and public junior high school.~~
    ~~b.~~ a. One (1) representative from each ~~private and public senior~~ private, public, or charter high school with a student body below 1,000.
    ~~c.~~ b. Two (2) representatives from each ~~private and public senior~~ private, public, or charter high school with a student body above 1,000.
    ~~d.~~ c. Three (3) representatives from the University of Guam.
    ~~e.~~ d. Three (3) post-secondary representatives from the Guam Community College."

Section 3. § 7105 of Chapter 7, Title 2, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

"§ 7105. Vacancies.

In case of a vacancy occurring one (1) year prior to the next general election because a member can no longer qualify to represent the entity from which the member is elected, the school principal of the ~~public or private junior or senior~~ public, private, or charter high schools or the President of the University of Guam at which the student member attends, or the municipal mayor of the municipality in which the member resides, shall call for a special election to be held on the third Monday in October preceding the next general election for Youth Congress."

Section 4. § 7107 of Chapter 7, Title 2, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

§ 7107. Elections.

"General election to the Youth Congress shall be held on the third Monday in October commencing October, 1994 and every two (2) years thereafter. The election for school representatives will be conducted by the school principal of the ~~public or private junior or senior~~ public, private, or charter high schools and by the President of the University of Guam at the school which the eligible electorate attends, and at which the electorate are officially enrolled, and each voter shall be entitled to vote by private ballot for the number of candidates allotted their school as is provided in § 7103 of this Code. The election for village representatives will be conducted by the village mayor for the eligible electorate residing within the village boundaries, and each voter shall be entitled to vote for the number of candidates allotted to his village as is provided in § 7103 of this Code. The eligible electorate may vote in both the school and village elections.

Candidates for election may run as members of a political party or as independents, all such candidates to have received by petition from the eligible youth electorate at least fifty (50) signatures. Names of candidates on

ballots shall appear as provided in § 7105 of Title 3, Guam Code Annotated.

It shall be the responsibility of the school principal, the President of the University of Guam, or the village Mayor, to provide forms for petitions, ballots and tally sheets, the necessary ballot boxes and personnel to supervise the election, count and tally the ballots.

Results of the election will be certified by the Mayor, school principal, or the President of the University of Guam, as appropriate, within three (3) days after the election to the Secretary of the Guam Legislature, who shall verify the election results, and certify election of members to the Youth Congress."

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

Section 6. Effective Date. This Act shall be effective upon enactment.