



37th Guam Legislature Citizen-Centric Report

FISCAL YEAR 2024



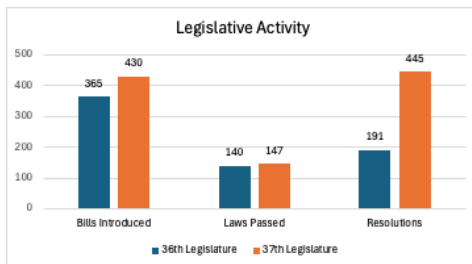
OUR PURPOSE

The Guam Legislature is one of the three branches of the Government of Guam. Its powers are co-equal to those of the Executive Branch (Governor/Lt Governor) and the Judicial Branches (Court). The Legislative Branch represents the citizens of Guam, passes the laws, and oversees the Government of Guam operations. The Executive Branch implements the laws and the Judicial Branch interprets the laws.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

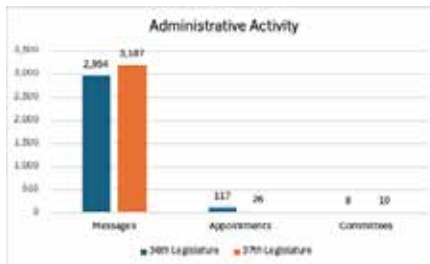
Legislative Activity

430 Bills Introduced
147 Laws Passed
445 Resolutions



Administrative Activity

3,187 Messages
26 Appointments
10 Committees



This next section are highlights from the Transition Report from the Chairman on Rules, Senator Chris Barnett of the 37th Guam Legislature:

While some initiatives came with their challenges, the Legislature faced them head-on with remarkable resilience, especially in the wake of the devastating Typhoon Mawar. Amid this crisis, we successfully navigated several obstacles, including extensive damage to two critical properties: **the leased U.S. Post Office building and the Garden House which had previously been used for storing legislative files.**

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37TH GUAM LEGISLATURE'S LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES:

- Committee on Rules Chairperson**
Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett
- Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts Chairperson**
Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett
- Committee on General Government Operations and Appropriations Chairperson**
Joe S. San Agustin
- Committee on Fire, Agriculture, Power and Energy Utilities, Public Transit, Unemployment Insurance and Universal Health Insurance Chairperson**
William Parkinson
- Committee on Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens Chairperson**
Amanda Shelton
- Committee on Infrastructure, Economic Development, Simon Sanchez High School, Disability Services, Self-Determination and Historic Preservation, Housing, Public Accountability, and the Guam Buildup Chairperson**
Roy Anthony Benavente Quinata
- Committee on Federal, Foreign & Regional Affairs, Innovation & Development, Human Resources & Public Libraries Chairperson**
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
- Committee on Emergency Response, Military and Veteran Affairs, Border Safety and Mayors Council Chairperson**
Dwayne San Nicolas
- Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning Chairperson**
Sabina Flores Perez
- Committee on Health, Land, Justice and Culture. Chairperson**
Therese M. Terlaje



Our Performance

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LEGISLATIVE RECORDS

Clerk of the Legislature

In March 2023, Joaquin “Quin” P. Taitague assumed the position of Clerk of the Legislature and has effectively carried out his duties throughout the 37th Guam Legislature, despite facing challenges that have impacted the completion and management of legislative session journals and archival files.

Legislative Session Journals

The process of completing the Legislative Session Journals requires a thorough re-evaluation. The Clerk’s Office is responsible for a wide range of duties, including processing Bills, Resolutions, and Certificates, as well as managing Messages and Communications, Appointment Reports, Referrals, Executive Orders, and other administrative duties.

Archival Files

In May 2023, Typhoon Mawar caused significant damage to the Garden House, resulting in flooding and, over time, created a health hazard due to poor ventilation of the documents stored there. Concerns included damaged boxes, possible termite infestation, and mold. All records stored there have been digitized since 2020.

Legal Considerations

All records created or received by public officials are regarded as government property. Under 5 GCA § 2607, these records cannot be destroyed or disposed of unless authorized by law. Disposal requires determination that records no longer hold value and must follow legal processes.

FACILITIES & MAINTENANCE

This section provides an overview of legislative buildings including Plaza de España, Azotea, Garden House, U.S. Post Office Building, and a few of the more significant projects affecting the Guam Congress Building.

- Garden House sustained roof damage and leaks, also has mold and ventilation issues, and Air Conditioning system failure.

Completed Repairs (U.S. Post Office Building):

- Roof replacement and coating, gutter replacement, and interior wall repainting.

Solar Panel Initiatives

- Repairs to the solar panels were completed as part of an ongoing effort to enhance energy efficiency and sustainability. Repairs were completed September 2024.

Air Cooled Chiller System

- The temporary chiller system in use is leased month-to-month from Tony’s Workshop. A new 90-ton chiller system from JWS is expected by April 2025.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & MODERNIZATION

The Audio-Visual (AV) and Management Information Systems (MIS) divisions have made significant progress in infrastructure modernization.

- 80% of legacy systems upgraded- 20% still requires investment in the next term.

Website Development:

- GUAMLEGISLATURE.GOV is the new official website.



Our Finances

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OUR 2024 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Revenues			
General Fund	\$8,941,280		
Interest and Investment earnings	\$759		
Other	\$75,000		
Expenditures			
	Fiscal Year 2024		Fiscal Year 2023
Salaries	\$5,815,740	65%	\$5,883,869
Benefits	\$1,466,215	16%	\$1,339,154
Travel	\$53,220	1%	\$25,717
Contractual services	\$742,387	8%	\$495,914
Building Rent	\$360,000	4%	\$367,936
Supplies	\$58,709	1%	\$60,623
Equipment	\$41,820	0%	\$75,905
Utilities (Power and Water)	\$175,604	2%	\$184,113
Communications	\$69,456	1%	\$67,449
Miscellaneous	\$233,129	3%	\$147,767
	\$9,016,280	100.0%	\$8,648,447

The legislatures budget is a self-generating budget. It's source is the general fund of the Government of Guam to fund it's operations.



Plaza de Espana



Our Outlook

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FINAL THOUGHTS

Despite setbacks caused by Typhoon Mawar, the Legislature maintained operations and advanced modernization, efficiency, and transparency.

As the 38th Guam Legislature begins, the report emphasizes continued collaboration, innovation, and commitment to serving the people of Guam.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse'

Senator Chris Barnett, Chairman on Rules Committee

