

*I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guahan*  
 BILL STATUS

BILL NO.	SPONSOR	TITLE	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	FISCAL NOTES	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	NOTES
<b>163-38 (COR)</b> As amended by the Committee on Economic Investment, Military Buildup, Regional Relations, Technology, Regulatory Affairs, Justice, Elections, and Retirement; and further amended on the Floor.	V. Anthony Ada Christopher M. Dueñas Jesse A. Lujan Sabrina Salas Matanane Frank F. Blas, Jr. Joe S. San Agustin Tina Rose Muña Barnes Shelly V. Calvo Telo T. Taitague Therese M. Terlaje Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao	AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §7146.1 OF CHAPTER 7, TITLE 16, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO TRANSFER-ON-DEATH BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION FOR MOTOR VEHICLES.	6/26/25 12:31 p.m.	7/3/25	Committee on Economic Investment, Military Buildup, Regional Relations, Technology, Regulatory Affairs, Justice, Elections, and Retirement.	Request: 7/7/25 7/15/25	9/12/25 2:00 p.m.	10/31/25 As Amended.	
<b>SESSION DATE</b>									
11/26/25									
SESSION DATE	TITLE	DATE PASSED	TRANSMITTED	DUE DATE	PUBLIC LAW NO.	DATE SIGNED	NOTES		
11/26/25	AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 7146.1 TO CHAPTER 7, TITLE 16, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO TRANSFER-ON-DEATH BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION FOR MOTOR VEHICLES.	12/5/25	12/9/25	12/20/25	38-84	12/20/25		Received: 12/20/25 Mess and Comm. Doc. No. 38GL-25-1628	



UFISINAN I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

Transmitted via Email to: [speakerblas@guamlegislature.org](mailto:speakerblas@guamlegislature.org)

December 20, 2025

**THE HON. FRANK BLAS, JR., Speaker**  
*I Mina 'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*  
38th Guam Legislature  
Guam Congress Building  
163 Chalan Santo Papa  
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

**Re: Bill No. 163-38 (COR), "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 7146.1 TO CHAPTER 7, TITLE 16, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO TRANSFER-ON-DEATH BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION FOR MOTOR VEHICLES."**

*Håfa Adai* Mr. Speaker,

Bill 163-38 aligns Guam with the best practices already adopted by many U.S. states by establishing a mechanism for the Transfer-on-Death (TOD) designation for motor vehicle titles, creating a low-cost, efficient process for transferring vehicle ownership upon the death of the owner.

For most Guam residents, a car is a significant asset. Currently, transferring a vehicle title after an owner's death often requires the lengthy, expensive, and stressful process of probate, which can take months and require legal assistance. This delay imposes a burden on grieving families and can risk the asset's value. Bill 163-38 directly addresses this issue, allowing owners to designate a beneficiary on the vehicle title so the vehicle can pass directly to the chosen loved one without the need for probate court or a formal will.

For these reasons, I sign Bill No. 163-38 (COR) into law as ***Public Law No. 38-84***.

*Senseramente,*

**LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO**

*I Maga'hågan Guåhan*  
Governor of Guam



**38GL-25-1628**  
Messages and Communications

**RECEIVED**

COMMITTEE ON RULES  
December 22, 2025

9:33 a.m.

*Mario Crisostomo*

Enclosure(s): Bill No. 163-38 (COR) nka P.L. 38-84

cc via email: Honorable Joshua F. Tenorio, *Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan*, Lt. Governor of Guam  
Compiler of Laws

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

**CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO *I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN***

This is to certify that **Bill No. 163-38 (COR), "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 7146.1 TO CHAPTER 7, TITLE 16, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO TRANSFER-ON-DEATH BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION FOR MOTOR VEHICLES,"** was on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of December 2025, duly and regularly passed.



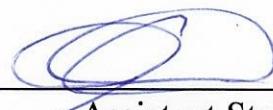
**Frank F. Blas, Jr.**  
**Speaker**

Attested:



**Sabrina Salas Matanane**  
**Legislative Secretary**

This Act was received by *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* this 9<sup>th</sup> day of Dec,  
2025, at 10:26 o'clock P.M.



**Assistant Staff Officer**  
*Maga'håga's Office*

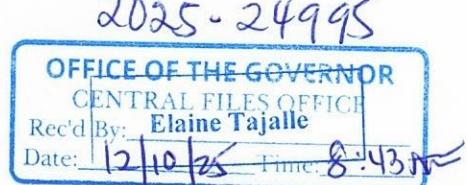
APPROVED:



**Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero**  
*I Maga'hågan Guåhan*

Date: 20 Dec 2025

Public Law No. 38-84



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

**Bill No. 163-38 (COR)**

As amended by the Committee on Economic Investment,  
Military Buildup, Regional Relations, Technology,  
Regulatory Affairs, Justice, Elections, and Retirement;  
and further amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

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

**AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 7146.1 TO CHAPTER 7, TITLE  
16, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO  
TRANSFER-ON-DEATH BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION  
FOR MOTOR VEHICLES.**

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

**2 Section 1.** A new § 7146.1 is *added* to Chapter 7, Title 16, Guam Code

**3 Annotated, to read:**

**4           “§ 7146.1. Transfer-on-Death Designation of Beneficiary for**  
**5           Motor Vehicles; Transfer on Ownership.**

(a) The owner or joint owners of a motor vehicle may apply to the Department of Revenue and Taxation (hereafter the "Department") to issue a certificate of title in beneficiary form for the motor vehicle which includes a directive to the Department to transfer the certificate of title for the vehicle upon the death of the owner or upon the death of all joint owners to a beneficiary named on the face of the certificate of title.

(b) A request made pursuant (a) above must be submitted on an application made available by the Department and accompanied by the fee required for issuance of a certificate of title.

(c) If the requirements of this Section are met, on the death of the sole or all joint owners of a vehicle owned in beneficiary form, the vehicle belongs to the surviving beneficiary, if any. If there is no surviving beneficiary, the vehicle belongs to the estate of the deceased owner or of the last co-owner to die.

(d) A certificate of title in beneficiary form may not be issued to a person who holds an interest in a motor vehicle as a tenant in common with another person.

(e) A certificate of title in beneficiary form must include, after the name of the owner or after the names of joint owners, the words "transfer on death to" or the abbreviation "TOD" followed by the name of the beneficiary.

(f) During the lifetime of a sole owner or before the death of the last surviving joint owner, the signature or consent of the beneficiary is not required for any transaction relating to a motor vehicle for which a certificate of title in beneficiary form has been

1 issued; and the certificate of title in beneficiary form may be revoked  
2 or the beneficiary changed at any time by:

3 (1) Sale of the motor vehicle with proper assignment  
4 and delivery of the certificate of title to another person, or

5 (2) Filing an application with, and paying a fee to, the  
6 Department to reissue the certificate of title with no designation  
7 of a beneficiary or with the designation of a different beneficiary

8 (g) The interest of the beneficiary in a motor vehicle on the  
9 death of the sole owner or the death of the last surviving joint owner is  
10 subject to any contract of sale, assignment, or ownership or security  
11 interest to which the owner or owners of the motor vehicle were subject  
12 during their lifetime.

13 (h) Except as otherwise provided in (f), the designation of a  
14 beneficiary in a certificate of title in beneficiary form may not be  
15 changed or revoked by will, any other instrument or a change in  
16 circumstances, or otherwise changed or revoked.

17 (i) The surviving beneficiary may secure a transfer of  
18 ownership for the vehicle upon presenting to the Department all of the  
19 following:

20 (1) The appropriate certificate of ownership.

21 (2) A certificate under penalty of perjury stating the  
22 date and place of the owner's death and that the declarant is  
23 entitled to the vehicle as the designated beneficiary.

24 (3) If required by the Department, a certificate of the  
25 death of the owner

26 (j) For the purposes of complying with the provisions of this  
27 Section, the Department may rely on a death certificate, record, or

1 report that constitutes *prima facie* evidence of death of an owner of a  
2 motor vehicle.

3 (k) The transfer on death of a motor vehicle pursuant to this  
4 Section is not testamentary and is not subject to the provisions of  
5 Guam's probate laws.

6 (l) In the instance a vehicle is owned by multiple owners, a  
7 transfer on death designation shall become effective only when each  
8 owner has signed a single transfer on death designation to the same  
9 beneficiary(ies), and each owner has died without revoking the  
10 designation or naming a new beneficiary.

11 (m) Definitions:

12 (1) "Motor Vehicle" means a motor vehicle as defined  
13 in § 1102 of Chapter 1, Title 16, Guam Code Annotated.

14 (2) "Beneficiary" means a person or persons designated  
15 to become the owner or owners of a motor vehicle on the death  
16 of the preceding owner or owners

17 (3) "Certificate of title in beneficiary form" means a  
18 certificate of title of a motor vehicle that indicates the present  
19 owner or owners of the motor vehicle and designates a  
20 beneficiary.

21 (n) Public Information Disclosure Requirement. Within  
22 ninety (90) days following the enactment of this Section, the  
23 Department of Revenue and Taxation shall develop, publish, and make  
24 available to the public, informational materials summarizing the  
25 provisions of this Section and the process for obtaining and recording a  
26 certificate of title in beneficiary form. These materials shall include, at  
27 minimum:

- (1) A plain-language summary of the rights and responsibilities of vehicle owners, beneficiaries, and lienholders;
- (2) Instructions for submitting and recording a transfer-on-death beneficiary designation; and
- (3) Notice that any existing lien or security interest remains enforceable against the vehicle.

7                   The Department shall post such information on its official website,  
8                   make printed copies available at its Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) locations,  
9                   and distribute the materials to any applicant requesting a certificate of title or  
10                  transfer under this Section.”