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
337-38 (COR) As amended by the Committee on Economic Investment, Military Buildup, Regional Relations, Technology, Regulatory Affairs, Justice, Elections and Retirement.	Chris Barnett Telo T. Taitague William A. Parkinson	AN ACT TO *AMEND* § 22109 OF CHAPTER 22, TITLE 7, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO FAIR JUROR COMPENSATION.	6/26/26 9:49 a.m.	7/2/26	Committee on Economic Investment, Military Buildup, Regional Relations, Technology, Regulatory Affairs, Justice, Elections, and Retirement.	Request: 7/2/26 7/10/26	7/24/26 9:00 a.m.	8/27/26 As Amended.	

SESSION DATE	TITLE	DATE PASSED	TRANSMITTED	DUE DATE	PUBLIC LAW NO.	DATE SIGNED	NOTES
9/28/26	AN ACT TO *AMEND* § 22109 AND ADD A NEW § 22110.1 TO CHAPTER 22, TITLE 7, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO FAIR JUROR COMPENSATION AND THE PERIODIC REVIEW OF JUROR FEES.	10/16/26	10/19/26	10/30/26	38-156	10/30/26	Received: 10/30/26 Mess and Comm. Doc. No. 38GL-26-3134

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
GOVERNOR

JOSHUA F. TENORIO
LT. GOVERNOR

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

38GL-26-3134

OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER
FRANK F. BLAS JR.
OCT 30 2026
Time: 4:30pm
Received: MG

Transmitted via Email to: speakerblas@guamlegislature.org

October 30, 2026

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. 337-38 (COR), "AN ACT TO *AMEND* § 22109 AND *ADD* A NEW § 22110.1 TO CHAPTER 22, TITLE 7, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO FAIR JUROR COMPENSATION AND THE PERIODIC REVIEW OF JUROR FEES."

Håfa Adai Mr. Speaker,

Jury service is one of the most important civic responsibilities entrusted to the people of Guam. Jurors safeguard the constitutional right to trial by an impartial jury and play an essential role in ensuring the fair administration of justice on our island. Citizens who fulfill this important responsibility should receive reasonable compensation to help offset the financial burden associated with jury service.

The current compensation of thirty dollars ($30) per day no longer adequately reflects the economic realities faced by those called to serve. No one should face an unreasonable financial burden simply because they are fulfilling their civic duty. Increasing juror compensation to sixty dollars ($60) per day recognizes the importance of their service and helps reduce the financial hardship that jury duty may impose.

By providing more reasonable compensation, we are investing not only in the citizens who serve as jurors, but also in the strength and fairness of our justice system.

For these reasons, I am signing Bill No. 337-38 (COR) into law as **Public Law No. 38-156**.

Senseramente,

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
I Maga'hågan Guåhan
Governor of Guam

38GL-26-3134
Messages and Communications
RECEIVED
COMMITTEE ON RULES
October 31, 2026
1:39 p.m.
Marie Crisostomo

Enclosure(s): Bill No. 337-38 (COR) nka P.L. 38-156
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
2026 (SECOND) Regular Session

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

This is to certify that **Bill No. 337-38 (COR), "AN ACT TO *AMEND* § 22109 AND *ADD* A NEW § 22110.1 TO CHAPTER 22, TITLE 7, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO FAIR JUROR COMPENSATION AND THE PERIODIC REVIEW OF JUROR FEES,"** was on the 16th day of October 2026, 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 16th day of October, 2026, at 4:53 o'clock P.M.

Jomichael C. Quinata
Assistant Staff Officer
Maga'håga's Office

APPROVED:

Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero
I Maga'hågan Guåhan

Date: 10/30/2026

Public Law No. 38-156

2026-26459

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
CENTRAL FILES OFFICE
Rec'd By: Jomichael C. Quinata
Date: 10-16-26 Time: 4:53 PM

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

Bill No. 337-38 (COR)
As amended by the Committee on Economic Investment, Military Buildup, Regional Relations, Technology, Regulatory Affairs, Justice, Elections, and Retirement.

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

AN ACT TO *AMEND* § 22109 AND *ADD* A NEW § 22110.1 TO CHAPTER 22, TITLE 7, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO FAIR JUROR COMPENSATION AND THE PERIODIC REVIEW OF JUROR FEES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Finding and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that jury service is one of the highest civic responsibilities entrusted to the people of Guam. Jurors safeguard the constitutional right to trial by an impartial jury and play an indispensable role in ensuring the fair administration of justice.

I Liheslaturan further finds that Guam's current juror compensation of Thirty Dollars ($30.00) per day has remained unchanged since 1985, despite the island's rising cost of living and no longer reflects fair compensation for many residents who are called upon to fulfill this civic duty. The Legislature further finds that the absence of a periodic review process has contributed to juror compensation remaining unchanged for more than four decades.

I Liheslatura recognizes that Government of Guam employees are afforded paid leave while serving on jury duty pursuant to the Government of Guam Personnel Rules and Regulations. Government employees continue to receive their regular salary without charge to annual leave or sick leave while serving as jurors and therefore generally do not experience a loss of wages during this period of jury service. In contrast, many private-sector employees, self-employed individuals, and hourly wage earners are not guaranteed paid leave while serving on a jury. Depending upon their employer's policies, these citizens may experience a partial or complete loss of income while fulfilling their civic obligation. This disparity places a disproportionate financial in jury service by those least able to absorb the loss of income.

I Liheslatura further recognizes the Judiciary of Guam's ongoing efforts to improve the jury experience through juror exit surveys and modernization of jury operations. Testimony presented before the legislature reflects that, in addition to concerns regarding parking and courthouse amenities, the amount of juror compensation is consistently identified by jurors as one of the primary concerns expressed through these surveys. These findings demonstrate that the current compensation rate no longer adequately reflects the economic realities faced by many citizens called to serve. Accordingly, it is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to increase juror compensation to better reflect Guam's current economic conditions, reduce the financial hardship associated with jury service, and encourage broad

participation in the jury system. It is further the intent of *I Liheslatura* to provide for the funding and implementation of the increased juror fees and establish a periodic review process to assess future adjustments and their fiscal impact.

Section 2. § 22109 of Chapter 22, Title 7, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read:

"**§ 22109. Fees.**

Jurors in the courts of Guam shall receive the following fees, except as otherwise expressly provided by law:

For actual attendance at the place of trial or hearing and for the time necessarily occupied in going to and from such place at the beginning and end of such service or at any time during the same, Sixty Dollars ($60.00) per day, except that any juror required to attend more than thirty (30) days in hearing one case may be paid in the discretion and upon the certification of the judge a per diem fee not exceeding Seventy Dollars ($70.00) for each day in excess of thirty (30) days he is required to hear each case.

Whenever in any case the jury is ordered to be kept together and not to separate, the cost of subsistence during such period shall be paid upon the order of the court. Jury fees provided by this section shall be paid on the certificate of the clerk of the court, and in the case of jury fees in excess of Sixty Dollars ($60.00) per diem, when allowed as hereinabove provided, on the certificate of the trial judge."

Section 3. A new § 22110.1 is hereby *added* to Chapter 22, Title 7, Guam Code Annotated, to read:

"**§ 22110.1. Periodic Review of Juror Compensation.**

(a) No later than January 1, 2030, and every three (3) years thereafter, the Judicial Council shall review the juror compensation established pursuant to § 22109 of this Chapter to determine whether such

compensation continues to reasonably offset the financial burden associated with jury service.

(b) In conducting its review, the Judicial Council shall consider, at a minimum:

(1) the Guam Consumer Price Index published by the Bureau of Statistics and Plans;

(2) the financial condition of the Jury Trust Fund established pursuant to § 22110 of this Chapter;

(3) historical and projected jury utilization and the operational needs of the Judiciary;

(4) the estimated fiscal impact of any recommended adjustment; and

(5) juror compensation provided by comparable state and territorial courts.

(c) Upon completion of its review, the Judicial Council shall transmit its findings and any recommendation for adjustment of juror compensation to *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* and *I Liheslaturan Guåhan.*

(d) If the Judicial Council recommends an adjustment to the juror compensation established pursuant to § 22109 of this Chapter, the Judiciary shall include such recommendation, together with the estimated fiscal impact and the amount necessary to implement the recommendation, in its next annual budget request submitted to *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* and *I Liheslaturan Guåhan.*"

Section 4. Fiscal Year 2027 Funding Assessment and Subsequent Fiscal Year Budget Requests.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and consistent with §§ 2103 and 2104 of Chapter 2, Title 7, Guam Code Annotated, the Unified Judiciary

of Guam is authorized to transfer allotted but unexpended balances of its Fiscal Year 2026 appropriations that remain available in Fiscal Year 2027 pursuant to § 2104, excluding funds held in trust, to the Jury Trust Fund established pursuant to § 22110 of Chapter 22, Title 7, Guam Code Annotated, for the sole purpose of funding the increase in juror fees from Thirty Dollars ($30.00) per day to Sixty Dollars ($60) per day pursuant to § 22109 of Chapter 22, Title 7, Guam Code Annotated.

(b) No later than thirty (30) days after the close of Fiscal Year 2026, the Unified Judiciary of Guam shall assess the amount necessary to fully fund the increase in juror fees for Fiscal Year 2027, taking into account the balance of the Jury Trust Fund and any funds available pursuant to Subsection (a), and shall submit such assessment, including any additional funding necessary to fully fund the increase for Fiscal Year 2027, to the Speaker of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the Office of Finance and Budget.

(c) The Judicial Council shall include in its Fiscal Year 2028 and subsequent annual budget requests, submitted pursuant to § 2102 of Chapter 2, Title 7, Guam Code Annotated, the amount necessary to be appropriated to the Jury Trust Fund, to fully fund the juror fees established pursuant to § 22109 of Chapter 22, Title 7, Guam Code Annotated.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Act shall be effective upon enactment.