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
343-38 (LS) As amended by the Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs; and further amended on the Floor.	Therese M. Terlaje Sabina Flores Perez Telo T. Taitague Sabrina Salas Matanane Shelly V. Calvo	AN ACT TO *AMEND* § 4B104 AND § 4B105 OF ARTICLE 1B, CHAPTER 4, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, AND § 67101(d), (e), AND (g) OF CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO DEFINING SPOUSE AND LEGAL GUARDIAN FOR CERTAIN LOCAL VETERANS' BENEFITS.	7/22/26 4:00 p.m.	7/27/26	Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs.	Request: 7/27/26 8/7/26	9/2/26 8:00 a.m.	9/17/26 As Amended.	

SESSION DATE	TITLE	DATE PASSED	TRANSMITTED	DUE DATE	PUBLIC LAW NO.	DATE SIGNED	NOTES
9/28/26	AN ACT TO *AMEND* §§ 4B104 AND 4B105 OF ARTICLE 1B, CHAPTER 4, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, AND TO *AMEND* §§ 67101(d), (e), AND (g) OF CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO DEFINING SPOUSE AND LEGAL GUARDIAN FOR CERTAIN LOCAL VETERANS' BENEFITS.	10/16/26	10/19/26	10/30/26	38-158	10/30/26	Received: 10/30/26 Mess and Comm. Doc. No. 38GL-26-3136

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
GOVERNOR

JOSHUA F. TENORIO
LT. GOVERNOR

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

38GL-26-3136

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

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. 343-38 (LS), "AN ACT TO *AMEND* §§ 4B104 AND 4B105 OF ARTICLE 1B, CHAPTER 4, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, AND TO *AMEND* §§ 67101(d), (e), AND (g) OF CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO DEFINING SPOUSE AND LEGAL GUARDIAN FOR CERTAIN LOCAL VETERANS' BENEFITS."

Håfa Adai Mr. Speaker,

Bill No. 343-38 (LS) strengthens support for veterans' families by extending certain local veterans' benefits for eligible surviving spouses and long-term legal guardians, while updating the definitions used to determine eligibility.

The bill removes the ten-year limit on benefits for eligible surviving spouses, allowing those benefits to continue until remarriage or death. It also preserves benefits until death for an eligible legal guardian who cared for a service member for at least five years immediately before the service member's death, provided the guardianship remained in effect at that time.

The measure also removes marriage-timing restrictions from the definition of a spouse and updates eligibility provisions for surviving spouses and legal guardians. These changes will guide the Guam Office of Veterans Affairs in certifying eligibility for the applicable local benefits.

Spouses and caregivers provide invaluable support to our veterans and share in the sacrifices of military service. By signing this measure, we honor that commitment and provide lasting support for eligible surviving spouses and long-term legal guardians.

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For these reasons, I sign Bill No. 343-38 (LS) into law as ***Public Law No. 38-158.***

Senseramente,

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

Enclosure(s): Bill No. 343-38 (LS) nka P.L. 38-158
cc via email: *Honorable* Joshua F. Tenorio, *Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan*, Lt. Governor of Guam
Compiler of Laws

38GL-26-3136
Messages and Communications
RECEIVED
COMMITTEE ON RULES
October 31, 2026
1:42 p.m.
Marie Crisostomo

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. 343-38 (LS), "AN ACT TO *AMEND* §§ 4B104 AND 4B105 OF ARTICLE 1B, CHAPTER 4, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, AND TO *AMEND* §§ 67101(d), (e), AND (g) OF CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO DEFINING SPOUSE AND LEGAL GUARDIAN FOR CERTAIN LOCAL VETERANS' BENEFITS,"** 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 14th 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. 38-158

2026-26662

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
CENTRAL FILES OFFICE
Rec'd By: Jomichael C. Quinata
Date: 10-19-26 Time: 4:53 PM

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

Bill No. 343-38 (LS)
As amended by the Committee on Health
and Veterans Affairs; and further amended on the Floor.

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

AN ACT TO *AMEND* §§ 4B104 AND 4B105 OF ARTICLE 1B, CHAPTER 4, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, AND TO *AMEND* §§ 67101(d), (e), AND (g) OF CHAPTER 67, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO DEFINING SPOUSE AND LEGAL GUARDIAN FOR CERTAIN LOCAL VETERANS' BENEFITS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that legislation defining a spouse, surviving spouse, and legal guardian, as well as the expiration of benefits granted to spouses and guardians, was initially enacted by

Public Law 31-240 in 2012. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that the definitions are unnecessarily restrictive and limiting.

I Liheslaturan Guåhan further finds that the benefits assigned to surviving spouses are set to expire ten (10) years after the veteran's passing, despite the fact that the important roles they perform do not necessarily lessen with the veteran's death or the passage of time. Therefore, these benefits should continue until they too have passed away or, in the case of a surviving spouse, remarries.

Section 2. § 4B104 of Article 1B, Chapter 4, Title 4, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

"**§ 4B104. Eligibility Period: Surviving Spouse.**

Benefits extended to a Surviving Spouse eligible under this Article, shall continue until the Surviving Spouse remarries or becomes deceased."

Section 3. § 4B105 of Article 1B, Chapter 4, Title 4, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

"**§ 4B105. Eligibility Period: Legal Guardian.**

Benefits extended to a Legal Guardian eligible under this Article, shall continue for the periods as follows:

(a) until minor children for which the guardian is legally responsible for, reach the age of eighteen (18) or until the age of twenty-three (23), if enrolled as a full-time student in an accredited degree or certification program; or

(b) until the legal guardianship is revoked or otherwise terminated; provided, however, that if the service member dies while the legal guardianship remains in effect, a Legal Guardian who had been taking care of the service member for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the service member's death shall remain eligible for such benefits until the Legal Guardian becomes deceased."

Section 4. § 67101(d) of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

"(d) "Spouse" means a person who is legally married to the Veteran in a marriage valid under applicable law."

Section 5. § 67101(e) of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

"(e) "Surviving Spouse" means a person who:

(1) was the spouse of a veteran at the time of veteran's death, who lived with the veteran continuously from the date of the marriage to the date of the veteran's death (Except when there was a separation which was due to the misconduct of, or procured by, the veteran without the fault of the spouse) and who has not currently remarried."

Section 6. § 67101(g) of Chapter 67, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

"(g) Legal Guardian for Disabled Service Member is a person lawfully vested with the power, and charged with the obligation, of taking care of and managing the property and rights of a person who because of service-connected disabling injuries is in need of care, and provided that the service member is divorced or legally separated from his spouse, never married, or widowed."

Section 7. Effective Date. This Act shall be effective upon enactment.