## I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2025 (FIRST) Regular Session VOTING RECORD

Bill No. 59-38 (COR) As amended on the Floor.  NAME	Speaker Antonio R. Unpingco Legislative Session Hall Guam Congress Building June 3, 2025					
	Yea	Nay	Not Voting/ Abstained	Out During Roll Call	Absent	Excused
Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada	J			3		
Senator Chris Barnett		J	2			9.
Speaker Frank F. Blas, Jr.	J					
Senator Vincent A.V. Borja	J					
Senator Shelly V. Calvo	J					
Senator Christopher M. Dueñas	J					
Senator Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao	J					
Senator Jesse A. Lujan	J					
Senator Tina Rose Muña Barnes	J				-	
Senator William A. Parkinson		J				
Senator Sabina Flores Perez		J			,	
Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane	J					,
Senator Joe S. San Agustin	J					
Senator Telo T. Taitague	J					
Senator Therese M. Terlaje		J				
TOTAL	11	4				
1	Yea	Nay	Not Voting/ Abstained	Out During Roll Call	Absent	Excused

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

RENNAE V. C. MENO Clerk of the Legislature I = Pass

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

Bill No. 59-38 (COR)

As amended on the Floor.

\*

Introduced by:

1

Christopher M. Dueñas
Frank F. Blas, Jr.
V. Anthony Ada
Jesse A. Lujan
Vincent A.V. Borja
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao
Joe S. San Agustin
Sabrina Salas Matanane
Shelly V. Calvo

AN ACT TO *ADD* A NEW § 26110.2 TO CHAPTER 26, DIVISION 2, TITLE 11, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REQUIRING THE ITEMIZATION OF BUSINESS PRIVILEGE TAX ON ALL SALES RECEIPTS, INVOICES AND OTHER DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED TO CUSTOMERS, AND TO ESTABLISH PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE, TO BE KNOWN AS THE "BUSINESS PRIVILEGE TAX TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2025."

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

- 2 Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. I Liheslaturan Guåhan finds
- 3 that the Business Privilege Tax (BPT) is a significant source of revenue for the
- 4 government of Guam but is largely invisible to consumers at the point of sale. This
- 5 lack of transparency makes it difficult for consumers to understand the full tax
- 6 burden included in their purchases and creates confusion about pricing.

I Liheslatura further finds that transparency in taxation is fundamental to good governance and informed consumer decision-making. When consumers can clearly see the taxes they pay, they are better equipped to understand both the true cost of their purchases and their contribution to government operations. The business community, through organizations such as the Guam Chamber of Commerce, has consistently advocated for greater transparency in tax collection and reporting.

Research into other jurisdictions demonstrates the benefits and feasibility of tax transparency requirements. Hawaii's General Excise Tax disclosure requirement has been successfully implemented, providing consumers with clear information about tax charges on their purchases. Similarly, New Mexico's Gross Receipts Tax disclosure requirements have enhanced consumer awareness without creating undue burden on businesses. Washington State's requirement to separately state Business & Occupation Tax charges has proven beneficial for both consumers and businesses, while the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has successfully implemented Value Added Tax disclosure requirements.

I Liheslaturan Guåhan intends to enhance transparency in Guam's tax system by requiring businesses to clearly display the Business Privilege Tax on all sales receipts and invoices. This requirement will help businesses better communicate tax costs to their customers while improving public understanding of Guam's tax structure. The six-month implementation period following the promulgation of regulations will provide businesses with adequate time to update their point-of-sale systems and train their staff on the new requirements.

**Section 2.** A new § 26110.2 is hereby *added* to Chapter 26, Division 2, of Title 11, Guam Code Annotated, to read:

## "§ 26110.2. Business Privilege Tax Transparency Act of 2025.

(a) Every person required to pay Business Privilege Tax under this Chapter shall separately state and display the amount of Business Privilege Tax applicable to the sale on any receipt, invoice, or other document provided to the customer at the time of sale.

- (b) The tax amount shall be clearly identified as "Business Privilege Tax" or "BPT" and displayed as a separate line item.
- (c) For purposes of calculating the displayed tax amount, the person shall multiply the total sale amount by the applicable Business Privilege Tax rate.
- (d) Failure to comply with this section shall result in a penalty of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) for each violation, not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) per calendar year.
- (e) The Department of Revenue and Taxation shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this Act, pursuant to Title 5, Chapter 9 (the Administrative Adjudication Act), within six (6) months of enactment.
- (f) This Section shall take effect six (6) months after the completion of the requirements set forth in subsection (e)."
- **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Act *shall* be effective upon enactment.
- **Section 4. 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.