



OFFICE OF SENATOR
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao

38th Guam Legislature | *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

Bills Creating CJAC, Temporary POST-Certification, and Limited Business License for Housing Rentals Passed by Guam Legislature

Three measures to support Guam's criminal justice information system, public safety personnel challenges, and housing shortage headed to Adelup for executive action

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The Guam Legislature today codified the Criminal Justice Automation Commission (CJAC) and created both a temporary Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Commission Certification for individuals who possess a degree in criminal justice – and a temporary business license for property owners who desire to rent out their homes, apartment or condominium units. The 38th Guam Legislature voted to pass these three measures as well as 23 other Bills and three veto overrides in their 3rd Session of the term.

If enacted, Bill 110-38 (COR) authored by Senator Shawn Gumataotao would formally create the CJAC that since 1993 has developed the automated infrastructure that has improved access to critical criminal justice records for Guam's law enforcement agencies. All 14 senators present during today's session voted to send the measure to the Office of the Governor of Guam.

"Over the last three decades the Judiciary of Guam has managed Guam's connection to the National Crime Information Center, oversees the submission of fingerprint records to the FBI, and maintains Guam's criminal history repository," said Senator Gumataotao. "This data infrastructure ensures that law enforcement has consistent, reliable access to essential information for investigations and officer safety."

Another proposal authored by Senator Gumataotao, Bill 103-38 (COR) which received support from all 14 senators in attendance during today's session, would grant temporary peace officer certification for individuals who possess a degree in criminal justice or equivalent area of study and who are in good standing. The policy provides the legal authority for government agencies including the Office of the Attorney General, Judiciary of Guam, and the Guam Department of Corrections to hire college graduates or professionals if they secure temporary certification from the POST Commission.

"Recognizing the POST Commission continues to work on an interim recruitment process, Bill 103 if enacted brings them closer to establishing the necessary rules and regulations consistent with the legal authority this measure provides," said Senator Gumataotao. "Strengthened by the support and recommendations of our public safety community, this proposal is a responsible and pragmatic approach to filling critical positions especially at a time when our government is losing personnel to federal and military employers, and retirement, faster than they are able to recruit."

Also, the Guam Legislature voted 10 to 4 in passing Bill 125-38 (COR) that if signed into law authorizes the Guam Department of Revenue and Taxation (DRT) to issue temporary business licenses to property owners who want to rent out their homes. The amended bill would, among other things, provide property owners with a period of up to one year to complete any pending business license requirements and within that time frame allows them to generate income by providing other families with safe and affordable housing options. The bill includes policy guardrails against potential safety, health, and environmental issues.

"This measure was developed in cooperation with the Guam Association of Realtors and is intended specifically to help address Guam's housing needs now and into the future," said Senator Gumataotao. "Bill 125 will go a long way towards assisting individuals across our island secure a home to raise their families – while strengthening our economy moving forward."

For more information, please contact Senator Gumataotao's office at (671) 647-1409/1411 or via email at office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov.