

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 <i>AMEND</i> § 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	NOTES			
	9/28/26	AN ACT TO <i>AMEND</i> § 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				



COPY

I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
Thirty-Eighth Guam Legislature

October 19, 2026

The Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero
I Maga'hågan Guåhan
Ufisinan I Maga'håga
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Dear *Maga'håga* Leon Guerrero:

Transmitted herewith are Bill Nos. 175-38 (COR), 219-38 (COR), 226-38 (COR), 268-38 (COR), 305-38 (COR), 308-38 (COR), 320-38 (COR), 321-38 (COR), 322-38 (COR), 326-38 (LS), 327-38 (LS), 333-38 (COR), 334-38 (COR), 336-38 (COR), 337-38 (COR), 338-38 (COR), 342-38 (LS), 343-38 (LS), 351-38 (COR), and 361-38 (COR) which were passed by *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* on October 16, 2026.

Sincerely,

Senator Sabrina Salas Matanane
Legislative Secretary

Enclosure (20)



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.



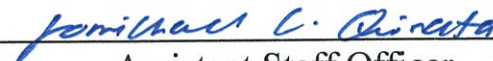
Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Speaker

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.



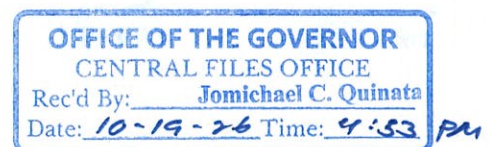
Assistant Staff Officer
Maga'håga's Office

APPROVED:

Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero
I Maga'hågan Guåhan

Date: _____

Public Law No. _____



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.

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

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

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

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

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

6 **“§ 22109. Fees.**

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

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

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

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

24 **“§ 22110.1. Periodic Review of Juror Compensation.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and consistent with §§
27 2103 and 2104 of Chapter 2, Title 7, Guam Code Annotated, the Unified Judiciary

1 of Guam is authorized to transfer allotted but unexpended balances of its Fiscal Year
2 2026 appropriations that remain available in Fiscal Year 2027 pursuant to § 2104,
3 excluding funds held in trust, to the Jury Trust Fund established pursuant to § 22110
4 of Chapter 22, Title 7, Guam Code Annotated, for the sole purpose of funding the
5 increase in juror fees from Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) per day to Sixty Dollars (\$60) per
6 day pursuant to § 22109 of Chapter 22, Title 7, Guam Code Annotated.

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

14 (c) The Judicial Council shall include in its Fiscal Year 2028 and
15 subsequent annual budget requests, submitted pursuant to § 2102 of Chapter 2, Title
16 7, Guam Code Annotated, the amount necessary to be appropriated to the Jury Trust
17 Fund, to fully fund the juror fees established pursuant to § 22109 of Chapter 22, Title
18 7, Guam Code Annotated.

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