

*I Mina'trentai Sietta 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
286-37 (LS) As substituted and amended on the Floor	Therese M. Terlaje Telo T. Taitague Chris Barnett Joanné M. Brown Joe S. San Agustin Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas Tina Rose Muña Barnes	AN ACT TO AMEND §6105 (B) OF ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 6, TITLE 12 GCA RELATIVE TO PROVIDING FREE BUS PASSES VALID FOR 30 DAYS TO THOSE WHO LACK ACCESS TO RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION.	4/29/24 10:12 a.m.	4/30/24	Committee on Fire, Agriculture, Power and Energy Utilities, Public Transit, Unemployment Insurance and Universal Health Insurance	Request: 4/30/24  5/10/24	7/16/24 2:00 p.m.	9/6/24 1:34 p.m.	
	<b>SESSION DATE</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>DATE PASSED</b>	<b>TRANSMITTED</b>	<b>DUE DATE</b>	<b>PUBLIC LAW NO.</b>	<b>DATE SIGNED</b>	<b>NOTES</b>	
	9/23/24	AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 6105(b)(3) OF ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 6, TITLE 12, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING FREE BUS PASSES TO THOSE WHO LACK ACCESS TO RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION.	10/7/24	10/8/24	10/19/24	37-133	10/18/24	Received: 10/18/24 Messages and Communications Doc. No. 37GL-24-2870	

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO  
GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO  
LT. GOVERNOR

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

**Transmitted via Email to: [speaker@guamlegislature.org](mailto:speaker@guamlegislature.org)**

October 18, 2024

**THE HON. THERESE M. TERLAJE**, *Speaker*  
*I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*  
37th Guam Legislature  
Guam Congress Building  
163 Chalan Santo Papa  
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

37GL-24-2870  
OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER  
THERESE M. TERLAJE

OCT 18 2024

Time: 6:04 PM  
Received: [Signature]

**Re: Substitute Bill No. 286-37 (LS), "AN ACT TO ADD NEW § 6105(b)(3) OF ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 6, TITLE 12, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING FREE BUS PASSES TO THOSE WHO LACK ACCESS TO RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION."**

*Håfa Adai* Madam Speaker,

It is undeniable that owning a vehicle is costly, from the outright purchase of a vehicle to the purchase of fuel and the costs of maintenance. Many of our residents do not have the means to pay the current costs of public transportation, let alone purchase a vehicle. The lack of transportation affects not just acquiring basic needs such as food and health care but also hinders opportunities for economic advancement such as getting assistance from Government agencies or holding a job.

Substitute Bill No. 286-37 seeks to address these concerns, by requiring the Guam Regional Transit Authority (GRTA) to provide one-month and daily bus passes at no cost to certain agencies on an as-needed basis. Those agencies will distribute the passes to individuals who do not have access to reliable transportation but require transportation for access to essential services. The bill will allow these individuals an opportunity to address their needs and the needs of their families, and will have real, lasting, positive effects on people's lives, and our community as a whole.

This bill also gives GRTA the authority to distribute free bus passes directly to individuals who need transportation for public assistance, medical or behavioral treatment, court- or probation-related needs, Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority assistance, and Guam Department of Education appointments.

I do acknowledge, however, the strain this bill may cause GRTA, as the bill requires GRTA to provide free passes for additional ridership without additional funding from the Legislature. Though the importance of the services addressed in this bill ultimately justify its enactment, the long-term viability of this measure will require that the Legislature appropriate necessary funds to compensate for the impact the bill will have on GRTA operations.



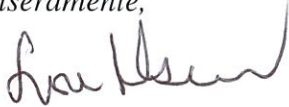
To: The Hon. Therese M. Terlaje, Speaker  
Fr: The Hon. Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, Governor of Guam  
Date: October 18, 2024  
Re: Substitute Bill No. 286-37 (LS)

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For the foregoing reasons, and noting these concerns, I am signing Substitute Bill No. 286-37 (LS) into law as **Public Law 37-133**.

*Senseramente,*



**LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO**

*I Maga'hågan Guåhan*

Governor of Guam

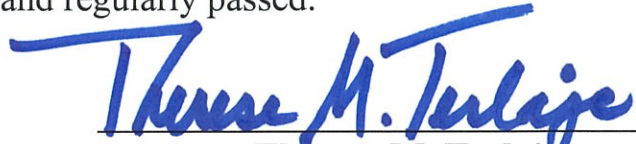
Enclosure(s): Substitute Bill No. 286-37 (LS) nka P.L. 37-133

cc via email: *Honorable* Joshua F. Tenorio, *Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan*, Lt. Governor of Guam  
Compiler of Laws

*I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*  
2024 (SECOND) Regular Session

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

This is to certify that **Substitute Bill No. 286-37 (LS)**, "AN ACT TO *ADD A NEW § 6105(b)(3) OF ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 6, TITLE 12, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING FREE BUS PASSES TO THOSE WHO LACK ACCESS TO RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION,*" was on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024, duly and regularly passed.




Therese M. Terlaje  
Speaker

Attested:



Amanda L. Shelton  
Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October,  
2024, at 9:00 o'clock A.M.



Jessica C. Dydasco  
Assistant Staff Officer  
*Maga'håga's Office*

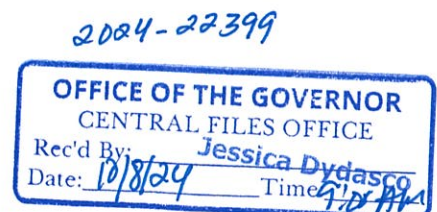
APPROVED:



Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero  
*I Maga'hågan Guåhan*

Date: 10/18/24

Public Law No. 37-133



*I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*  
2024 (SECOND) Regular Session

**Bill No. 286-37 (LS)**

As substituted; and amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

Therese M. Terlaje  
Telo T. Taitague  
Chris Barnett  
Joanne M. Brown  
Joe S. San Agustin  
Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas  
Tina Rose Muña Barnes  
Frank Blas, Jr.  
Christopher M. Dueñas  
Thomas J. Fisher  
Jesse A. Lujan  
William A. Parkinson  
Sabina Flores Perez  
Roy A. B. Quinata  
Amanda L. Shelton

**AN ACT TO *ADD* A NEW § 6105(b)(3) OF ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 6, TITLE 12, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING FREE BUS PASSES TO THOSE WHO LACK ACCESS TO RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION.**

1        **BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:**

2        **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds  
3 that transportation can be a barrier to accessing essential services or appearing before  
4 appointments for economically-disadvantaged individuals who cannot afford to  
5 purchase their own vehicles or afford the current costs of public transportation; and  
6 the lack of access to reliable transportation results in limited access to crucial

1 services perpetuating cycles of poverty and hindering opportunities for economic  
2 advancement.

3 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that the lack of reliable transportation for  
4 this population, especially those facing legal challenges including court orders and  
5 probation, creates obstacles for them in meeting their obligations such as their ability  
6 to attend court-mandated appointments, hearings, and other legal requirements.

7 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that a portion of the population that are in need  
8 face challenges in accessing essential health services and public assistance programs  
9 due to transportation barriers; and limited mobility exacerbates health disparities and  
10 restricts access to vital resources that can improve overall well-being.

11 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* also finds that foster families, who play a pivotal role  
12 in providing stability for children in need, may also encounter difficulties in  
13 transporting foster children to essential appointments, schools, or other activities,  
14 which fundamentally limits the overall development and well-being of the children  
15 in their care.

16 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that the Guam Regional Transit Authority  
17 (GRTA) is a government entity that aims to provide reliable and affordable public  
18 transportation for the people of *Guåhan*. Current bus fare rates are One Dollar and  
19 Fifty Cents (\$1.50) for a single ride pass, Four Dollars (\$4.00) for a one (1)-day pass,  
20 Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) for a one (1)-week pass, and Sixty-five Dollars (\$65.00)  
21 for a one (1)-month pass. While the costs for these fares may appear affordable for  
22 some, for others who are lacking the financial means, these costs are the determining  
23 factor in whether they can access transportation for the day, week, or month.

24 Therefore, it is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to address the identified  
25 challenges of those experiencing financial hardships by mandating the Guam  
26 Regional Transit Authority (GRTA) to provide free bus passes.

1           **Section 2.** A new Subsection (3) is hereby *added* to § 6105(b) of Article 1,  
2 Chapter 6, Title 12, Guam Code Annotated, to read:

3           “(3) Provide a combination of one (1)-month and daily bus passes at no cost  
4 to agencies on an as-needed basis which the agencies shall distribute to individuals  
5 who do not have access to reliable transportation but require transport services to  
6 avail for essential services or attend appointments.

7           (A) Bus passes shall be provided to Child Protective Services (CPS),  
8 the Guam Department of Education (GDOE), the Guam Department of Public  
9 Health and Social Services (DPHSS), the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal  
10 Authority (GHURA), the Judiciary of Guam, or the Guam Behavioral Health  
11 and Wellness Center (GBHWC) at the request of the agencies.

12           (B) Bus passes shall be requested at least five (5) business days in  
13 advance to provide ample time for GRTA to prepare the requested bus passes.  
14 However, GRTA shall establish an emergency inventory of bus passes to be  
15 utilized by the agencies in the event an emergency need arises for a bus pass.

16           (C) A log of bus passes distributed and other pertinent information  
17 shall be recorded by each agency and transmitted to GRTA on a monthly  
18 basis.

19           (D) GRTA may distribute free bus passes directly to individuals for  
20 the purposes of availing for public assistance, medical or behavioral  
21 treatment, court or probation related needs, GHURA assistance, and GDOE  
22 appointments. GRTA shall also maintain a log of bus passes distributed for  
23 the aforementioned purposes.”

24           **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Act shall be effective upon enactment.