

*I Mina'trentai Siette 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
<b>158-37 (LS)</b> As amended on the Floor	Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas	AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE OPERATION OF GUAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS THAT ARE AWAITING INSPECTION FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2023-2024.	8/1/23 11:21 a.m.						
	SESSION DATE	TITLE	DATE PASSED	TRANSMITTED	DUE DATE	PUBLIC LAW NO.	DATE SIGNED	NOTES	
7/31/23	AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE OPERATION OF GUAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS THAT ARE AWAITING INSPECTION FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2023-2024.	8/3/23	8/3/23	8/15/23	37-32	8/5/23	Received: 8/5/23 Messages and Communications Doc. No. 37GL-23-0826		

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)

August 5, 2023

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

319L-23-0826  
**OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER**  
**THERESE M. TERLAJE**

~~08~~ 05 2023

Time: 1:19 PM  
Received: \_\_\_\_\_

**Re: Bill No. 158-37 (LS) - AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE OPERATION OF GUAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS THAT ARE AWAITING INSPECTION FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2023-2024**

*Håfa Adai* Madame Speaker,

Bill No. 159-37 (LS), Bill No. 158-37 (LS), and Bill No. 156-37 (COR) each represent an honest effort at solving the crisis that the flawed passage of Public Law No. 37-4 created and the severe damage Typhoon Mawar caused.

None of these measures is a panacea for the challenges that face our public schools, but at least the Guam Department of Education (GDOE) can meet these challenges without the unreasonable burden of an arbitrary timeline—one that changed from one legislature to the next.

For the past several weeks, a community-wide effort engaging a myriad of organizations, government agencies, and the Guam National Guard has worked to help GDOE prepare our public schools for the opening of the school year. That effort has called on people from every walk of life. It is blind to partisanship or the last election, and most importantly, it has been focused unwaveringly on our school children.

For this reason, I thank the bipartisan efforts of Minority Leader Frank Blas, Jr. and Senator Dwayne San Nicolas. Recognizing a failure in policy and choosing to resolve it rather than lay blame demonstrates that government can come together to do good for Guam. For these reasons,

**RECEIVED**  
8/7/23 9:51 AM  
BT

To: Therese M. Terlaje, *Speaker*, 37th Guam Legislature  
Fr: Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *Governor of Guam*  
Date: August 5, 2023  
Re: Bill No. 158-37 (LS) nka P.L. 37-32

I sign Bill No. 159-37 (LS), Bill No. 158-37 (LS), and Bill No. 156-37 (COR) into law as ***Public Law No. 37-31, Public Law No. 37-32, and Public Law No. 37-33***, respectively.

*Senseremente,*



**LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO**

*Maga'hågan Guåhan*

Governor of Guam


Enclosure: Bill No. 158-37 (LS), nka P.L. 37-32

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*  
2023 (FIRST) Regular Session

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

This is to certify that **Bill No. 158-37 (LS)**, "AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE OPERATION OF GUAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS THAT ARE AWAITING INSPECTION FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2023-2024," was on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August 2023, duly and regularly passed.



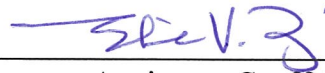
**Therese M. Terlaje**  
**Speaker**

Attested:



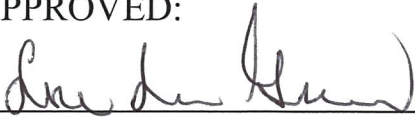
**Amanda L. Shelton**  
**Legislative Secretary**

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This Act was received by *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of AUGUST, 2023, at 4:34 o'clock P.M.



**Assistant Staff Officer**  
***Maga'håga's Office***

APPROVED:



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

Date: 8/5/2023

Public Law No. 37-32

2023-19683

RCVD AT CENTRAL FILES  
AUG 3 '23 PM 4:34

Elaine Tajalle

***I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN***  
**2023 (FIRST) Regular Session**

**Bill No. 158-37 (LS)**

As amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

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

**AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE OPERATION OF GUAM  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS THAT ARE AWAITING INSPECTION  
FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2023-2024.**

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

2        **Section 1. Legislative Intent.** In order to address the delays in the operation  
3 of Guam's public schools and to bring the students of our island back to the  
4 classrooms to continue their education, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* intends to enact  
5 legislation to allow the operation of public schools that are awaiting inspection for  
6 the upcoming school year. Allowing the operation of Guam's public schools while  
7 awaiting inspection will prevent the further delay of the school year and allow the  
8 students of Guam to continue their education.

1           **Section 2. Authorization to Operate Guam Public Schools for School**  
2 **Year 2023-2024.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Guam Department  
3 of Education (GDOE) is hereby authorized to operate schools that are awaiting  
4 inspection for School Year 2023-2024. GDOE schools that have failed inspection  
5 may continue to operate at the discretion and approval of the Superintendent of  
6 GDOE and the Director of Public Health and Social Services.

7           **Section 3. Reporting Requirements.**

8           (a) GDOE shall submit monthly written reports to the Speaker of *I*  
9 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* detailing the status of each public school's compliance or non-  
10 compliance with Article 7 of Chapter 4, Division 1, Title 26, Guam Administrative  
11 Rules and Regulations (GARR) that will result in the suspension of the sanitary  
12 permit of a GDOE public school. Such report shall include, but not be limited to,  
13 the proposed corrective action(s) which will be taken to avoid suspension of its  
14 sanitary permit or to support GDOE's request for a variance under Article 7, Chapter  
15 4, Division 1, Title 26, GARR.

16           (b) Until such time as all GDOE public schools have obtained sanitary  
17 permits required under Article 7 of Chapter 4, Division 1, Title 26, GARR, GDOE  
18 shall be subject to monthly oversight hearings to report on the status of its  
19 compliance or non-compliance with Article 7 of Chapter 4, Division 1, Title 26,  
20 GARR.

21           **Section 4. Effective Date.** This Act shall be effective upon enactment.

22           **Section 5. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or its application to any  
23 person or circumstance is found to be invalid or inorganic, such invalidity shall not  
24 affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be given effect without the  
25 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are  
26 severable.