

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
173-37 (COR) As amended in the Committee of the Whole	Therese M. Terlaje Telo T. Taitague Chris Barnett Joe S. San Agustin Sabina Flores Perez Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas Amanda L. Shelton Tina Rose Muña Barnes Frank Blas, Jr. Joanne Brown Christopher M. Dueñas Thomas J. Fisher Jesse A. Lujan William A. Parkinson Roy A. B. Quinata	AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FIFTEEN MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$15,828,000) FROM FISCAL YEAR 2023 GENERAL FUND REVENUES COLLECTED IN EXCESS OF THE ADOPTED LEVELS ENUMERATED IN PUBLIC LAW 36-107, AS AMENDED, TO THE GUAM POWER AUTHORITY FOR A THREE (3)-MONTH EXTENSION TO THE <i>PRUGRĀMAN AYUDA PARA I TAOTAO-TA</i> ENERGY CREDIT PROGRAM, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING CUSTOMERS WITH THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$300) CREDIT TOWARD THEIR ACCOUNT.	9/22/23 8:00 a.m.	9/22/23	Committee on General Government Operations and Appropriations	Request: 9/22/23  10/13/23			
	<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>	
	10/23/23	AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FIFTEEN MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$15,828,000) FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE GUAM POWER AUTHORITY FOR A THREE (3)-MONTH EXTENSION TO THE <i>PRUGRĀMAN AYUDA PARA I TAOTAO-TA</i> ENERGY CREDIT PROGRAM, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING CUSTOMERS WITH THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$300) CREDIT TOWARD THEIR ACCOUNT.	10/31/23	11/1/23	11/13/23	37-49	11/10/23	Received: 11/10/23 Messages and Communications Doc. No. 37GL-23-1247	

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)

November 10, 2023

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

Doc Type: 37GL-23-1247  
OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER  
THERESE M. TERLAJE

NOV 10 2023

Time: 4:15 pm  
Received: [Signature]

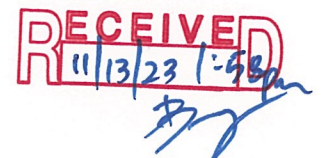
**Re: Bill No. 173-37 (COR), "AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FIFTEEN MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$15,828,000) FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE GUAM POWER AUTHORITY FOR A THREE (3)-MONTH EXTENSION TO THE PRUGRÅMAN AYUDA PARA I TAOTAO-TA ENERGY CREDIT PROGRAM, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING CUSTOMERS WITH THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$300) CREDIT TOWARDS THEIR ACCOUNT,"**

*Håfa Adai* Madame Speaker,

Bill No. 173-37 seeks to implement a fourth round of the *Prugråman Ayuda Para I TaoTao-ta* Energy Credit Program to provide a One Hundred dollar (\$100) monthly credit to Guam Power Authority's ("GPA") residential, master-metered, and commercial ratepayers, for the months of October 2023, November 2023, and December 2023. Government fiscal entities that testified during the hearing on Bill No. 173-37, including the Bureau of Budget and Management Research ("BBMR") and the Office of Finance and Budget ("OFB"), uniformly agreed that the Legislature had already over-obligated General Fund revenues, such that remaining funds would be insufficient to cover the \$15.8M cost to extend the program without de-appropriating other previously authorized amounts. However, I am pleased to announce that recent collections have exceeded projections by over \$13M, such that it is now possible to fund the program.

I wholeheartedly agree that the Energy Credit Program is a fitting use of excess revenues because it provides measurable relief to substantially all of our community. While it is fortuitous that the funding ultimately materialized to cover most of Bill No. 173-37's appropriation, I must, again, caution against the practice of appropriating funds without an adequate source. Promising relief when we know we cannot afford it does a disservice to our people, many of whom are budgeting for their own households based on representations from the government that this relief is coming.

//  
//  
//



To: Therese M. Terlaje, *Speaker*, 37<sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature  
Fr: Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *Governor of Guam*  
Date: November 10, 2023  
Re: Bill No. 173-37 (COR) nka P.L. 37-49

Page 2 of 2

The Legislature's primary role is to appropriate funds. While our fiscal agencies have ensured there are additional revenues for the Legislature to direct, it is incumbent upon the Legislature to exercise its power of appropriation with restraint, so that it does not reverse our fiscal progress and drag our government back into a deficit. I thank the senators who recognized the risk of returning to deficit spending and relied on the best evidence available at the time they voted on this bill. While I am heartened by our government's continued strong revenues, the Legislature's practice of writing checks we are not, as a government, certain we can cash does not reflect sound fiscal policy. We cannot continue to throw caution to the wind and risk our government's hard-won fiscal health in this manner.

Mindful of these principles, I sign Bill No. 173-37 (COR) into law. It shall be known as ***Public Law No. 37-49***

*Senseramente,*



**LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO**

*Maga'hågan Guåhan*

Governor of Guam

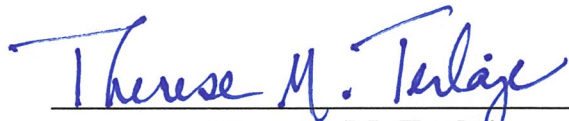
Enclosure: Bill No. 173-37 (COR) nka P.L. 37-49

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

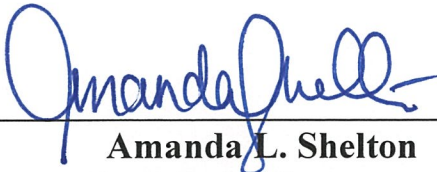
**CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN**

This is to certify that **Bill No. 173-37 (COR)**, “AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FIFTEEN MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$15,828,000) FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE GUAM POWER AUTHORITY FOR A THREE (3)-MONTH EXTENSION TO THE *PRUGRÅMAN AYUDA PARA I TAOTAO-TA* ENERGY CREDIT PROGRAM, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING CUSTOMERS WITH THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$300) CREDIT TOWARD THEIR ACCOUNT,” was on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of October 2023, duly and regularly passed.



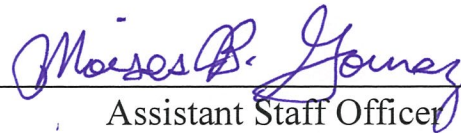
**Therese M. Terlaje**  
Speaker

Attested:



**Amanda L. Shelton**  
Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* this 1<sup>st</sup> day of November 2023, at 11:33 o'clock AM.M.



Assistant Staff Officer  
*Maga'håga's Office*

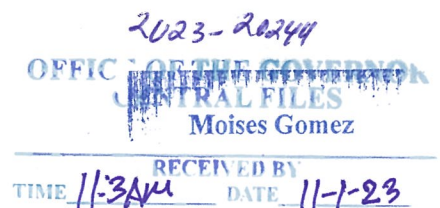
APPROVED:



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

Date: 11/10/2023

Public Law No. 37-49



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

**Bill No. 173-37 (COR)**

As amended in the Committee of the Whole.

Introduced by:

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

**AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FIFTEEN MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$15,828,000) FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE GUAM POWER AUTHORITY FOR A THREE (3)-MONTH EXTENSION TO THE *PRUGRÅMAN AYUDA PARA I TAOTAO-TA* ENERGY CREDIT PROGRAM, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING CUSTOMERS WITH THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$300) CREDIT TOWARD THEIR ACCOUNT.**

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

2        **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds  
3 that the *Prugråman Ayuda Para I Taotao-ta* Energy Credit Program was first  
4 established and funded through the enactment of Public Law 36-106; and was further

1 extended and funded through the enactment of Public Law 36-123 and Public Law  
2 37-16.

3 The *Prugrâman Ayuda Para I Taotao-ta* Energy Credit Program provided  
4 residential, master-metered, and commercial customers with a Five Hundred Dollars  
5 (\$500) credit toward their account with the Guam Power Authority, disbursed at  
6 \$100 Dollars each month for the months of July, August, September, October, and  
7 November 2022; and then the program was extended for the months of December  
8 2022, January 2023, February 2023, March 2023, April 2023, May 2023, June 2023,  
9 July 2023, August 2023, and September 2023.

10 It is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to further extend relief to power  
11 ratepayers on Guam who continue to experience price increases in various  
12 commodities and services, particularly the many vulnerable individuals and families  
13 who are struggling and most impacted by the effects of the global pandemic,  
14 inflation, and Typhoon Mawar; and this extended relief would be effective for the  
15 three (3) months of October 2023, November 2023, and December 2023.

16 **Section 2. Appropriation.**

17 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the sum of Fifteen  
18 Million Eight Hundred Twenty-eight Thousand Dollars (**\$15,828,000**) is  
19 hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the Guam Power Authority for  
20 a three (3)-month extension to the *Prugrâman Ayuda Para I Taotao-ta* Energy  
21 Credit Program which was established by Public Law 36-106.

22 (b) The *Prugrâman Ayuda Para I Taotao-ta* Energy Credit Program  
23 is to provide each of the Guam Power Authority's fifty-two thousand seven  
24 hundred sixty-two (52,762) residential, master-metered, and commercial  
25 customers with Three Hundred Dollars (\$300) credit toward their account, to  
26 be disbursed One Hundred Dollars (\$100) each month for the months of  
27 October 2023, November 2023, and December 2023, and shall only be

1 credited to the current billing of such months. The sum of Fifteen Million  
2 Eight Hundred Twenty-eight Thousand Dollars (\$15,828,000) shall be  
3 disbursed to the Guam Power Authority in three (3) equal monthly  
4 installments for the purposes of this Section. The Guam Power Authority shall  
5 reflect the One Hundred Dollars (\$100) energy credit on each customer's  
6 billing statement pursuant to this Section. The Department of Administration  
7 shall equally disburse this appropriation to the Guam Power Authority for  
8 each of the three (3) months of October 2023, November 2023, and December  
9 2023.

10 (c) Validation of Master-Metered Accounts. The Guam Power  
11 Authority shall, from all Master-Metered Accountholders, obtain a notarized  
12 list of the number of active residential utility power sub-accounts under that  
13 Master Meter to ensure the proper application of the credit to the Master-  
14 Metered Account.

15 (d) Credits received from the *Prugrâman Ayuda Para I Taotao-ta*  
16 Energy Credit Program shall be tax-exempt.

17 **Section 3. Transfer Authority.** The Governor may use her General Fund  
18 Transfer Authority pursuant to Public Law 37-42 to ensure funding for this program.

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