

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
BILL STATUS

BILL NO.	SPONSOR	TITLE	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	FISCAL NOTES	NOTES
37-37 (COR)	William A. Parkinson Roy A. B. Quinata Tina Rose Muña Barnes Joe S. San Agustin Frank Blas Jr. Christopher M. Dueñas Therese M. Terlaje Sabina Flores Perez Telo T. Taitague Dwayne T. D. San Nicolas Chris Barnett Jesse A. Lujan Joanne Brown	AN ACT TO NAME PUBLIC LAW 36-130 THE "SENATOR JOSÉ 'PEDO' TERLAJE RETIREMENT ACT."	2/10/23 12:28 p.m.	2/10/23	Committee on Human Resources, Hagåtña Revitalization, Regional Affairs, Public Libraries, Telecommunications, Technology and Federal and Foreign Affairs	3/2/23 9:00 a.m.	3/10/23 9:50 a.m.	Request: 2/10/23 Waiver: 2/16/23	
	SESSION DATE	TITLE	DATE PASSED	TRANSMITTED	DUE DATE	PUBLIC LAW NO.	DATE SIGNED	NOTES	
3/27/23	AN ACT TO NAME PUBLIC LAW 36-130 THE "SENATOR JOSÉ 'PEDO' TERLAJE RETIREMENT ACT."	3/30/23	3/31/23	4/12/23	37-8	4/12/23	Received: 4/12/23 Messages and Communications Doc. No. 37GL-23-0380		

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
LT. GOVERNOR

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

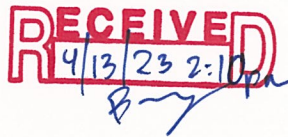
Transmitted via email to: speaker@guamlegislature.org

April 12, 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



37GL-23-0379
37GL-23-0380

**OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER
THERESE M. TERLAJE**

04 12 2023

Time: 4:27 PM

Received: [Signature]

Re: Bill No. 27-37 (COR) - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW SUBSECTION (m) TO SECTION 8501, ARTICLE 5, CHAPTER 8, TITLE 4 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND, TO AMEND § 8503(c) OF ARTICLE 5, CHAPTER 8, TITLE 4, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO THE RETIREMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE DEFINED BENEFIT 1.75 RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Bill No. 37-37 (COR) - AN ACT TO NAME PUBLIC LAW 36-130 THE 'SENATOR JOSE 'PEDO' TERLAJE RETIREMENT ACT'

Hafa Adai Madame Speaker,

Senator Jose "Pedo" Terlaje devoted his life to our island community. In 2020, a few years before he passed on, Senator Pedro championed an enhanced retirement system for Guam's law enforcement and public safety officers. In recognition of his contributions to this effort, I am pleased to sign into law Bill No. 37-37, which names the law which created an earlier retirement age for uniformed law enforcement officers of the government of Guam, Public Law 36-130, the "Senator Jose 'Pedo' Terlaje Retirement Act."

Without Senator Pedro's tireless work over multiple legislatures, the deserving men and women of our law enforcement and public safety agencies would not have been granted the opportunity to retire at an earlier age without suffering a reduction in their retirement benefits. Senator Pedro understood that law enforcement and public safety officers have a shorter life expectancy than other government of Guam employees due to the rigorous mental, physical and emotional demands inherent in their field of work. He recognized that an enhanced retirement program would afford these brave individuals the opportunity to retire early and in a safe space—alongside their families. He also recognized that this group did not have access to the refined retirement system available to their federal and state counterparts.

To: Therese M. Terlaje, *Speaker*, 37th Guam Legislature
Fr: Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *Governor of Guam*
Date: April 12, 2023
Re: Bill No. 27-37 (COR) and Bill No. 37-37 (COR)

Page 2 of 2

Senator Pedo also endures with the passage of Bill No. 27-37, which clarifies the definition of public safety and law enforcement officers who are eligible to retire early without a reduction or negative impact on their retirement. This clarification was necessary to allow the Government of Guam Retirement Fund to properly implement the early retirement provisions for public safety and law enforcement officers created under the Senator Jose “Pedo” Terlaje Retirement Act. This is consistent with Senator Pedo’s belief that we should never lose sight of the courage and sacrifice exhibited by all the brave law enforcement and public safety officers who serve every branch of our government. With this amendment, all these men and women will receive enhanced retirement benefits, in furtherance of Senator Pedo’s work in this area, and in honor of his lasting legacy.

For these reasons, I sign Bill Nos. 27-37 (COR) and 37-37 (COR) into law as Public Laws 37-7 and 37-8, respectively.

Senseremente,



LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO

Maga'hågan Guåhan

Governor of Guam

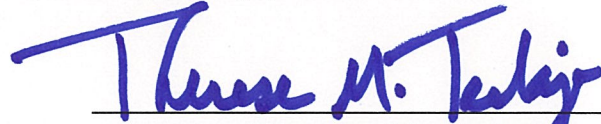
Enclosure: Bill No. 27-37 (COR) *nka P.L. No. 37-7*
Bill No. 37-37 (COR) *nka P.L. No. 37-8*

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

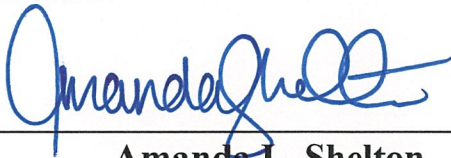
CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO *I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN*

This is to certify that **Bill No. 37-37 (COR)**, “AN ACT TO NAME PUBLIC LAW 36-130 THE ‘SENATOR JOSE ‘PEDO’ TERLAJE RETIREMENT ACT’,” was on the 30th day of March 2023, duly and regularly passed.



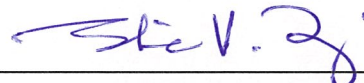
Therese M. Terlaje
Speaker

Attested:



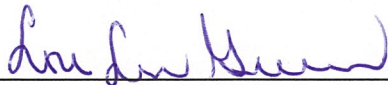
Amanda L. Shelton
Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* this 31st day of March, 2023, at 3:29 o'clock P.M.



Assistant Staff Officer
Maga'håga's Office

APPROVED:



Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero
I Maga'hågan Guåhan

Date: 4/12/2023

Public Law No. 37-8

2023-18954
RCVD AT CENTRAL FILES
MAR 31 '23 PM 3:29

Elaine Tajalle

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

Bill No. 37-37 (COR)

Introduced by:

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

**AN ACT TO NAME PUBLIC LAW 36-130 THE
“SENATOR JOSE ‘PEDO’ TERLAJE RETIREMENT
ACT.”**

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

2 **Section 1. Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslatura* finds that Senator Jose
3 “Pedo” Terlaje first introduced Bill 380-35 (LS) on July 14, 2020 relative to
4 commissioning an actuarial study to determine the feasibility of allowing public
5 safety personnel to retire at an earlier age, owing to the physically and mentally
6 taxing nature of the work. This had been long sought after by many public safety
7 employees, who noted that most other jurisdictions in the United States offered a

1 separate, lower retirement age for public safety personnel compared other
2 government employees. This also contributed to the attrition rate of public safety
3 employees in the government of Guam, as they sought better pay and benefits in
4 Hawaii or the mainland.

5 While this did not pass in the 35th Guam Legislature, Senator Jose “Pedo”
6 Terlaje did not give up and introduced Bill 137-36 (COR) on May 6, 2021 for an
7 identical purpose. The bill was incorporated in Public Law 36-107, the Fiscal Year
8 2022 Budget Act, and made law. The actuarial study found a financially sound way
9 to accomplish an earlier retirement age for uniformed personnel of the Government
10 of Guam while also providing better retirement accruals for all Government of Guam
11 employees in the Defined Benefit 1.75 plan.

12 Senator Jose “Pedo” Terlaje introduced Bill 346-36 (COR) on October 21,
13 2022, the culmination of years of work in determining a financially feasible solution
14 to this long running problem of benefit parity for our public safety employees with
15 their off-island counterparts. The legislation was passed and signed in to law as
16 Public Law 36-130 on December 27, 2022, the last piece of legislation Senator
17 Terlaje authored. He passed away just one month later on January 30, 2023. *I*
18 *Liheslatura* finds that this important piece of legislation, which Senator Terlaje
19 fought so long and hard for, should appropriately be named after him.

20 **Section 2.** Public Law 36-130 shall be known as the “Senator Jose ‘Pedo’
21 Terlaje Retirement Act”.

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