I Mina'trentai Singko 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
330-35 (COR) As substituted; and further substituted on the Floor.	Kelly Marsh (Taitano), PhD Joe S. San Agustin	AN ACT TO *AMEND* §§ 10101 AND 10102 AND TO *ADD* A NEW § 10124, EACH OF CHAPTER 10, TITLE 3, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO PERMITTING ABSENTEE VOTING IN THE EVENT OF AN IMMINENT OR URGENT THREAT RESULTING FROM A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS OR DISEASE OUTBREAK.	3/31/20 9:28 a.m.	4/14/20	Committee on General Government Operations, Appropriations, and Housing	5/15/20 9:00 a.m.	7/8/20 11:07 a.m.	4/30/20	
	SESSION DATE	**TITLE**	**DATE PASSED**	**TRANSMITTED**	**DUE DATE**	**PUBLIC LAW NO.**	**DATE SIGNED**	**NOTES**	
	7/8/20	AN ACT TO PERMIT ABSENTEE VOTING FOR ALL QUALIFIED VOTERS IN THE 2020 PRIMARY ELECTION AND 2020 GENERAL ELECTION TO MITIGATE THE PUBLIC HEALTH RISKS DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.	7/17/20	7/17/20	7/29/20	35-95	7/20/20	Received: 7/20/20 Mess and Comm. Doc. No. 35GL-20-2025.	

UFISINAN I MAGA'HÅGA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
MAGA'HÅGA • GOVERNOR

JOSHUA F. TENORIO
SIGUNDO MAGA'LÅHI • LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

HAND-DELIVERED
July 20, 2020

35GL-20-2025
Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes

JUL 2 0 2020
Time 7:16 ( )AM (X)PM
Received By:

HONORABLE TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES, *Speaker*
I Mina'trentai Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
35th Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Re: Substitute Bill No. 330-35 (COR) – An Act to Permit Absentee Voting for all Qualified Voters in the 2020 Primary Election and 2020 General Election to Mitigate the Public Health Risks due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Dear Madame Speaker:

I appreciate that the Legislature needed to find a way to balance the health and safety needs of our community with the fundamental right and obligation that we have as citizens to participate in our democratic process. While the Legislature debated several different approaches to achieving this balance, it ultimately concluded that the safest, most prudent approach is the expansion of absentee voting to all of Guam's qualified voters.

Substitute Bill No. 330-35 (COR) seeks to reduce the congestion in polling places on election day, thereby allowing the Guam Election Commission to more comfortably and safely accommodate voters over the course of a thirty (30) day period in advance of election day. This measure, which I have signed into law as ***Public Law No. 35-95*** will go into effect immediately and in less than two (2) weeks, our people will begin the voting process. I trust that we will all undertake this endeavor with the same sense of responsibility that has guided us since March, when our public health emergency began. As we head to the polls, we will wear our masks, practice social distancing, and we will fill out our ballots on sanitized surfaces with clean hands.

Senseremente,

Lou Leon Guerrero

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
Maga'hågan Guåhan
Governor of Guam

Enclosure(s): Substitute Bill No. 330-35 (COR) *nka Public Law 35-95*
cc via email: *Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan*
Compiler of Laws

RICARDO J. BORDALLO GOVERNOR'S COMPLEX • HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96910
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I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2020 (SECOND) Regular Session

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

This is to certify that **Substitute Bill No. 330-35 (COR), "AN ACT TO PERMIT ABSENTEE VOTING FOR ALL QUALIFIED VOTERS IN THE 2020 PRIMARY ELECTION AND 2020 GENERAL ELECTION TO MITIGATE THE PUBLIC HEALTH RISKS DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC,"** was on the 17th day of July 2020, duly and regularly passed.

Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Speaker

Attested:

Amanda L. Shelton
Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* this 17th day of July, 2020, at 4:25 o'clock P.M.

Assistant Staff Officer
Maga'håga's Office

APPROVED:

Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero
I Maga'hågan Guåhan

Date: 7/20/2020

Public Law No. 35-95

2020-11428
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
CENTRAL FILES
Elaine Tajalle
RECEIVED BY
TIME 4:25 PM

I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2020 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 330-35 (COR)
As substituted; and further substituted on the Floor.

Introduced by: Kelly Marsh (Taitano), PhD
Joe S. San Agustin
William M. Castro
Régine Biscoe Lee
James C. Moylan
Louise B. Muña
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Telena Cruz Nelson
Sabina Flores Perez
Clynton E. Ridgell
Amanda L. Shelton
Telo T. Taitague
Jose "Pedo" Terlaje
Therese M. Terlaje
Mary Camacho Torres

AN ACT TO PERMIT ABSENTEE VOTING FOR ALL QUALIFIED VOTERS IN THE 2020 PRIMARY ELECTION AND 2020 GENERAL ELECTION TO MITIGATE THE PUBLIC HEALTH RISKS DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that a public health crisis exists due to the ongoing novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. The pandemic, however, impacts our community in other

ways as well, such as voting in the upcoming 2020 Guam elections. For some voters, it is the difficulty of ensuring childcare on the same day that caregivers will also need to vote. For other voters, it is worrying about the security of their jobs if they request to take time off from work to vote on the same day that their colleagues will be requesting time off to do the same. For some voters, it is being more vulnerable physically, therefore they may not be able to stand or wait in long lines at polling sites, which may put them at greater risk. And, for other voters, it is the worry and the stress of being potentially exposed to conditions that could allow the spread of COVID-19.

I Liheslatura also finds that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is encouraging voters to use voting methods that minimize direct contact with other people as there is currently no vaccine to stop the spread of the virus. Even with evolving protocols designed to reduce the risk of transmission, large gatherings of people standing in even longer lines with lengthy waiting periods due to additional protocols at polling sites on a single day still pose a threat to public health.

It is, therefore, the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to protect the right to vote while also protecting the health and well-being of Guam voters, election officials, and polling site workers by permitting voters to vote in the 2020 Primary Election and 2020 General Election during the thirty (30) day in-office absentee voting period to reduce the likelihood of spreading COVID-19.

Section 2. Permitting Absentee Voting for All Qualified Voters. Notwithstanding 3 GCA § 10101, any qualified voter of Guam may vote in the 2020 Primary Election and 2020 General Election during the thirty (30) day in-office absentee voting period as provided for in 3 GCA § 10107.

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