

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

OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER  
THERESE M. TERLAJE

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

08-05-2023

Time: 1:19 PM

Received: 

Re: **Bill No. 159-37 (LS) - AN ACT TO AMEND § 4719 OF ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 4, DIVISION 1, TITLE 26, GUAM ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS, RELATIVE TO COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS AND REGULATIONS FOR DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

*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,

To: Therese M. Terlaje, *Speaker*, 37th Guam Legislature  
Fr: Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *Governor of Guam*  
Date: August 5, 2023  
Re: Bill No. 159-37 (LS) nka P.L. 37-31

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

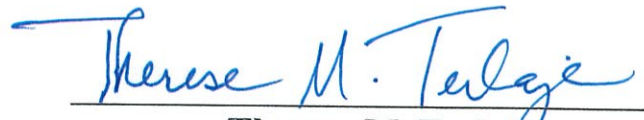
Enclosure: Bill No. 159-37 (LS), nka P.L. 37-31

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***

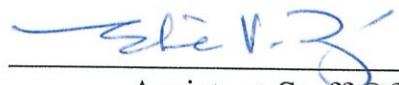
This is to certify that **Bill No. 159-37 (LS)**, “AN ACT TO *AMEND* § 4719 OF ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 4, DIVISION 1, TITLE 26, GUAM ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS, RELATIVE TO COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS AND REGULATIONS FOR DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLIC SCHOOLS,” was on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August 2023, duly and regularly passed.

  
Therese M. Terlaje  
Speaker

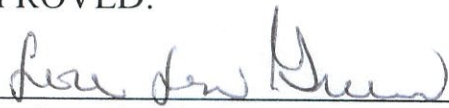
Attested:

  
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 4:35 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. 37-31

2023-19680  
RCVD AT CENTRAL FILE  
AUG 8 '23 4:35  
Elaine Tajalk

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

**Bill No. 159-37 (LS)**

As amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

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

**AN ACT TO AMEND § 4719 OF ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 4, DIVISION 1, TITLE 26, GUAM ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS, RELATIVE TO COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS AND REGULATIONS FOR DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLIC SCHOOLS.**

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

**Section 1.** § 4719 of Article 7, Chapter 4, Division 1, Title 26, Guam Administrative Rules and Regulations, is hereby *amended* to read:

**“§ 4719. Existing Facilities.**

(a) School facilities in existence at the time that these regulations take effect shall be given five (5) years from the date that these rules become

1 effective to come into full compliance with the requirements of these rules  
2 unless a school facility or operator files a written statement of exception with  
3 the Director and receives a variance as provided in § 4722.

4 (b) Guam Department of Education (GDOE) public school facilities  
5 shall come into full compliance by the start of School Year 2024-2025 with  
6 the requirements of these rules unless a public school facility or operator files  
7 a written statement of exception with the Director and receives a variance as  
8 provided in § 4722.

9 (c) GDOE shall submit monthly written reports to the Speaker of *I*  
10 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* detailing the status of each public school's compliance  
11 or non-compliance with these rules and regulations that will result in the  
12 suspension of the sanitary permit of a GDOE public school. Such report shall  
13 include, but not be limited to, the proposed corrective action(s) which will be  
14 taken to avoid suspension of its sanitary permit or to support GDOE's request  
15 for a variance under this Chapter.

16 (d) Until such time as all GDOE public schools have obtained  
17 sanitary permits required under this Chapter, GDOE shall be subject to  
18 monthly oversight hearings to report on the status of its compliance or non-  
19 compliance with these rules and regulations.”