

***I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN***  
**2025 (FIRST) Regular Session**

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

This is to certify that **Bill No. 199-38 (COR), "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 27027 TO CHAPTER 27, TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ADDING A LIFETIME TEACHING CERTIFICATE FOR EXPERIENCED EDUCATORS ON GUAM,"** was on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of December 2025, duly and regularly passed.



**Frank F. Blas, Jr.**  
**Speaker**

Attested:




**Sabrina Salas Matanane**  
**Legislative Secretary**

This Act was received by *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* this 9<sup>th</sup> day of Dec,  
2025, at 6:26 o'clock P.M.



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

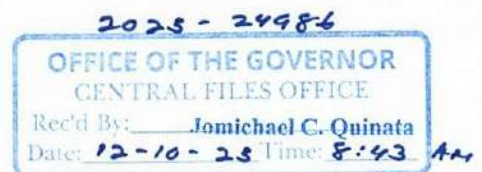
APPROVED:



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

Date: 20 Dec 2025

Public Law No. 38-91



***I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN***  
**2025 (FIRST) Regular Session**

**Bill No. 199-38 (COR)**

As amended by the Committee on Education,  
Libraries, and Public Broadcasting;  
and further amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

Vincent A.V. Borja  
Shelly V. Calvo  
Sabrina Salas Matanane  
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao  
V. Anthony Ada  
Tina Rose Muña-Barnes  
Frank F. Blas, Jr.  
Christopher M. Dueñas  
Chris Barnett  
Telo T. Taitague  
Sabina Flores Perez  
Therese M. Terlaje  
Jesse A. Lujan  
William A. Parkinson  
Joe S. San Agustin

**AN ACT TO *ADD* A NEW § 27027 TO CHAPTER 27,  
TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO  
ADDING A LIFETIME TEACHING CERTIFICATE FOR  
EXPERIENCED EDUCATORS ON GUAM.**

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

**Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds  
that the dedication and long-term service of educators are crucial to the development  
and strength of Guam's education system. Recognizing the contributions of teachers  
with extensive experience promotes professional excellence, retains seasoned

educators, and encourages ongoing commitment to teaching. Many states and jurisdictions have adopted lifetime or permanent certification options to honor veteran educators who have demonstrated sustained dedication and expertise.

*I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that in Guam, some teachers retire and then let their certification lapse after 40 years of service, which can discourage them from returning to the profession. The process of re-certification can be complex and burdensome, deterring many experienced educators from rejoining the workforce even if they are interested.

*I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that Guam Federation of Teachers (GFT) President Tim Fedenko's testimony on April 21, 2025, highlighted that efforts to bring teachers back require strategies that recognize their service and make re-entry easier. One effective approach used by other states is reinstating a lifetime certificate for teachers who have achieved, for example, 25 years of dedicated service. This not only honors long-standing educators but also provides a pathway for those close to retirement or interested in continued service to remain or return to the classroom.

Therefore, it is the purpose of this legislation to establish a lifetime certification for qualified teachers, serving as a token of appreciation, reducing administrative barriers, and helping to retain experienced educators within Guam's schools.

**Section 2.** A new § 27027 is *added* to Chapter 27, Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, to read as follows:

**§ 27027. Lifetime Teacher Certification Requirements**

(a) Minimum Qualifications. An individual shall be eligible for a Lifetime Teacher Certification upon meeting the following requirements:

(1) Accumulation of at least twenty-five (25) years of verified, and satisfactory teaching experience in a recognized educational institution in Guam;

1                   (2) Possession of a valid and current certification in the  
2 relevant subject area or grade level; and

3                   (3) Completion of any required professional development or  
4 activities as prescribed by the Guam Commission for Educator  
5 Certification (GCEC) prior to issuance.

6           (b) Issuance of Lifetime Certificate.

7                   (1) Upon verification of eligibility, the Guam Commission for  
8 Educator Certification (GCEC) shall issue a Lifetime Teacher  
9 Certification to the qualified educator. The certification shall:

10                   (A) Be valid for the educator's lifetime and shall not  
11 require renewal; and

12                   (B) Be subject to the following conditions:

13                           (i) Lifetime Certificate holders shall report to  
14 the GCEC every five (5) years to declare their intent to  
15 continue teaching and disclose any background check  
16 issues that may disqualify them from holding a valid  
17 license; and

18                           (ii) Submission of a satisfactory evaluation every  
19 five (5) years; and

20                           (iii) Required to participate in their school or  
21 district professional development; and

22                           (iv) Active participation in the Guam Teacher  
23 Evaluation Program (GTEP), including completion of all  
24 Guam Department of Education requirements for  
25 maintaining professional standards, such as annual  
26 evaluations, training sessions, professional growth  
27 planning, and fulfillment of student outcome assessments.

1                   (2) The Lifetime Teacher Certification shall be revoked if the  
2 holder is found to have violated the professional code of conduct or  
3 code of ethics, or if character assessments indicate disqualifying  
4 violations.

5                   (c) Lifetime Certification Eligibility for Recently Retired  
6 Individuals.

7                   Individuals who have retired in good standing within the last ten (10)  
8 years and whose certification has since lapsed may be eligible to apply for a  
9 lifetime certification within six months of the passage of this legislation.

10           **Section 3. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or its application to any  
11 person or circumstance is found to be invalid or inorganic, such invalidity shall not  
12 affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be given effect without  
13 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are  
14 severable.

15           **Section 4. Effective Date.** This Act shall become effective upon enactment.