

I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	NOTES
130-36 (COR)	Telena Cruz Nelson Clynton E. Ridgell Therese M. Terlaje Mary Camacho Torres Jose "Pedo" Terlaje Sabina Flores Perez Amanda L. Shelton Tina Rose Muña Barnes Joe S. San Agustin	Relative to expressing the support of <i>I Mina'trentai Sais na Liheslaturan Guåhan</i> for the passage of H.R. 4406, the "Supporting Medicaid in the U.S. Territories Act of 2021," introduced by the Honorable Darren Soto and the Honorable Gus Bilirakis, U.S. House of Representatives, which seeks to amend Titles XI and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide increased financial support to the U.S. territories under the Medicaid program, and to provide five (5) years of Medicaid funding for Puerto Rico, and eight (8) years of funding for other U.S. territories; and for other purposes.	7/22/21 2:34 p.m.		8/31/21	7/26/21 4:54 p.m.	Author	8/23/21 5:00 p.m.	8/30/21 10:44 a.m.	

I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
2021 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 130-36 (COR)

Introduced by:

Telena Cruz Nelson
Clynton E. Ridgell
Therese M. Terlaje
Mary Camacho Torres
Jose “Pedo” Terlaje
Sabina Flores Perez
Amanda L. Shelton
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Joe S. San Agustin
V. Anthony Ada
Frank Blas Jr.
Joanne Brown
Christopher M. Dueñas
James C. Moylan
Telo T. Taitague

Relative to expressing the support of *I Mina'trentai Sais na Liheslaturan Guáhan* for the passage of H.R. 4406, the “Supporting Medicaid in the U.S. Territories Act of 2021,” introduced by the Honorable Darren Soto and the Honorable Gus Bilirakis, U.S. House of Representatives, which seeks to amend Titles XI and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide increased financial support to the U.S. territories under the Medicaid program, and to provide five (5) years of Medicaid funding for Puerto Rico, and eight (8) years of funding for other U.S. territories; and for other purposes.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN***
2 ***GUÁHAN*:**

3 **WHEREAS**, the Medicaid program was established in 1965 pursuant to U.S.
4 Public Law 89-97 and is authorized under Title XIX of the Social Security Act

1 (SSA). The program serves as the largest source of public health insurance in the
2 nation. Mandatory benefits include, but are not limited to, lab and X-ray services,
3 inpatient hospital services, home health services, and freestanding birth centers,
4 along with other optional benefits for states and certain territories; and

5 **WHEREAS**, from its establishment, Medicaid worked in service of the
6 elderly and disabled individuals. Since then, it has welcomed steady population
7 growth and now covers a wider demographic. Under the Patient Protection and
8 Affordable Care Act, U.S. Public Law 111-148, as amended, Medicaid expanded its
9 reach to include a new adult group consisting of low-income adults sixty-five (65)
10 years and younger, including parents and adults without dependent children; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Medicaid expansion programs, such as the Children's Health
12 Insurance Program (CHIP), provide health coverage for enrolled children through
13 both Medicaid and separate CHIP programs; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Medicaid is offered in all the U.S. territories, including Guam,
15 American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), the
16 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the United States Virgin Islands (USVI).
17 Medicaid was established on Guam in 1975 and is overseen by the Guam
18 Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS); and the program
19 operates on a fee-for-service (FFS) basis; and

20 **WHEREAS**, nearly twenty-one percent (21%) of Guam's residents are
21 enrolled in Medicaid, allowing one-fifth (1/5) of the island's population to stay afloat
22 during the unprecedented effects of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.
23 While Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands are required to provide
24 mandatory Medicaid benefits, Guam is the only U.S. territory to do so. The optional
25 Medicaid benefits provided by Guam include dental and prescription services; and

26 **WHEREAS**, Guam's primary public hospital, the Guam Memorial Hospital
27 (GMH), reported that its Medicaid collections for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 increased

1 to Twenty-six Million Nine Hundred Ninety-nine Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-
2 seven Dollars (\$26,999,457), which is 9.4 Million Dollars more than the FY 2019
3 collections set at Seventeen Million Five Hundred Seventy-nine Thousand Six
4 Hundred Thirteen Dollars (\$17,579,613). The recent FY 2020 appropriations
5 package, under U.S. Public Law 116-94, and the Families First Coronavirus
6 Response Act, under U.S. Public Law 116-127, increased Guam's federal Medicaid
7 allotment from \$18.4 Million Dollars to \$130.9 Million Dollars. The FY 2021
8 allotment was raised from approximately \$18.8 Million Dollars to \$129.7 Million
9 Dollars; and

10 **WHEREAS**, an omnibus COVID relief bill signed into law on December 28,
11 2020 extended Medicaid services to Compact of Free Association (COFA) citizens;
12 and the law serves an estimated one hundred thousand (100,000) COFA migrants
13 who live in the fifty (50) U.S. states and the District of Columbia, and who meet all
14 Medicaid eligibility rules; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) for Guam
16 and the U.S. territories is statutorily set at fifty-five percent (55%) (§ 1905(b) of the
17 Act), unlike that of the states, where the FMAP is set using a formula based on state
18 per capita income. After the passage of U.S. Public Law 116-94, the Further
19 Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020, Guam had a temporary FMAP increase
20 to eighty-three percent (83%) that was available from December 21, 2019 and is set
21 to expire on September 30, 2021. In the fiscal years succeeding FY 2021, the FMAP
22 will revert back to the federal matching rate of fifty-five percent (55%) and this will
23 impact the people of Guam negatively due to the reduction of federal monies; and

24 **WHEREAS**, despite the persistent challenges to Guam's medical
25 community, the joint efforts of local and federal entities have done much service for
26 the people of Guam; and the continued efforts and support of local and state

1 representatives is crucial to protecting the public's access to Medicaid and
2 healthcare; now therefore, be it

3 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*, does hereby,
4 on behalf of the people of Guam, express its support for the passage of H.R. 4406,
5 the "Supporting Medicaid in the U.S. Territories Act of 2021," to protect access to
6 healthcare and federal assistance that ensures the necessary resources for Medicaid
7 programs will benefit the people of Guam and all U.S. territories for an additional
8 eight (8) years; and be it further

9 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to,
10 the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Senator
11 Charles Schumer, U.S. Senate Majority Leader; to Senator Mitch McConnell, U.S.
12 Senate Minority Leader; to the Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the U.S. House
13 of Representatives; to the Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr., Chairman, Committee on
14 Energy and Commerce; to the Honorable Anna G. Eshoo, Health Subcommittee
15 Chairwoman; to the Honorable Darren Soto, U.S. House of Representatives; to the
16 Honorable Gus Bilirakis, U.S. House of Representatives; to the Honorable Michael
17 F.Q. San Nicolas, Delegate from Guam; to the Honorable Gregorio Kilili Camacho
18 Sablan, Delegate from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and to
19 the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE 31ST DAY OF AUGUST 2021.



THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker



AMANDAL. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary