

**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 AUTHOR REPORT FILED	NOTES
203-36 (LS)	Tina Rose Muña Barnes Mary Camacho Torres Telena Cruz Nelson Therese M. Terlaje Amanda L. Shelton Joe S. San Agustin Jose "Pedro" Terlaje James C. Moylan V. Anthony Ada	Relative to expressing the support of <i>Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guahan</i> (the 36th Guam Legislature) for the passage of the Build Back Better framework, which would provide needed investments in the community of Guam including parity for U.S. Citizens residing in the territories through Supplemental Security Income inclusion and expansion of Medicaid.	11/4/21 9:43 a.m.		12/6/21	11/4/21	Author	11/19/21 8:00 a.m.	11/24/21 4:17 p.m. As amended by the Author	

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

Resolution No. 203-36 (LS)

As amended by the Author.

Introduced by:

Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Mary Camacho Torres
Telena Cruz Nelson
Therese M. Terlaje
Amanda L. Shelton
Joe S. San Agustin
Jose “Pedro” Terlaje
James C. Moylan
V. Anthony Ada
Frank Blas Jr.
Joanne Brown
Christopher M. Dueñas
Sabina Flores Perez
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Relative to expressing the support of *I Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* (the 36th Guam Legislature) for the passage of the Build Back Better Framework, which would provide needed investments for the island of Guam, including parity for U.S. citizens residing in the territories, through Supplemental Security Income inclusion and the expansion of Medicaid.

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

3 **WHEREAS**, on October 28, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden announced the
4 introduction of the Build Back Better Framework to ultimately create millions of good-

1 paying jobs, enable more Americans to join and remain in the labor force, spur long-
2 term growth, reduce price pressures, and set the United States on a course to meet its
3 clean energy ambitions. After months of long negotiations, a compromise had been
4 reached with Democratic lawmakers; and, while much of the original plan remains
5 intact, the new \$1.75 Trillion Dollar framework highlights climate change proposals,
6 the expansion of Medicaid benefits, and the inclusion of Americans living in U.S.
7 territories with Supplemental Security Income; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the framework contains the largest effort to combat the threat of
9 climate change by delivering substantial consumer rebates and tax credits to reduce
10 costs for middle class families who have shifted to clean energy, ensuring clean energy
11 technology, advancing environmental justice through a new Clean Energy and
12 Sustainability Accelerator, and bolstering resilience and natural solutions to climate
13 change; and

14 **WHEREAS**, with Guam being especially vulnerable to the rising sea level, the
15 rising temperature, and an increase in tropical storms, the Build Back Better Framework
16 will empower the people of Guam to take action, build clean infrastructure, invest in
17 innovative green technology, and protect their land and water resources; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the framework proposes a transformative investment in childcare
19 and caregiving by offering universal and free preschool for all three (3) to four (4) year-
20 olds, as well as providing up to Three Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$3,600) in tax
21 cuts per child by extending the American Rescue Plan’s expanded Child Tax Credit;
22 and, this relief will allow families on Guam to plan for their future and make financial
23 decisions that benefit their household; and

24 **WHEREAS**, the framework will provide for the basic needs of young students
25 on Guam, addressing food insecurity and food deserts in the community; and, the
26 approximately thirty thousand (30,000) students on Guam, many of whom are unsure

1 of when they will have their next meal over the summer, will be provided with access
2 to nutritious food options; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the framework includes a significant effort to bring down costs and
4 strengthen the middle class by making the largest and most comprehensive investment
5 in affordable housing; extend the expanded Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) for low-
6 wage workers; expand access to affordable, high-quality education; promote nutrition
7 security for children’s health; strengthen the middle class through a historic investment
8 in equity, safety, and fairness; and invest in immigration reform; and

9 **WHEREAS**, with thirty percent (30%) of household income on Guam going
10 towards rent, the Build Back Better Framework provides rental assistance for Guam
11 renters, many of whom are unable to attain a home of their own. Moreover, the plan
12 will expand housing options, providing investments in the U.S. public housing stock.
13 Additionally, the framework will address down payment assistance and allow more
14 first-generation homebuyers to finally purchase their own home; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the Build Back Better Framework will provide more opportunities
16 for Guam’s young adults through training and education to better equip them for future
17 industries and create a well-educated workforce. Additionally, for the two thousand six
18 hundred (2,600) young adults who rely on Pell Grant awards, the maximum award
19 amount will be increased by Five Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$550) for students; and, this
20 will allow Guam’s young adults to prioritize their education and focus on their studies;
21 and

22 **WHEREAS**, the framework offers the biggest expansion in healthcare and
23 caregiving for Guam’s *manãmko'* (elderly), the indigent, and individuals with
24 disabilities; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the Build Back Better Framework will improve access to healthcare
26 for approximately thirty-three thousand (33,000) residents who are currently enrolled

1 in Medicaid, and improve Medicaid reimbursement for the Guam Memorial Hospital
2 Authority, the island's only public hospital; and, the plan increases federal Medicaid
3 allotment funding for Guam to \$140 Million Dollars and the federal Medicaid match to
4 eighty-three percent (83%); and

5 **WHEREAS**, in prior fiscal years, Guam's Medicaid funding was capped at \$20
6 Million Dollars a year with the federal medical assistance percentage for Guam
7 typically held at a fifty-five percent (55%) federal Medicaid match; and, this change
8 will expand Medicaid, especially for the working middle class on Guam; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the Build Back Better Framework moves towards equity and parity
10 among American citizens living in the territories based on the decisions from *U.S. v.*
11 *Vaello-Madero*, 956 F.3d 12 (1st Cir. 2020), and *Schaller v. U.S. Social Security*
12 *Administration, et al.*, No. 18-cv-00044) (D. Guam Jun. 19, 2020); and

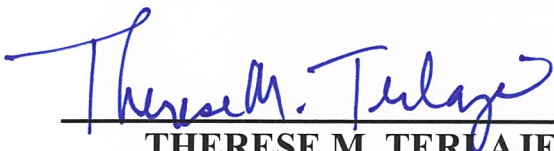
13 **WHEREAS**, the Build Back Better Framework will extend Supplemental
14 Security Income to low-income senior citizens and disabled citizens residing on Guam,
15 as well as the other U.S. territories, who have previously been unconstitutionally denied
16 Supplemental Security Income; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the Build Back Better Framework provides Guam with needed
18 resources and investments to stimulate and grow its economy, and provide for the well-
19 being of the people of Guam; now therefore, be it

20 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* (the 36th Guam
21 Legislature) does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, express its support for the
22 passage of the Build Back Better Framework, which would provide needed investments
23 for the island of Guam, including parity for U.S. citizens residing in the territories,
24 through Supplemental Security Income inclusion and the expansion of Medicaid; and
25 be it further

1 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the
2 adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Honorable
3 Joseph R. Biden, President of the United States of America; to the Honorable Kamala
4 Harris, Vice President of the United States of America and President of the U.S. Senate;
5 to the Honorable Patrick J. Leahy, President Pro Tempore, U.S. Senate; to the
6 Honorable Charles E. Schumer, Majority Leader, Chairman of the Conference, U.S.
7 Senate; to the Honorable Mitch McConnell, Minority Leader, U.S. Senate; to the
8 Honorable Joe Manchin, Chair of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee,
9 U.S. Senate; to the Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives;
10 to the Honorable Steny Hoyer, Majority Leader, U.S. House of Representatives; to the
11 Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Minority Leader, U.S. House of Representatives; to the
12 Honorable Raúl Grijalva, Chair of the House Natural Resources Committee, U.S. House
13 of Representatives; to the Honorable Michael F.Q. San Nicolas, Guam Delegate, U.S.
14 House of Representatives; and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I*
15 *Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE 6TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2021.



THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker



AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary