I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan BILL STATUS

BILL NO.	SPONSOR	TITLE	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	FISCAL NOTES	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	NOTES
285-37 (LS)	Joe S. San Agustin Tina Rose Muña Barnes	AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000) FROM FISCAL YEAR 2024 GENERAL FUND REVENUES COLLECTED IN EXCESS OF THE							
	Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas Roy A. B. Quinata	ADOPTED LEVELS ENUMERATED IN PUBLIC LAW 37-42, AS AMENDED, TO THE GUAM OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS RELATIVE TO INCREASING SERVICES	•						
		AND OPERATIONS.							

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I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2024 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 285-37 (LS)

Introduced by:

1

Joe S. San Agustin Tina Rose Muña Barnes Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas Roy A. B. Quinata

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000) FROM FISCAL YEAR 2024 GENERAL FUND REVENUES COLLECTED IN EXCESS OF THE ADOPTED LEVELS ENUMERATED IN PUBLIC LAW 37-42, AS AMENDED, TO THE GUAM OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS RELATIVE TO INCREASING SERVICES AND OPERATIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

- 2 Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. I Liheslaturan Guåhan finds that
- 3 the Guam Office of Veterans Affairs (GOVA) is an essential institution in supporting
- 4 the men and women who served in the U.S. Armed Forces, and their families. With
- 5 an increasing demand for services and a growing veteran population, it is evident
- 6 that the office requires adequate resources to fulfill its mission effectively.
- 7 I Liheslaturan Guåhan finds that the GOVA would ideally need to hire six (6)
- 8 Veteran Service Representatives and six (6) Cemetery Workers, in order to provide
- 9 timely and comprehensive assistance to the veterans of our island.
- 10 I Liheslaturan Guåhan further finds that for GOVA to maintain quality
- personnel their pay rate must be competitive with veteran service representatives
- beginning at Grade H-1, which is approximately \$32,355 annually and cemetery
- workers to begin at Grade G-1 which is approximately \$30,169 annually.

Therefore, it is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to appropriate One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) to the Guam Office of Veteran Affairs, specifically designated for personnel and operational costs. This allocation will not only ensure the retention and expansion of qualified staff but also cover essential operational expenses such as office supplies and outreach efforts. Ultimately, this financial support is crucial in enhancing the office's capacity to honor and serve Guam's veterans, recognizing their invaluable contributions and sacrifices to our nation.

Section 2. Appropriation. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the sum of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) is hereby appropriated from Fiscal Year 2024 General Fund revenues collected in excess of the adopted levels enumerated in Public Law 37-42, as Amended, to the Guam Office of Veterans Affairs for the employment of six (6) Veteran Service Representatives and six (6) Veteran's Cemetery Workers. The balance of this appropriation may be utilized for operational expenses only after each of the positions identified in this Section have been filled. This appropriation shall be available until fully expended.

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

Section 4. Effective Date. This Act shall be effective upon enactment.