

**I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE AUTHORS REPORT FILED	NOTES
21-37 (COR)	Tina Rose Muña Barnes Roy A. B. Quinata William A. Parkinson Joe S. San Agustin Jesse A. Lujan Dwayne T. D. San Nicolas Frank Blas, Jr.	RELATIVE TO EXPRESSING THE SUPPORT OF H.R. 256, INTRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, WHICH SEEKS TO EXTEND COVERAGE OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME (SSI) PROGRAM TO QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS WHO RESIDE ON PUERTO RICO, THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS, GUAM, AND AMERICAN SAMOA.	1/31/23 2:49 p.m.		3/30/23	2/1/23	Author	3/2/23 9:00 a.m.	3/15/23 8:00 a.m.	



COPY

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
Thirty-Seventh Guam Legislature

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero
I Maga'hågan Guåhan
Ufisinan I Maga'håga
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Dear *Maga'håga* Leon Guerrero:

Transmitted herewith is **Resolution No. 21-37 (COR)**, "RELATIVE TO EXPRESSING THE SUPPORT OF H.R. 256, INTRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, WHICH SEEKS TO EXTEND COVERAGE OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME (SSI) PROGRAM TO QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS WHO RESIDE ON PUERTO RICO, THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS, GUAM, AND AMERICAN SAMOA," which was duly and regularly adopted by *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* on March 30, 2023.

Sincerely,

AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary

Enclosure (1)

RCVD AT CENTRAL FILES
MAR 31 '23 PM 3:32

Elaine Tajalle



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

Resolution No. 21-37 (COR)

Introduced by:

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

RELATIVE TO EXPRESSING THE SUPPORT OF H.R. 256, INTRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, WHICH SEEKS TO EXTEND COVERAGE OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME (SSI) PROGRAM TO QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS WHO RESIDE ON PUERTO RICO, THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS, GUAM, AND AMERICAN SAMOA.

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

3 **WHEREAS, Katrina Schaller, a Guam resident with a disability, sued the Social**
4 **Security Administration in December 2018, challenging the inability of Guam residents**

1 to receive support payments under the federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
2 program; and

3 **WHEREAS**, in June 2020 District Court of Guam Chief Judge Frances
4 Tydingco-Gatewood ruled the federal SSI program is discriminatory and violated
5 Schaller’s constitutional right to equal protection under the law; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the Justice Department appealed Tydingco-Gatewood’s decision to
7 the Ninth Circuit, but the case was paused because the U.S. Supreme Court was hearing
8 a similar case related to a Puerto Rico resident who lost his SSI payments when he
9 relocated from New York; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit granted the federal
11 government’s request to “vacate” the ruling after the plaintiff in the case, Katrina
12 Schaller, died in late 2021, making her ongoing federal lawsuit moot; and

13 **WHEREAS**, on April 21, 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court turned down a bid to
14 allow Puerto Rico residents to claim benefits under the federal government’s main
15 disability insurance program, ruling that the Constitution does not require Congress to
16 offer such payments to residents of the island even though people born there are U.S.
17 citizens; and

18 **WHEREAS**, given the U.S. Supreme Court has opined the granting of any SSI
19 benefits to residents of Puerto Rico, as well as to residents of the U.S. Virgin Islands,
20 Guam and American Samoa, is not a matter for the Court but for the Congress; and

21 **WHEREAS**, H.R. 256 is the latest attempt to extend coverage of the
22 Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program to qualified individuals who reside on
23 Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam and American Samoa; and

24 **WHEREAS**, similar measures to extend coverage have been introduced by
25 previous Guam Delegates to the U.S. House of Representatives, including former
26 Congressman Michael F.Q. San Nicolas and former Congresswoman Madeleine Z.

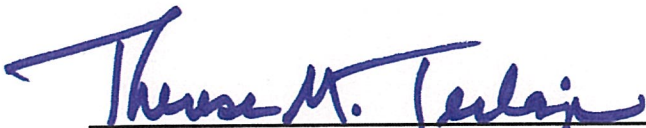
1 Bordallo, but the U.S. Congress has yet to extend SSI coverage to residents of U.S.
2 territories; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the continued efforts of Guam’s current Delegate are essential as
4 extending SSI coverage to the people of Guam would aid potentially thousands of
5 residents who are blind, disabled, or sixty-five (65) years of age or older with low
6 incomes and limited resources; now, therefore be it


7 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,
8 on behalf of the people of Guam, express its support of H.R. 256, introduced in the
9 United States House of Representatives, which seeks to extend coverage of the
10 Supplemental Security Income program to qualified individuals who reside on Puerto
11 Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa; and be it further

12 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the
13 adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Honorable
14 Joseph R. Biden, President of the United States of America; to the Honorable Kevin
15 McCarthy, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives; to the Honorable
16 James C. Moylan, Guam’s Delegate to the United States Congress; to the Honorable
17 Jason Smith, Chairman of the U.S. House Ways and Means Committee; and to the
18 Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 30TH DAY OF MARCH 2023.



THERESE M. TERLAJI
Speaker



AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2023 (FIRST) Regular Session
VOTING RECORD

Resolution No. 21-37 (COR)	Speaker Antonio R. Unpingco Legislative Session Hall Guam Congress Building March 30, 2023					
NAME	Aye	Nay	Not Voting/ Abstained	Out During Roll Call	Absent	Excused
Senator Chris Barnett	✓					
Senator Frank Blas, Jr.	✓					
Senator Joanne Brown	✓					
Senator Christopher M. Dueñas	✓					
Senator Thomas J. Fisher	✓					
Senator Jesse A. Lujan	✓					
Vice Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes	✓					
Senator William A. Parkinson	✓					
Senator Sabina Flores Perez	✓					
Senator Roy A. B. Quinata	✓					
Senator Joe S. San Agustin	✓					
Senator Dwayne T. D. San Nicolas	✓					
Senator Amanda L. Shelton	✓					
Senator Telo T. Taitague	✓					
Speaker Therese M. Terlaje	✓					

TOTAL

15

0

Aye

Nay

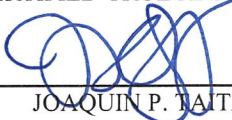
Not
Voting/
Abstained

Out
During
Roll Call

Absent

Excused

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:



JOAQUIN P. TAITAGUE

Substitute Clerk of the Legislature

I = Pass