

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Gu àhan
APPOINTMENTS

DOCUMENT NO.	APPOINTEE	POSITION	AGENCY	APPT. DATE	TERM LENGTH	DATE REFERRED	COMMITTEE REFERRED	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	SESSION DATE	DATE CONFIRMED	NOTES
37GL-24-1798	Michelle M.S. Santos, E.D.	Member	Guam Commission for Educator Certification	3/15/24	Three (3) Years (From Date of Confirmation)	3/19/24	Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts	4/2/24 2:00 p.m.	4/8/24 4:47 p.m.			



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

April 9, 2024

Honorable Therese M. Terlaje

Speaker

Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

VIA: **Honorable Chris Barnett** *DUB*
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Re: Committee Report on the Appointment of Michelle M.S. Santos

Håfa adai Speaker Terlaje:

Transmitted herewith is the Committee Report on the appointment of **Michelle M.S. Santos** to serve as **Member** of **The Guam Commission for Educator Certification**, and which was referred to the **Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts**.

Committee votes are as follows:

6 TO DO CONFIRM
0 TO NOT CONFIRM
0 TO REPORT OUT ONLY
0 TO ABSTAIN
0 TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE

Si Yu'os ma'åse',


Chris Barnett



COMMITTEE ON RULES

Received:
April 8, 2024 3:45 p.m.

Beatrice Cruz



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett
Chairperson
Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

COMMITTEE REPORT

Nomination of Michelle M.S. Santos, Ed.D.

**As a
Member of the Guam Commission for Educator
Certification**

by Senator Chris Barnett



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

April 8, 2024

MEMORANDUM

To: All Members
Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts

From: Senator Chris Barnett *DCB*
Committee Chairperson

Subject: Committee Report on the Appointment of Michelle M.S. Santos

Transmitted herewith for your consideration is the Committee Report on **Michelle M.S. Santos, Ed.D.** to serve as **Member, Guam Commission for Educator Certification.**

This report includes the following:

- Copy of COR Referral of the Appointment
- Copy of the Appointment Letter to the Speaker
- Copy of Appointment Packet & Supporting Documents
- Notices of Public Hearing & Other Correspondence
- Copy of the Public Hearing Agenda
- Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet
- Written Testimony
- Committee Vote Sheet
- Committee Report Digest

Please take the appropriate action on the attached vote sheet. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Si Yu'os ma'åse'



COMMITTEE ON RULES

Senator Chris Barnett, Chairperson
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
37th Guam Legislature

March 19, 2024

To: **Joaquin P. Taitague**
Clerk of the Legislature

Attorney Darleen Hiton
Legislative Legal Counsel

From: **Senator Chris Barnett** 
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Subject: **Referral of Appointment**

Håfa Adai yan Biba Guåhan!

As per my authority as Chairperson of the Committee on Rules and subject to §9.01, Rule IX of our Standing Rules, I am forwarding the referral of the following appointment:

Appointee: **Michelle M.S. Santos, Ed.D.**

Position: **Member**

Term Length: **Three (3) Years (From Date of Confirmation)**

Please refer the following document:

“**Doc. No. 37GL-24-1798** – Office of the Governor – Appointment and Supporting Documents for Michelle M.S. Santos, Ed.D, Member, Guam Commission for Educator Certification.”

Ensure the appointment is referred to the Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts chaired by Senator Chris Barnett. I also request that the same be forwarded to Management Information Services (MIS) for posting on our website.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Kamarin J.A. Nelson, Committee on Rules Director at 671-472-2461.



Note that the Legislature has taken steps to ensure that any protected personal identifying information has been redacted or excluded in whole or in part in order to protect the privacy of any individuals whose information has been included as part of this transmittal.

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HĀGAN GUĀHAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

March 15, 2024

Honorable Therese M. Terlaje
Speaker
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
37th Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96932

37GL-24-1798
OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER
THERESE M. TERLAJE

MAR 18 2024

Time: 5:03 pm
Received: SN

RE: Board Appointment

Håfa Adai Madame Speaker:

By virtue of the authority vested in me pursuant to the Organic Act of Guam, 17 GCA § 27003, and all other applicable laws, I am pleased to transmit the following appointment and supporting documents:

- APPOINTEE: Michelle M.S. Santos, Ed.D.
- POSITION: Member, Guam Commission for Educator Certification
- TERM LENGTH: **Three (3) Years (From Date of Confirmation)**

This appointment is subject to the advice and consent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*. Please schedule a hearing at your earliest convenience.

Senseramente,

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
Maga'hågan Guåhan
Governor of Guam



37GL-24-1798
Messages and Communications
RECEIVED
Committee on Rules
March 18, 2024
7:12 p.m.

Beatrice Cruz

cc: *Honorable* Joshua F. Tenorio, Lt. Governor of Guam

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
GOVERNOR

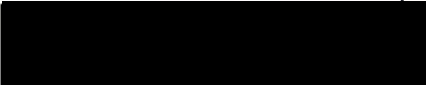


JOSHUA F. TENORIO
LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HĀGAN GUĀHAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

March 15, 2024

MICHELLE M.S. SANTOS, Ed.D.



Hafa Adai Dr. Santos:

Pursuant to my authority under the Organic Act of Guam, 17 GCA § 27003, and all other applicable laws, I am appointing you to serve as a:

MEMBER, GUAM COMMISSION FOR EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION
Term Length: Three (3) Years (From Date of Confirmation)

Appointing you to this position comes with great responsibility because you will have a vital role to perform placing many demands on your time and energy. Integrity and honesty are virtues that I prioritize for my Administration to exemplify, and I know that you will do the same while in service to the people of Guam. Your responsibilities shall be significant and consequential. I trust that you will fulfill your duties and set a standard for others to follow.

I appreciate your willingness to serve in this position, and I am confident that your time will be spent in a manner to improve the island of Guam.

This appointment is subject to the advice and consent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*.

Should you have any questions, please contact Jean Taitano of the Office of the Governor at (671) 473-1121.

Senseramente,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero".

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
Maga'hågan Guåhan
Governor of Guam

cc: *Honorable* Joshua F. Tenorio, Lt. Governor of Guam
Commissioners, Guam Commission for Educator Certification

Note that the Legislature has taken steps to ensure that any protected personal identifying information has been redacted or excluded in whole or in part in order to protect the privacy of any individual(s) whose information has been included as part of this transmittal.

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
Governor



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
Lieutenant Governor

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM
Nomination and Appointment Information Sheet

The following information is required for submission to the
Speaker of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* in accordance with Title 4, Guam Code Annotated Section 2103

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Last Name Santos	First Name Michelle	Middle Initial M. S.
Mailing Address [REDACTED]		Apartment/Unit #
City [REDACTED]	State [REDACTED]	Zip Code [REDACTED]
Phone [REDACTED]	E-mail Address [REDACTED]	
Position to which Appointment is Made GCEC - Terminal Degree position		
Are you a citizen of the United States? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
If no, are you authorized to work in the United States? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		

EDUCATION

SCHOOL (Name, City and State)	DATES OF ATTENDANCE	TYPE OF DEGREE	YEAR EARNED
High School El Capitan High School, Lakeside, CA	1981-1985	HS Diploma	1985
College UC Santa Barbara - CA	1985-1989,	BA - English;	1989
Graduate School Univ. of Guam, Guam;	1992-1996;	MEd.	1996
Other Degree Univ. of San Diego, CA	1998 - 2003	EdD.	2003

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Name of Present/Last Employer and Mailing Address University of Guam 303 University Drive University Station Mangilao, GU 96913	Position Title Associate Professor
	Dates Held Employed since 10/2/2011

Previous Employer and Mailing Address Guam Community College 1 Sesame Street Mangilao, GU 96913	Position Title Dean
	Dates Held March, 2001 - 9/30/2011

Previous Employer and Mailing Address Guam Department of Education 501 Mariner Ave. Barrigada, GU 96913	Position Title Asst. Principal & Teacher
	Dates Held March 1991 - February 2001

Previous Employer and Mailing Address	Position Title
	Dates Held

Previous Employer and Mailing Address	Position Title
	Dates Held

PRIOR GOVERNMENT OF GUAM SERVICE

Agency or Department Name Please see above, all service has been Gov. Guam		Position Title	
Address	Phone No.	Dates Held	

Agency or Department Name Please see above, all service has been Gov. Guam		Position Title	
Address	Phone No.	Dates Held	

PRIOR GOVERNMENT SERVICE (EXCLUDING GOVERNMENT OF GUAM)

Agency or Department Name		Position Title	
Address	Phone No.	Dates Held	

Agency or Department Name		Position Title	
Address	Phone No.	Dates Held	

TRAINING

INSTITUTE/SEMINARS/ON-THE-JOB TRAINING	DATE
Human Subjects Research Social-Behavioral-Educational Research	12/08/22
Certified online educator	12/22

AWARDS

List all educational, professional, civic awards, and recognition for public service:
Administrator of the Year, 2009 @Guam Community College Exemplary Leader Award, 2009 - National Recognition

PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT

List involvement on a local/national/international level. List organizations, activities participated in, and offices held:
Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation (AAQEP) trained reviewer. Participated in review of Utah Valley University's School of Education. I was the team lead for the following reviews: UH Hilo, Cal State Fresno, Cal State Bakersfield, Univ. of Wyoming, and Chaminade University Member of Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) Member of Association for Teacher Education (ATE)

COMMUNITY / CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

List organizations, activities participated in, and offices held:

Guam Commission for Educator Certification from 2014 to 2020
Formerly a member of Phi Delta Kappa (organization has been inactive)
Member of many sports organizations on Guam (Guam Triathlon Federation, Guam Cycling Federation, Amphibious Aquatics)
Formerly a member of OLBS Parish Council

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

List any published articles, papers delivered at professional meetings, etc.:

1. Gutierrez, K. Santos, M. & Green, J. (2023) Faculty reflections of negotiating instructional frames and assessing our work. Micronesian Educator. Vol. 33
2. Donahue, T., Rentz, B., Santos, M., Aguon, A., Arens, S. (2021) Using high school and college data to predict teacher candidates' performance on the Praxis at the Unibetsedåt Guåhan/University of Guam
3. Santos, M. (2020). Praxis Core preparation: A qualitative review. Unibetsedåt Guåhan.
4. Santos, M. (2018) Engaging literacy strategies for adult English language learners in a teacher

MILITARY SERVICE (Please attach Form DD-214)

BRANCH	DATES OF SERVICE	RANK AT DISCHARGE	TYPE OF DISCHARGE

OTHER INFORMATION

(1) Have you ever been found guilty of a felony in any court, whether within or without the United States?

Yes No If so, please specify in detail: _____

Address of the Court: _____

Date(s) of Conviction: _____

Specific Infraction Committed: _____

(2) Have you ever been declared mentally incompetent by any court, whether within or without the United States?

Yes No If so, please specify in detail the reasons and facts related to such declaration:

(3) Have you ever been found not guilty or not punishable in any criminal proceedings by reason of insanity?

Yes No

(4) Have you ever been confined to a mental institution for any reason?

Yes No If so, please specify in why the appointing authority believes you that you are not suffering from any mental illness or affliction:

Note that the Legislature has taken steps to ensure that any protected personal identifying information has been redacted or excluded in whole or in part in order to protect the privacy of any individual(s) whose information has been included as part of this transmittal.

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
Governor



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
Lieutenant Governor

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

Statement of Financial Interests

(Required by 4 G.C.A. §13104.1)

TO: The Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero
Governor of Guam
Ricardo J. Bordallo Governor's Complex
Adelup, Guam 96910

FROM: Michelle M. S. Santos

- I have no financial interest in any business
- I do have interest(s) in the following business(es):

NAME AND ADDRESS OF BUSINESS INTEREST	TYPE AND AMOUNT OF INTEREST

Michelle Santos
Signature

02/23/24
Date

AFFIDAVIT / DECLARATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY

I, the undersigned, do hereby depose and say that: (1) I have read and reviewed the information contained in the attached Appointment/Nomination letter from the Governor of Guam; (2) that the matters contained in the Appointment/Nomination letter, together with all attachments thereto, are true and correct and that I am competent to testify to said matters; and (3) that this Declaration is made for the purpose of complying with the requirements of 4 G.C.A. Section 2103.5.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of Guam (4 G.C.A. Section 4308) that the foregoing is true and correct.

Michelle Santos *Michelle Santos*

Print Name and Signature

02/23/24

Date



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Government of Guam

**GUAM POLICE DEPARTMENT
RECORDS & IDENTIFICATION SECTION**

P.O. Box 23909
Guam Main Facility, Guam 96921



February 26, 2024

SUBJECT: CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD

NAME:	Michelle Marie S. SANTOS		
DATE OF BIRTH:	[REDACTED]	FINGERPRINT#:	[REDACTED]
■	The individual has no record of criminal conviction(s) in the Guam Police Department files that are subject to Guam law.		

*****NOTHING FOLLOWS*****

THIS INFORMATION MAY BE LIMITED TO A LOCAL CRIMINAL OFFENSE ONLY AND IS NOT INTENDED FOR USE FOR ANY LOCAL, STATE, OR FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.

By Direction: MC

For

STEPHEN C. IGNACIO
Chief of Police

The absence of an original GUAM POLICE seal invalidates this police clearance.
REVISED 04/26/19



SUPERIOR COURT OF GUAM

Guam Judicial Center | 120 West O'Brien Drive | Hagåtña, Guam 96910 | (671) 475-3370 | Fax: (671) 475-0078

Name: MICHELLE MARIE S SANTOS

Guam Driver's License #: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED]

CERTIFICATE OF SEARCH

The undersigned Clerk hereby certifies the following results of a diligent search of the records of this Court:

Criminal Cases:
No Cases Found

Civil Cases:

Request for further information may be addressed at the Records Division of the Superior Court of Guam, Guam Judicial Center, 120 West O'Brien Drive, Hagåtña, Guam. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed Saturdays, Sundays and local/federal holidays. **Court Clearances are Non-Refundable.**

Dated: 02/26/2024

Sophia Santos Diaz
Clerk of Court

By: Vanessa M. Torres
Deputy Clerk II

Prepared by: Vanessa M. Torres



The absence of an
Original Court Seal
Invalidates this
document. 177111



Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing: April 2, 2024

Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>
Bcc: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

Tue, Mar 26, 2024 at 10:42 AM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 26, 2024

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media
From: Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett
Re: FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing: April 2, 2024

The Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts will conduct a series of public hearings on **Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at 2:00 pm** at the Public Hearing Room in the Guam Congress Building. The agenda is as follows:

- The Reappointment of **Christine W. Baleto** as a Member, Upper-Level Managerial Position in a Private Business Representative of the Guam Education Board.
- The Reappointment of **Roberta M. Abaday** as a Member (Community at Large Representative) of the Guam Commission for Educator Certification.
- The Appointment of **Michelle M.S. Santos, Ed.D.** as a Member of the Guam Commission for Educator Certification.

If you are interested in participating in the Public Hearing to provide testimony, please contact the Office of Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett via electronic mail at malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org or (671) 969-3586 for further guidance.

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The Public Hearing will broadcast LIVE on local television (GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117) and stream online via i Liheslaturan Guåhan’s live feed. Written testimonies may be sent via email at malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org.

All government activities, programs, and services are accessible for people with disabilities in compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Should you or interested parties require assistance or special accommodations to fully participate in this public hearing, please contact the Office of Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett at (671) 969-3586 or via email at malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org.

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THE OFFICE OF SENATOR CHRIS “MALAFUNKSHUN” BARNETT
i Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Chairperson · Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts
Chairperson · Committee on Rules
The Guam Congress Building, 2nd Floor · 163 Chalan Santo Papa · Hagåtña, Guam 96910
(671) 969-3586

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3/26/24, 10:44 AM

Guam Legislature Mail - FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing: April 2, 2024

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2024-03-26 FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing.pdf

245K



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

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FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing: April 2, 2024

 PRINT

FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing: April 2, 2024

PUBLIC HEARING



 **Posted on:** 03/26/2024 10:42 AM

 **Posted by:** Erin Grajek, Committee Director


 **Public Hearing Date:** 04/02/2024 02:00 PM

 **Department(s):**
GUAM LEGISLATURE (/notices?department_id=92)

 **Division(s):**
OFFICE OF SENATOR CHRIS BARNETT (/notices?division_id=269)

 **Notice Topic(s):** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?topic_id=74)

 **Types of Notice:** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?type_id=7)

 **For Audience(s):** PUBLIC (/notices?public=1)

 **Share this notice**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 26, 2024

MEMORANDUM

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The Reappointment of **Roberta M. Abaday** (https://www.guamlegislature.com/37th_Guam_Legislature/Mess_Comms_37th/Doc.%20No.%2037GL-24-1720.pdf) as a Member (Community at Large Representative) of the Guam Commission for Educator Certification.

The Appointment of **Michelle M.S. Santos, Ed.D.** (https://www.guamlegislature.com/37th_Guam_Legislature/Mess_Comms_37th/Doc.%20No.%2037GL-24-1798.pdf) as a Member of the Guam Commission for Educator Certification.

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Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett at (671) 969-3586 or via email at malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org (<mailto:malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>).



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

<FIRST NOTICE AD SCRIPT>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 26, 2024

FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing: April 2, 2024

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Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing: April 2, 2024

Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>
Bcc: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

Sun, Mar 31, 2024 at 1:00 PM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 31, 2024

MEMORANDUM:

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media
From: Senator Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett
Re: SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing: April 2, 2024

The Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts will conduct a series of public hearings on **Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at 2:00 pm** at the Public Hearing Room in the Guam Congress Building. The agenda is as follows:

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THE OFFICE OF SENATOR CHRIS "MALAFUNKSHUN" BARNETT

i Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Chairperson · Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts

Chairperson · Committee on Rules

The Guam Congress Building, 2nd Floor · 163 Chalan Santo Papa · Hagåtña, Guam 96910
(671) 969-3586

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4/8/24, 9:26 AM

Guam Legislature Mail - SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing: April 2, 2024

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2024-03-31 SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing.pdf

285K



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 31, 2024

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media
From: Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett
Re: SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing: April 2, 2024

The Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts will conduct a series of public hearings on **Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at 2:00 pm** at the Public Hearing Room in the Guam Congress Building. The agenda is as follows:

- The Reappointment of [Christine W. Baletto](#) as a Member, Upper-Level Managerial Position in a Private Business Representative of the Guam Education Board.
- The Reappointment of [Roberta M. Abaday](#) as a Member (Community at Large Representative) of the Guam Commission for Educator Certification.
- The Appointment of [Michelle M.S. Santos, Ed.D.](#) as a Member of the Guam Commission for Educator Certification.

If you are interested in participating in the Public Hearing to provide testimony, please contact the Office of Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett via electronic mail at malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org or (671) 969-3586 for further guidance.

--

The Public Hearing will broadcast LIVE on local television (GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117) and stream online via i Liheslaturan Guåhan’s live feed. Written testimonies may be sent via email at malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org.

All government activities, programs, and services are accessible for people with disabilities in compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Should you or interested parties require assistance or special accommodations to fully participate in this public hearing, please contact the Office of Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett at (671) 969-3586 or via email at malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org.


SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing: April 2, 2024

 PRINT

SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing: April 2, 2024

PUBLIC HEARING



 **Posted on:** 03/31/2024 01:59 PM

 **Posted by:** Erin Grajek, Committee Director

 **Public Hearing Date:** 04/02/2024 02:00 PM


 **Department(s):**
GUAM LEGISLATURE (/notices?department_id=92)

 **Division(s):**
OFFICE OF SENATOR CHRIS BARNETT (/notices?division_id=269)

 **Notice Topic(s):** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?topic_id=74)

 **Types of Notice:** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?type_id=7)

 **For Audience(s):** PUBLIC (/notices?public=1)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 31, 2024

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- The Reappointment of **Roberta M. Abaday** (https://www.guamlegislature.com/37th_Guam_Legislature/Mess_Comms_37th/Doc.%20No.%2037GL-24-1720.pdf) as a Member (Community at Large Representative) of the Guam Commission for Educator Certification.
- The Appointment of **Michelle M.S. Santos, Ed.D.** (https://www.guamlegislature.com/37th_Guam_Legislature/Mess_Comms_37th/Doc.%20No.%2037GL-24-1798.pdf) as a Member of the Guam Commission for Educator Certification.

If you are interested in participating in the Public Hearing to provide testimony, please contact the Office of Senator Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett via electronic mail at malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org (<mailto:malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>) or (671) 969-3586 for further guidance.

--

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AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA). SHOULD YOU OR INTERESTED parties require assistance or special accommodations to fully participate in this public hearing, please contact the Office of Senator Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett at (671) 969-3586 or via email at malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org (<mailto:malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>).



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

<SECOND NOTICE AD SCRIPT>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 31, 2024

SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing: April 2, 2024

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671-969-3586

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TV8		\$ 160.00	3/31/2024	3/26/2024	14:00-14:05	:30	COED:CONF HEARING 2ND NOTICE 3.26 (4.2.24)	401T	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	\$ 160.00
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 Dededo, GU 96929
 Tel: 671.637.5826
 Mobile: 671-687-8879

To: I LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN
 37TH GUAM LEGISLATURE
 Attn: Accounting Department

DATE 3/23/2024
INVOICE NO. 2652-00058-0000M

Date(s)	Service Details	Amount
3/23/2024	COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION: HEARING NOTICE 3.26 (4.2.24)	\$ 160.00
	COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION: HEARING NOTICE 3.31 (4.2.24)	\$ 160.00
Please make check payable to: KUAM		
PAYMENT IS DUE UPON RECEIPT OF INVOICE. THANK YOU.		
		\$ 320.00

Please pay amount stated above.

Should you have any questions please contact: 671-687-8879 or 671-635-5836.



Erin M. Grajek <egrajek@guamlegislature.org>

NOTICE from Senator Barnett

Erin M. Grajek <egrajek@guamlegislature.org>
To: msantos@triton.uog.edu

Tue, Mar 26, 2024 at 11:39 AM

Hafa adai:

Please see the attached notice from Senator Chris Barnett.

Kindly confirm receipt of this email and please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.


--

Si Yu'os ma'åse',

Erin Marie Grajek, Committee Director
The Office of Senator Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett
Guam Congress Building, 2nd Floor
163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910
671-969-3586

i Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts

 **NOTICE - M. Santos.pdf**
261K



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

March 26, 2024

Transmitted via Electronic Mail

msantos@triton.uog.edu

Michele M.S. Santos, Ed.D.
205 A. Luna Ave.
Agana Heights, Guam 96910

Re: Notice of Confirmation Hearing – April 2, 2024

Håfa adai Dr. Santos:

Congratulations on your appointment as a Member of the Guam Commission for Educator Certification.

This letter is to notify you that the Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts has scheduled a Confirmation Hearing for your appointment on **Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at 2:00 pm.** The hearing will take place in the public hearing room of the Guam Congress Building.

You are welcome to invite your family members and members of the community to submit written testimony or provide oral testimony in support of your confirmation.

Written testimony should be submitted to our office on or before April 1, 2024 and may be sent via email to malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org. We look forward to your reply.

Si Yu'os ma'åse',

Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Public Hearing

Public Hearing Room – Guam Congress Building

Tuesday, April 2, 2024 – 2:00 pm

AGENDA

- The Reappointment of **Christine W. Baleto** as a Member, Upper-Level Managerial Position in a Private Business Representative of the Guam Education Board.
- The Reappointment of **Roberta M. Abaday** as a Member (Community at Large Representative) of the Guam Commission for Educator Certification.
- The Appointment of **Michelle M.S. Santos, Ed.D.** as a Member of the Guam Commission for Educator Certification.

--

Written testimonies may be submitted via email to malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org; or mailed to our office at The Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910.

The Public Hearing will broadcast LIVE on local television (GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117) and stream online via i Liheslaturan Guåhan’s YouTube live feed.



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

PUBLIC HEARING SIGN-IN SHEET
Tuesday, April 2, 2024 – 2:00 pm
Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building

Michele M.S. Santos, Ed.D – Member, Guam Commission for Educator Certification

NAME	AGENCY/ ORGANIZATION	POSITION	TESTIMONY	CONTACT INFORMATION
1. Michelle Santos, Nominee	GCEC	SUPPORT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Roberta Abaday	GCEC	SUPPORT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
3.		SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
4.		SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
5.		SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
6.		SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
7.		SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
8.		SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input type="checkbox"/>	



KUMISION SETTEFIKASION PARA I MANMANIDUKA
GUAM COMMISSION FOR EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION

303 University Drive, SOE Room 105, Mangilao, GU 96913

Tel: (671)735-2554 Fax: (671)735-2569

www.gcec.guam.gov



Testimony for New Commissioner for Guam Commission for Educator Certification

Honorable Senator Chris Barnett, Chairperson, Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts and esteemed Senators,

Hafa Adai! My name is Roberta Abaday and I am the chairperson for the Guam Commission for Educator Certification. On behalf of the GCEC, I strongly support the appointment of **Dr. Michelle Santos**, as a member of the Commission.

Her appointment meets the requirements of Public Law 29-73 and her experience in the Guam Public School System, Guam Community College, and the University of Guam provides her with valuable knowledge of the educational system and the requirements for school improvement.

I have worked with Dr. Michelle Santos on the Guam Commission for Educator Certification. Beginning as the representative from Guam Community College, she was able to bring her experience as an educator and administrator to advise the commissioners on certification issues. Her insight into the training of teachers and the classroom needs assisted in the development of the standards for teacher education. In 2014, she was selected by the Legislature and the Governor as a Community Member for the GCEC. Dr. Santos continued to work with the Commission and accepted the role of treasurer, as well as Chairperson of the Extension Review Committee, along with working on the Standard Operating Procedure committee. As the treasurer, it was her responsibility to monitor the budget and spending for the GCEC and to present a report at each of our meetings. Her responsibility included analyzing the spending to ensure that the office was keeping within its budget, as well as recommending needed adjustments to the budget. As the Chairperson of the Extension Review Committee, Dr. Santos was tasked with reviewing the documentation presented by those educators who were requesting an extension of their certificate and to determine if the certification extension should be recommended to the GCEC. She called her committee together, reviewed and discussed the documents, and ensured that the law was followed while providing the compassion needed to

Testimony for Michelle M. Santos, Ed.D

Guam Commission for Educator Certification

April 2, 2024

Good afternoon, Honorable Senators.

My name is Michelle Santos, and I'm honored to be here today. I appreciate the opportunity to seek your support for confirmation for the terminal degree position on the Guam Commission for Educator Certification. My commitment to education has driven my career for the past 33 years of my 35 years on Guam.

I started my journey as a K-12 educator and then school administrator, witnessing firsthand the impact dedicated teachers have on young minds. This experience fueled my desire to contribute at a broader level. I transitioned to higher education administration at Guam Community College for ten years. For the past almost decade and a half, I have been deeply invested in Guam's educator preparation. The quality of the teacher is the number one school related factor on student achievement. My job has been focusing on ensuring our future educators are well-equipped and can make a difference.

My work doesn't stop at the edge of our reefs. Nationally, I've served as an accreditation lead for other educator preparation programs. This experience has provided me with invaluable insight from around the country into various educator preparation requirements, best practices in that preparation, and the unique challenges faced by different regions. These experiences will allow me to contribute to the commission with a local lens and a broad perspective.

Here on Guam, I've seen the dedication of our educators firsthand. Their commitment to nurturing the next generation is truly inspiring. Joining the Guam Commission for Educator Certification would allow me to directly contribute to ensuring these educators have a method to continue to be best and serve our island and our children with confidence.

Beyond my experience, my 35 years on Guam have instilled a deep sense of community and a passion for my adopted home. This is an opportunity to give back and ensure our educational system continues to thrive for the benefit of our children and Guam's future.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Santos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

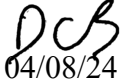
Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

Nomination of Michelle M.S. Santos, Ed.D. as Member of the Guam Commission for Educator Certification

	SIGNATURE/ DATE OF SIGNATURE	TO DO CONFIRM	TO NOT CONFIRM	TO REPORT OUT ONLY	TO ABSTAIN	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE
Senator Chris Barnett Chairperson	 04/08/24	✓				
Senator Christopher M. Dueñas Vice Chairperson	evote 04/08/24	✓				
Speaker Therese M. Terlaje Member						
Senator Sabina F. Perez Member	evote 04/08/24	✓				
Senator Joe S. San Agustin Member	evote 04/08/24	✓				
Senator Joanne M. Brown Member	evote 04/08/24	✓				
Senator Thomas J. Fisher Member						
Senator Telo T. Taitague Member	evote 04/08/24	✓				



Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

URGENT REQUEST for Evote: Michelle Santos (GCEC)

La'Kiesha Pereda <lakiesha@guamlegislature.org>

Mon, Apr 8, 2024 at 2:16 PM

To: "Office of Senator Joanne M. Brown" <office@senatorjoannebrown.com>

Cc: "Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>, "Speaker Therese M. Terlaje" <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, Senator Sabina Perez <office@senatorperez.org>, Chris Duenas <senatorchrisduenas@gmail.com>, Senator Thomas Fisher <senatorfisher@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Telo Taitague <senatortelot@gmail.com>

To do confirm.



La'Kiesha D. Pereda

Office of Senator Dueñas

37th Guam Legislature



671 989 9554



259 Martyr Street Hagåtña, GU 96910



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SUNSHINE REFORM ACT: Please be informed that electronic communication originating from an official office of the Government of Guam is subject to the laws, rules, and regulations governed by the Sunshine Reform Act. This act encompasses various processes and procedures implemented to foster an open and transparent government. *It is important to note that certain public records may be exempt from disclosure in accordance with explicit provisions of the law.*

[Quoted text hidden]



Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

URGENT REQUEST for Evote: Michelle Santos (GCEC)

Joe S. San Agustin <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>

Mon, Apr 8, 2024 at 1:05 PM

To: Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

Cc: "Speaker Therese M. Terlaje" <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, Senator Sabina Perez <office@senatorperez.org>, Chris Duenas <senatorchrisduenas@gmail.com>, "Honorable Joanne M. Brown" <office@senatorjoannebrown.com>, Senator Thomas Fisher <senatorfisher@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Telo Taitague <senatortelot@gmail.com>

To Do Confirm

The Office of Senator Joe S. San Agustin

Committee on General Government Operations & Appropriations

I Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan

37th Guam Legislature

Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

T: (671) 989-5445 F: (671) 969-6737 E: senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com

Website: www.senatorjoessanagustin.com

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On Mon, 8 Apr 2024 at 11:04, Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]



Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

URGENT REQUEST for Evote: Michelle Santos (GCEC)

Office of Senator Joanne M. Brown <office@senatorjoannebrown.com>

Mon, Apr 8, 2024 at 2:07 PM

To: "Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>

Cc: Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>, "Speaker Therese M. Terlaje"

<senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, Senator Sabina Perez <office@senatorperez.org>, Chris Duenas

<senatorchrisduenas@gmail.com>, Senator Thomas Fisher <senatorfisher@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Telo Taitague

<senatortelot@gmail.com>

Håfa Adai,

To Do Confirm.

Very Respectfully,

Tracey Aguerro

Office Manager

Office of Senator Joanne M. Brown | *I Mina' Trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan (37th Guam Legislature)*

[120 Father Dueñas Avenue](#)

Capitol Plaza Building, Suite 103

Hagåtña, Guam 96932

Telephone: (671) 647-1409

Hafa Adai! Except with respect to public records exempt from disclosure by express provisions of the law, please be advised that, as an official office of the Legislative Branch of the Government of Guam, this electronic communication, is subject to the laws, rules and regulations governing the Sunshine Reform Act, and any other processes and procedures carried out in the spirit of an open and transparent government.

[Quoted text hidden]



Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

URGENT REQUEST for Evote: Michelle Santos (GCEC)

Office of Senator Sabina Perez <office@senatorperez.org>

Mon, Apr 8, 2024 at 2:40 PM

To: La'Kiesha Pereda <lakiesha@guamlegislature.org>

Cc: "Office of Senator Joanne M. Brown" <office@senatorjoannebrown.com>, "Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>, "Speaker Therese M. Terlaje" <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, Chris Duenas <senatorchrisduenas@gmail.com>, Senator Thomas Fisher <senatorfisher@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Telo Taitague <senatortelot@gmail.com>

To do confirm.

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Si Yu'os Ma'åse,



**Office of
Senator Sabina Flores Perez**

37th Guam Legislature • *I Mina'Trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan*
Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics,
Research, and Planning

Tel: (671) 989-2968 | (671) 472-3499

Location: 163 Guam Congress Building, 2nd Floor *Hagåtña*, Guam 96910

Website: www.senatorperez.org

Social Media : [Senator Sabina Flores Perez](#)



Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

URGENT REQUEST for Evote: Michelle Santos (GCEC)

Senator Telo Taitague <senatortelot@gmail.com>

Mon, Apr 8, 2024 at 12:35 PM

To: Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

To do confirm.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse,

Create a Great Day!

Senator Telo T. Taitague

37th Guam Legislature

Republican Minority Whip

Vice Chair on General Government

Operations & Appropriations

Suite 309 DNA Building

[238 Archbishop Flores St.](#)

[Hagatna, Guam 96910](#)

Tel: (671) 989-8356

Email: senatortelot@gmail.com

[Quoted text hidden]



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

I. OVERVIEW

The Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts convened a public hearing on the appointment of Michelle M.S. Santos, Ed.D. on Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at 2:00 pm at the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building. The appointment history is as follows:

- Appointment by i Maga'håga Guåhan on March 15, 2024 for Three (3) Years (From Date of Confirmation)
- Appointment packet forwarded to I Liheslatura on March 18, 2024; and
- Appointment packet forwarded to this Committee on March 19, 2024.

Public Notice Requirements

Public Hearing notices were disseminated via **e-mail** to all senators and all main media broadcasting outlets on **Tuesday, March 26, 2024** (5-Day Notice), and again on **Sunday, March 31, 2024** (48-Hour Notice).

Senators Present

Acting Chairperson Christopher M. Dueñas
Committee Member Joanne M. Brown

Attendees

Michelle M.S. Santos, Ed.D, Nominee
Roberta Abaday
Maria Gutierrez

II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY & DISCUSSION

The **public hearing** was Called-to-Order at **2:10 PM**.

Senator Christopher M. Duenas, Vice-Chair – Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts: Hafa adai and good afternoon. Welcome to the Guam Congress building, the People's House. Today I will be conducting this hearing. I am obviously the other Chris. I am not the Senator Chris Malefunction Barnett. He's not he's not feeling well today, and so he's asked me as the vice chair to go ahead and conduct this hearing. So I just wanna welcome everyone who's come today, and I'll go ahead and move forward with what we're doing today during this hearing. And just thankful that everybody is here and we'll proceed at this time. Good afternoon. This public hearing is conducted by the Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts and is now called to order at two. Oh, or actually 2:10 PM. Notice of this hearing was disseminated to all local media outlets on March 26,

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2024, with the second notice provided on March 31, 2024. Notice of the hearing was also made known on the Guam Legislature's website. And the government of Guam public notices portal. This afternoon, the committee will hear testimony on the following appointments. Ms. Christine Baleto, as an upper level managerial position in a private business representative, member of the Guam education board to serve a term length of three years from the date of confirmation. We will also hear Ms. Roberta M. Abaday as a community at large representative, member of the Guam Commission for Educator Certification to serve a term length of three years from the date of confirmation. And finally, we will hear also, Dr. Michelle M.S. Santos as a member of the Guam Commission for Educator Certification to serve the term of three years from the date of confirmation. I would now like to welcome my colleagues that joined us today, and I guess I'll just be welcoming myself for now. It looks like a pretty easy confirmation. Before we begin, I'd like to go over the general rules of conduct. Thank you. Individuals testifying shall be recognized by the chair before speaking and shall state their name for recordkeeping purposes. Questions and testimony shall be confined to the substance or nature of the agenda. Personal inference to the character or motive of any senator or individual testifying is not permitted. The chairperson of the committee may order the removal from having any member of the legislature in Guam who fails to observe proper decorum pursuant to the 37 Guam legislature standing rules. Any violation of this general rule of conduct will result in removal from the hearing by the host. We will now proceed with the hearing testimony on the appointment of Ms. Christine Baleto as a member of the Guam Education Board. We will hear from those who are here to present testimony on behalf of Ms. Baleto before we hear from Ms. Baleto. And being that I think we have two re appointments and one coming back. A returnee. We're gonna ask all those who are here to testify to go ahead and testify on all three nominees. And then we'll bring up the nominees one by one. If that's your decision. Whoever you're here for. But if you want to provide your testimony on all three, you could do that whenever you choose to come forward. Okay? So at this time. It looks like to testify other than the nominees, Roberta Abaday does want to testify on the nominee as well. Other than being a nominee, Dr. Ron McNich is also going to be testifying. And also who else do we have? Ms. Maria Gutierrez will be testifying as well. So for those who are called to testify, please come forward. And I believe we also have Dr. Okada who's joined us as well and should be coming forward to testify. So if we can call those who are going to be providing testimony forward at this time, please approach and Dr. McNich surrounded by ladies. So I'm going to start on the furthest left with our dear Dr. Okada, and please proceed with your testimony.

[Testimony proceedings on the appointment of Ms. Christine Baleto and Ms. Roberta Abaday]

And at this time, then we will move on to Ms. Roberta Abaday and take your testimony. Please proceed.

Ms. Roberta M. Abaday, Chairperson – Guam Commission for Educator Certification: Thank you, Honorable Senator Chris Duenas, vice chairperson on the Committee of Education. Public Safety and the Arts and esteemed Senator Joanne Brown.

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[Written testimony presented orally]

Vice Chair Duenas: Thank you, Ms. Abaday. And that was very high praise from Dr. Santos. So I appreciate the testimony at this time. I'm going to go ahead and defer to my colleague, Senator Brown, and see if she has any questions for the panel. Given the nominees and as well as individuals who come forward, I basically just allowing for this to go forward on all nominees. So. If you want to ask those testifying, any questions with any nominee.

Senator Joanne M. Brown: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I don't have any questions. I think you've all presented your position very well with regards to the nominees that are before us. And thank you for taking the time. I know it's a tough job. Do you always a big nut to crack? And many have tried, and I know there's still challenges there. But the fact that you're stepping forward to provide support and actually be directly engaged in the process is most appreciated. So thank you very much for coming today and providing your testimonies for the nominees and appreciate the opportunity, Mr. Chairman.

Vice Chair Duenas: Thank you, Senator. And I share your comments. I believe all of you are just extremely experienced and coming forward to once again put yourself on the record and testimony to these nominees is once again a great support. And Obviously, they've performed up to their levels and duties as you are colleagues as well. So I'm going to go ahead and forgo any questions as well and ask you to enjoy yourself. Have a great afternoon and I excuse you at this time. If you want to stick around you're welcome to do so. I think we have water in the lobby, so excuse the panel testifying at this time. Oh, Ms. Gutierrez, you have something else?

Ms. Gutierrez: Senator. Senator. I didn't sign in for Mrs. Abaday and Dr. Santos, but I'm here also to support them. They have been at JFK with my kids and they know me as a parent there. And I'm glad that Dr. Santos is now the PTO president of the John F. Kennedy High School. So, thank, congratulations and I urge for, you know, for all of you to please give them your support and confirm them. Thank you.

[Testimony proceedings on the Appointment of C. Baletto]

Vice Chair Duenas: Thank you, Christine, for coming forward and appreciate everything that you're doing. Thank you very much. So at this time, I'm going to move on to Dr. Santos. As we say in the sports world, a returnee, I want to thank you for accepting the appointment as well. You know, you're involvement in education is extensive. And once again, you're not coming into a foreign duty. Your learning curve should be relatively small, but we'll hear what you have to say at this time. Dr Santos and thank you for coming forward. Thank you very much.

Dr. Michelle Santos, Appointee – Guam Commission for Educator Certification: And thank you. Good afternoon. Honorable Senators Duenas and Senator Brown. It's a hard act to follow, but I'll do my best.

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[Written testimony presented orally]

Vice Chair Duenas: Thank you, Dr. Santos. And once again, I'll defer to my good colleague, Senator Brown, if she has any questions for Dr. Santos.

Senator Brown: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I certainly appreciate your appointment, especially just the number of years that you've invested here on Guam in the educational system. I'm sure you've seen the best and probably the not so best of our educational system. In continuing on with the board, what would you like to see your contribution be to improve the status of where we're at? Because education, especially public education these days, it just doesn't get the best presentation, and yet there are a lot of young people that are coming out of the system that are doing well. Of course, we're always concerned about the ones that are not, and I myself spent nine years in public school on Guam, so the majority of my education actually is a public school student. So I wanted to ask you, and continuing on, what do you what do you see as your direction of what you'd like to add or improve on where we currently are with regards to your position on the board?

Dr. Santos: Well, thank you for the question. I have been away from the board for three years. I and it gave me an opportunity to actually step away and see, you know, what really then is the role, you know, I'm coming at it from the educator prep side. This is the license licensure side. And where is our role? And our role really is a commitment to the state, to the island, and ensuring that we have quality educators. You have people who say, you know, it's just a piece of paper. What does this tell the community? And it tells the community really that a person has the foundation. They have the tools to be a good teacher, right? And so to ensure that those tools are in place is key. And then it's up to the administration to ensure that the quality is maintained in the schools. Person just the other day said, you know, I've been teaching for six years. Why do I need certification? Just give me credit for the time that I've been there. And I use the analogy of a swimmer, right? You're going to swim to survive, and you'll do whatever means that you have to survive while you're in that environment. But once you get a coach and once you get someone who can refine your skills, all of a sudden you can excel. And so the same thing can happen in a classroom. We can have our temporarily certified teachers who are there on a daily basis and giving their heart to survive. But when we can prepare and ensure licensure and that they have the tools and the skills, that's when we can see them excel and succeed. And so that would be the key for me is that continuing to ensure that opportunity to excel and provide the certificate of credibility basically to our community, that our teachers are well prepared for our students. And with regards to the operations of DOE, because you know, there's not limitless amounts of money, and the Department of Education consumes the largest budget in the government of Guam, and yet we see there are almost 10,000 less students that the Department of Education is educating, and yet, of course, the cost continues to go up.

Senator Brown: With regards to the actual management of that, how do you think we can improve the quality, because we always hear about, like I said, it's always a negative, of course but how can you, from your board position, address, The operational side of the

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actual maintenance of and we understand a lot of these schools, some of them were built in the sixties. You know, I went to price elementary school. It was there before I was born. So that those issues come up, the maintenance, the day to day maintenance and the lack of maintenance and the lack of repairs, the lack of staff. But you know, it's concerning to all of us because, as you know, you can't address the good issues of educating Children if the environment that their end is substandard or not where it needs to be to have a safe, clean environment for our students. What is your focus with regards to those issues and your board capacity now that you're coming back?

Dr. Santos: Well, the Guam Commission for Educator Certification is truly focusing on the quality of the educator in the classroom, as opposed to the Guam Education Board, which has more of the responsibility for the school facilities. So, I think our role in terms of licensure would be to make sure that the qualified educator is there, as opposed to you know, in, as opposed to the role of the Spoleto here. For the education board. But one thing I would like to say is that we do hear in the media a lot about the maximization and things like that. But having met with the human resources, they've made it clear that there are, there is still a need for teachers. And so our job then is to make sure that they're qualified teachers.

Senator Brown: Well, I certainly hope you can because you do have each other's ears to interact with and relay that, but I certainly think just your experience yourself having been in the environment for as many years as you have, it's a lot of years of dedication. I think the collective input would be valuable because I, at some point, and I've, you know, told your superintendent, you know, my eyes are rolling in my head because I've heard this story over and over again, and I went to school and we didn't have air conditioning. You know, we used to have the fans and we had the louver windows and we got to the library for air con back in the day. And I felt I got a very good education. I mean, it's the foundation of who I am and what I've been able to accomplish. And I spent that from price school to Barrigada Junior High you know, in my nine years in public school. And I'm very appreciative of that, but I'm concerned as we move forward that these basic issues that I did not have an issue with as a student, I don't, I cannot look back at my public school years and complain. But I didn't have good teachers or, you know, I had issues with the classroom. I mean, we had, you know, we had woodworking class, we had, you know, I knew how to sew, you know, we had all those fun things we got to do. And I remember my field trips and all that good stuff. I have good memories of being a student in public school. And yet, when we hear the challenges here, when so much more, when the budget budgets literally tripled. But we still hear the same problems, and that to me is problematic. I'm sure for those of you that are very used to going in and getting the job done, it's very problematic to come back and hear that these problems still exist, no matter how much money we pour into the system. And I know if I could take a few hundred thousand dollars out and put it in another agency, I would see dramatic improvement. We're throwing it back into the pot. I, you know, we're back to where we were when we started, so. Certainly your contributions are appreciated, but any interactive recommendations that can be made that can improve where we're at. And sometimes it is getting the right people in the right place to make things happen, because if you're self-motivated, as Ms. Baletto knows, it makes a big difference on the outcome of the product of the work that you're doing. If you

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have to sit there and prod people, you know, you're there You don't see the level of improvement and a lot of it has to take self-initiative. You've got to have people that are go getters that want to get the job done and will go in and get it done and not sit around and wait again and, you know, clock passes and there's no improvement because I think as a community we're getting to the point already that if we don't, there's going to be a lot of confidence loss. And as I mentioned, these, some of these children have no other alternative for education to go somewhere else or go to private school. So any improvement we can make, and the fact again, I know you guys pretty much are volunteering your time, it's appreciated. But at some point we just want to see things kick into place, you know, have some accomplishments that we can look at and we're not going back down that road again. So I appreciate you for stepping forward. Thank you. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Vice Chair Duenas: Thank you, Senator Brown. And so I just have a couple of questions. I was aware and when I was at Department of Youth Affairs, of course, we had our teachers, special ed teachers there that were taking care of our Children who were in care and custody. And I was made aware of a program and I think it's You know, available and hopefully it's still operating in a robust fashion. I think Dr Yamashita and others started the mentor program basically to sustain teachers who maybe 2345 years as was mentioned earlier. Maybe Ms. Abaday, I can, when I get to her to can comment, but I was made to understand that there was a very successful program, not only based on certification, but maintaining teachers in the system. When you had experienced teachers with many years. Of experience mentoring younger teachers kind of teaching them different methods and the like to retain teachers in the system is that something you see, you would take a look at again and make sure that possibly looking at the possible successes of that program is integrated with certification in order to try to retain teachers who may just through mentoring, you know, change their mind maybe if they were thinking about exiting the system.

Dr. Santos: I'm really happy you recognize the success of that program, but it is absolutely still a part of the law, and it is required, as a matter of fact, to go from initial educator to professional educator. So, within the first three years, and the whole intent was for the retention aspect to, to mentor, to give those skills, to give that extra person to lean on that within the first three years of teaching that there is one year of full mentorship. And GDOE has done an amazing job in supporting that as well. They've invested in instructional coaches, they've identified mentors they've made it easier for new teachers to have mentors within the schools. And so I think in terms of that continuing it's a necessity and the success of it is recognized, and so we don't see that going away. Very nice. And so I don't want to get over my skis in the head of myself, but I know it's been mentioned now quite a bit in the media. So I just wanted to get, if you don't have, if you haven't formed your thoughts yet, I just wanted to see if you have some ideas and what you might think, what cross leveling and this discussion now on, on schools and approaching. You know, the situation whereby there may be some merging of populations and the like. How do you see that affecting possibly the certification as well as the amount of teachers available maybe if they were to move into closer quarters, have you given that any thought? Like I said, if you haven't, fine, but I know that's really on the table right now. I know the board will be

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grappling with this as well. And this, the, this situation is not unique to Guam. This is, this has happened in many places and in terms of, um, students not returning to schools or moving into different locations and districts struggling with empty classrooms. And so I think from a business perspective you have to maximize, right? From a quality perspective, we have to maximize because we know that there are classrooms with people who don't necessarily have the skills to be teachers in that classroom. In meeting with HR. There were over 180 people who were not certified. So, so by maximizing and getting more certified teachers into the classrooms, that's excellent for our students. We also recognize that smaller class sizes can help. And then we also have students who are struggling. So, you know, there, there's give and take. I'm trying not to make sure that the board doesn't get too upset with me, but yeah, I mean, there, there are pros and cons with everything, right? But we are dealing with a short budget and they have tough decisions to make. And so we try to make sure that teachers coming out we can support them. We can recognize that it's a struggle. You make your friends, you love your students, and it will happen at the next place you go as well. So I understand the struggle and I, it must be really tough that they're dealing with that.

Vice Chair Duenas: Yeah, Dr. Santos, I there's always going to be pains, you know, I don't think, I, the way I see it and from my perspective and we'll have to grapple with that here too is, It is the fact that, you know, this is a new reality with charter schools and everything that's going on, that this actually may be the opportunity, like you said, to even if, even with merging, you have smaller class sizes capability, you have more teachers in different levels and at different levels. But now we can, maybe what we're going to end up doing is finally realizing the proper ratios, not have the chronic shortages because we're condensing more and the ability to work within that system. At some point, there's going to be a harmonizing of, you know, the charter schools because they're deriving their budget from education, basically, in terms of the per pupil. So, you know, I think that, you know, you put a realistic point of view on the table that we're all going to be dealing with when we go forward. So, you know, I just wanted, I can see that you've thought through this deeply already, which is what we need. Because that's, you know, in your level of certification with all the expertise in this room, all our heads are gonna have to be together in order to be able to try to smooth this out and get the best possible education to our children. So I appreciate your answer and as Dr. McNich said it earlier, you know, Mix it up because that's what's going to get the, you know, those ingredients mixed up will bake the best cake. So for me I'm satisfied with what you presented and welcome back and we appreciate it. And we'll, the committee will move as, as, as quickly as possible to process the committee report and prepare for your confirmation to hit the floor. Thank you once again for your willingness to serve. Now we'll move on to Ms. Abaday and as I said you, you probably have a lot of insight now in terms of what we've been discussing. So please proceed.

[Testimony proceedings on the appointment of R. Abaday]

Vice Chair Duenas: Thank you for that answer. I mean, it just that's the feedback that we're getting. Of course, a lot of it, and I know Ms. Gutierrez and others that have are addressing these issues. Some of it was the one to one issues and the issues with regard to

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maybe their physical needs sometimes and the need with assistance. But I just wanted to make sure that, you know, to kind of get an idea of the attention being paid to the actual certified teachers. And it sounds like we're on track, and that's great that the university will be taking up, you know, additional opportunities for specialized training in this area. So as far as I'm concerned, that's the only questions that I have. Once again, I want to thank you for your willingness to accept the appointment, and I certainly all three of you have. My support and so the committee now will basically, unless there's any other testimony, let me check with my committee here. D, is there any more, is there anybody else signed up? We're good? Okay, so at this time then not very painful the committee has considered all of your nominations having been heard and so we will now take it to the next level where we prepare committee reports for consideration of placement on the website and also placement of yourself. To be confirmed on the floor of the legislature in the most recent session that we can, our upcoming session, that we can accommodate that. So once again, I want to thank all of you who came out to testify today, and all of you for accepting your appointments at this point in time at 2:57. I'll call this public hearing adjourned.

The public hearing was adjourned at 2:57 PM.

III. FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

All discussion and testimony presented to and received by the Committee affirm the support for the appointment of Michelle M.S. Santos, Ed.D to the Guam Commission for Education of Certification.

The Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts hereby reports on the appointment of Michelle M.S. Santos, Ed.D. to the Guam Commission for Educator Certification for a term of three (3) years (from date of confirmation) with the recommendation **TO DO CONFIRM.**