



Office of Senator James C. Moylan

I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 36TH GUAM LEGISLATURE

JULY 12, 2022

HONORABLE LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO

GOVERNOR OF GUAM

Ricardo J. Bordallo Complex
513 West Marine Corps Drive
Hagatna, Guam 96910

RE: IMPLEMENT PUBLIC LAW 36-53 AND PAY OUT THE PROCEEDS

Dear Governor Leon Guerrero;

On August 31, 2021, your veto on *Bill 75-36* was overridden by the 36th Guam Legislature, and thus *Public Law 36-53* was enacted into law. This measure essentially amended the payout benefit of the Rise Act. Just to note, you allowed the original version of the relief program to lapse into law in 2020, and your administration was initiating the process to pay it out. Why you opted not to pay it at a point when thousands of island residents were unemployed is a question only you can answer, but as the author of *P.L. 36-53*, I would like to request that you implement the law, amend the qualifications within your authority, and start paying out the proceeds as mandated.

While I anticipate that your response to my request will be that your administration has invested federal relief funds into a variety of other programs, inclusive of your "All Rise Act", the reality is that so many island residents have not qualified for many of these programs. I am sure if you discuss this issue with the Director of the Department of Administration, you will learn of many working-class residents whose applications for the *Prugraman Salappe 3* were denied due to income thresholds. Governor, this inflationary crisis affects the pocketbooks of all families, and not just a certain percentage of the community.

I request that the rules and regulations of the Rise Act adopt new qualifications, and if you are unable to make the changes on your end, I have no issues making the necessary amendments via legislation and requesting that the Speaker consider the measure an emergency and allow it to be added to an Emergency Session, as we are seeing with *Bill 325-36*. Considering the realities of rising costs of food, medication, everyday necessities, and fuel, the \$1,000 (or \$2,000 for joint filers) would help so many families address some pressing needs. Plus, with over \$300 million of federal funds sitting in the government's bank account, there should be no excuses in identifying a funding source.

In closing, Governor, I simply ask if you will be implementing *Public Law 36-53* or not, and if so, will you be making the necessary changes to expand the program for more island residents? I hope to hear back, and in the meantime while we await your response, we will be preparing draft legislation for our colleagues to consider. The community deserves no less.

Respectfully;

James "Jim" C. Moylan
Senator, 36th Guam Legislature

SENATOR JAMES C. MOYLAN |

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