



Office of Senator  
**THERESE M. TERLAJE**  
*I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan* | 38th Guam Legislature

January 8, 2025

**Transmitted via Electronic Mail**

**The Honorable Senator Frank F. Blas Jr., Speaker**  
38th Guam Legislature  
[speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov](mailto:speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov)

**The Honorable Senator Vicente Anthony "Tony" Ada, Vice Speaker**  
38th Guam Legislature  
[vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov](mailto:vicespeakertonyada@guamlegislature.gov)

**RE: Delay in Processing of Bills**

*Hafa Adai* Speaker Blas and Vice Speaker Ada,

I am writing to express my concern about the delay in processing of bills and to urge the immediate receipt, numbering, referral to counsel, and uploading of bills to the website as is set forth in the Standing Rules. I believe the announcement that bills will not be processed until January 13 is not consistent with the Organic Act of Guam or 2 GCA §1118 which specify that all Senators' terms begin upon taking the Oath on the first Monday of January, which for this term was January 6.

This unnecessary week-long delay in processing of bills also appears in violation of the Standing Rules which were written by the Republican caucus and unanimously adopted by the 38th Guam Legislature on January 6, which prescribes the submission requirements and the form of the bills, and makes no mention of any delay in processing. There is no valid excuse for the delay in processing, and to blame the staff is unwarranted when we have elected extremely experienced attachés fully capable to proceed with processing of bills. The legislature's central offices were left intact, including phone systems, computer systems, internet service, and records and central staff have assisted with any requests preceding the transition in leadership.

Additionally, I requested on January 7 but have not yet received a copy of all bills submitted since January 6 in the order of submission. Any lack of transparency in the receipt and processing of documents impedes our entire legislative function in this new term.

*Si Yu'os Ma'åse'*

Senator Therese M. Terlaje

cc: All Senators, 38th Guam Legislature

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