



April 3, 2026

**The Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero**  
Governor of Guam Office of the Governor  
Adelup, Guam  
TRANSMITTED VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

**RE: Consumer Relief Now: Emergency Action for Guam's Families**

Dear Governor Leon Guerrero,

*Hafa Adai!* I write to you following a briefing conducted by the Office of the Attorney General of Guam, during which Attorney General Douglas B. Moylan presented a detailed assessment of the current energy and economic crisis confronting our island and the broader Western Pacific region. Based on the severity of the conditions outlined in that briefing, the Attorney General has recommended that the Governor of Guam declare a State of Emergency in response to the escalating fuel and cost-of-living crisis now impacting every sector of our economy and every household on our island.

This recommendation is consistent with the actions already taken by other jurisdictions within the region. The Republic of the Philippines, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands have declared a state of national energy emergency. The Federated States of Micronesia has issued formal advisories regarding fuel supply disruptions. Across the Asia-Pacific, governments are invoking emergency powers to implement fuel price caps, fuel rationing, direct consumer subsidies, and supply security measures. Guam, which imports virtually all of its energy and essential goods, is no less vulnerable, and in many respects, more so, than these neighboring jurisdictions.

**The Crisis Facing Guam's Families**

Over the past several weeks, our island has experienced a rapid and severe escalation in fuel and shipping costs driven by the disruption of global oil supply through the Strait of Hormuz. The Guam Power Authority has reported that its next fuel shipment, expected to arrive on or around April 15, 2026, may cost approximately \$60 million — more than double the historical norm of \$24 to \$25 million per shipment. GPA's supplier has further warned of challenges in securing cargo for the May shipment due to reduced refinery operations and government directives abroad to prioritize domestic supply.

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At the consumer level, retail gasoline prices on Guam have surged past \$6 per gallon, with the price of diesel surging past \$9 per gallon. Fuel-related shipping surcharges are compounding the impact across all imported goods. As reflected in a recent notice from Triple B Forwarders, fuel-related surcharges for Guam and the CNMI are set to increase to 29% effective April 12, 2026. Matson's fuel surcharge has reportedly risen from 17% to 21%, and now to 29%, placing further pressure on the cost of imported food, household goods, construction materials, medicine, and other essential supplies that Guam families rely upon every single day.

These increases are not abstract percentages on paper. They translate directly into higher grocery bills, higher utility costs, higher childcare expenses, and greater strain on every working household across our island. No family on Guam should be forced to choose between paying for childcare and putting food on the table, or to decide whether to pay the power bill, fill the gas tank, purchase prescription medication, or buy groceries for the week.

### **Declaration of a State of Emergency**

In light of the Attorney General's briefing and recommendation, I respectfully and urgently call upon you to issue an executive declaration of a State of Emergency related to the fuel and cost-of-living crisis. Such a declaration would:

1. Formally recognize the severity of the crisis and activate the emergency authorities available to the Governor under the Organic Act of Guam and applicable territorial law;
2. Authorize emergency procurement measures by the Guam Power Authority and other agencies to secure fuel supply from alternate domestic sources;
3. Position Guam to access federal emergency assistance, including from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. Department of Energy, and the U.S. Department of the Treasury;
4. Signal to the federal government and regional partners that Guam's situation demands the same level of urgency and response being extended to sovereign nations facing this same crisis.

### **Reappropriation of SLRF Funds for Immediate Taxpayer Relief**

In addition to the declaration of emergency, I urgently request your partnership in seeking federal authorization to reappropriate available State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLRF) from the American Rescue Plan for the immediate purpose of providing direct relief to Guam's taxpayers and working families. Along with our Delegate to Congress, Rep. James C. Moylan, we can present a united front between the executive branch, legislative leadership, and our federal representative to make a compelling case to the U.S. Department of the Treasury that Guam's families cannot wait, and that in the face of this crisis, the least we can do is try.

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We recognize and appreciate your administration's commitment to long-term investments, including the shared goal of building a new hospital for Guam. We agree that modernizing our healthcare infrastructure is critically important. However, until all legal, and procedural hurdles related to that project are fully cleared, the immediate crisis facing our people demands immediate action today.

The families of Guam cannot wait. With approximately \$104 million currently available and an estimated 65,000 taxpayers on Guam, a reappropriation for direct relief could provide roughly \$1,600 per taxpayer. That is real and meaningful relief. More importantly, it empowers families to determine for themselves what their most urgent need is: whether that be rent, childcare, groceries, fuel, utility bills, school supplies, or medical expenses. The needs of our people are not identical, and direct taxpayer relief respects the reality that every family is facing this economic crisis differently.

Rather than government deciding what hardship matters most, we should trust our taxpayers to address the immediate needs in their own homes.

### **A Call for Unity**

This is not a partisan issue. This is a people issue. Our residents need relief now, not months from now.

As we approach the Easter season, we are reminded of its enduring message of hope, sacrifice, renewal, and the moral duty to care for those who are struggling. This season calls upon all of us in public service to extend compassion and act decisively on behalf of the people we were elected to serve.

Accordingly, I respectfully request that you:

1. Issue an executive declaration of a State of Emergency related to the fuel and cost-of-living crisis;
2. Join in advocating before the U.S. Department of the Treasury and all relevant federal authorities for authorization to reappropriate eligible SLRF funds from the American Rescue Plan toward immediate taxpayer relief measures, including direct rebates, cost-of-living assistance, and targeted relief for working families; and
3. Direct all relevant agencies of the executive branch to implement emergency measures to protect consumers, stabilize fuel supply, and mitigate the economic harm being inflicted on Guam's families.

Together, the legislative and executive branches can send a united message that Guam stands ready to prioritize the immediate needs of its people.

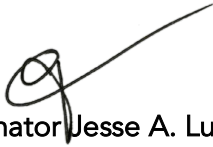
Senator Jesse A. Lujan

April 03, 2026

**Re: Consumer Relief Now: Emergency Action for Guam's Families**

I respectfully ask for your prompt support and partnership in this effort. I wish you and your family a blessed Easter season, and pray that this season of renewal inspires swift action to bring meaningful relief to the people of Guam.

*Si Yu'os Ma'åse',*



**Senator Jesse A. Lujan**

Majority Leader

Chairman, Committee on Federal and Regional Affairs

38th Guam Legislature

Countersigned:



**Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada**

Chairperson, Committee on Rules, Land, Environment,

Housing, Agriculture, Parks, and Infrastructure

38th Guam Legislature



**Senator Christopher M. Dueñas**

Chairman, Committee on Finance and

Government Operations

38th Guam Legislature

Cc: *All Senators, 38<sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature,  
Delegate James C. Moylan*

**OFFICE OF SENATOR JESSE A. LUJAN**

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