I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan BILL STATUS

BILL NO.	SPONSOR	TITLE	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	FISCAL NOTES	NOTES
48-37 (COR)	Joanne Brown	AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §21106 TO CHAPTER 21, DIVISION 2, TITLE 10 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO MANDATING THE CONSISTENT ONLINE POSTING OF REPORTS FOR EVERY SCHOOL INSPECTION CONDUCTED, ON A DEDICATED GOVERNMENT WEBSITE.	11:55 a.m.						

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

Bill No. 48-37 (COR)

Introduced by:

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AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §21106 TO CHAPTER 21, DIVISION 2, TITLE 10 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO MANDATING THE CONSISTENT ONLINE POSTING OF REPORTS FOR EVERY SCHOOL INSPECTION CONDUCTED, ON A DEDICATED GOVERNMENT WEBSITE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. I Liheslaturan Guåhan finds 2 that there isn't one central location for school inspection reports to be viewed and 3 accessed by the public. Due to the lack of timeliness and inconsistency, the Guam 4 Department of Education School inspections are disconcerting. Creating 5 accessibility to school inspection reports via a dedicated website will improve 6 accountability and reinforce compliance. Pursuant to Title 10 Guam Code 7 Annotated, Division 2, Chapter 21, §21102 the Department of Public Health and 8 Social Services (DPHSS) was granted the authority to establish rules and regulations 9 governing all schools concerning health and safety standards and in doing so carry 10

out the provisions of Chapter 25, Title 10 Guam Code Annotated. In July of 2019,
DPHSS passed "The Rules and Regulations for School Building Sanitation."

I Liheslaturan Guåhan further finds that with the poor past grades of school inspections conducted between 2019 and 2023, it is clear that more must be done to aid in the enforcement of the "Rules and Regulations for School Building Sanitation." The families of Guam deserve better. The education of our children in Guam are vital to the success and sustainability of our island. As the social and economic welfare of our island depend on the training and instruction of Guam children, it should be in the Government's best interest to ensure that the conditions of such training and instruction are acceptable and adequate to foster the right learning environment for each and every child. The Organic Act demands such an educational environment of the Guam Public School Educational System.

I Liheslaturan Guåhan further finds that schools in the Guam Public School system have not met the standard that is set in the Organic Act and in the Adequate Education Act. With the state of the public schools being deemed inadequate relating to the safety of our institutional facilities, sanitation and maintenance, and certified instructors in each classroom, the need for accountability and transparency within the DPHSS and GDOE administrative rules and regulations has never been greater. Therefore, it is the intent of this legislation to address these issues by mandating all and every school inspection conducted to be reported and posted on a central Government website to be created and established for public viewing and tracking of all inspections, with reports, and the progress on each issue to be audited by the general public. The provision within this legislation defines categories of online reporting to include the categories of "permitting documents, grounds, building, ventilation, lighting, plumbing, water supply, handwashing facilities, showers, toilet facilities, garbage and refuse disposal, food protection, safety, and existing facilities," as designated in the "Rules and Regulations for School Building

- Sanitation." In addition to the previously stated categories, this legislation requires
- 2 inclusion of the categories: "Accessibility and Accommodations," and "Certified
- 3 Instructors" to the online reporting of school inspections. The speed and manner of
- 4 said reports shall be timely and forthcoming in the nature of updates, progress, and
- 5 announcements.
- **Section 2.** The existing §21106, §21107, §21108, §21109, §21110, §21111,
- 7 §21112, §21113, §21114, §21115, §21116, and §21117 of Chapter 21, Division 2
- 8 Title 10, Guam Code Annotated are hereby renumbered as §21107, §21108, §21109,
- 9 §21110, §21111, §21112, §21113, §21114, §21115, §21116, §21117, §21118,
- 10 respectively.
- Section 3. A new §21106 to Chapter 21, Division 2 Title 10, Guam Code
- 12 Annotated is hereby added to read:
- "§21106. School inspection reports and assessments shall be posted on
- 14 GDOE's main website or a dedicated government website, as well as the
- inspected school's website.
- (a) Online Posting. With the guidance of the Office of Technology, the Guam
- 17 Department of Education shall create and establish specific webpages on the official
- website https://gdoe.net or create a separate website dedicated solely to posting and
- announcing all school inspection reports and related updates pertaining to the
- 20 assessment, recommendations, progress, and various other details indicated in each
- 21 report. Within the central website, viewers shall have the ability to view inspection
- by village, by district, by school, and by the following categories identified in
- 23 subpart (d). All inspection reports must be submitted to the Guam Department of
- 24 Education Deputy Superintendent for Assessment and Accountability, or the
- 25 equivalent position should this job title change, who shall post all inspection reports
- on the website, as well as ensure that the inspection reports are posted on the

1	inspected	school's	website,	within	thirty	(30)	days	of the	inspection	for	public
2	viewing a	nd inform	ation gat	hering.							

(b) Information Accessibility and Transparency. Inspection reports 3 provide insight on the condition of the inspected property, based on a standardized 4 observation checklist. These reports are imperative to assessing risk factors and 5 identifying issues and areas of concern that warrant an immediate or specific course 6 of action. The people of Guam deserve to know if the Government of Guam and the 7 Guam Department of Education are taking the appropriate steps to safeguard the 8 public, especially when it pertains to the health, and safety of our children. 9 Therefore, it is the purpose this legislation to comply with open government and 10 facilitate a more transparent relationship with the families in the Guam Public School 11 System by establishing a direct portal to the progress and process of maintaining 12 Guam schools. This act mandates all inspection reports performed by the 13 Department of Public health and Social Services (DPHSS) inspectors to submit their 14 inspection report to the Guam Department of Education Deputy Superintendent 15 for Assessment and Accountability, or the equivalent position should this job title 16 change, for posting on the official GDOE website or another website established 17 exclusively for the purpose of posting all school inspection reports. 18

(c) **Definitions.** For purposes of this section, the following, terms shall mean:

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- 1. <u>School means an institution established for the care</u> and education of students.
- 2. <u>Inspection Report means a standardized observation</u>
 checklist that is used when assessing the state of the inspected
 school to evaluate risk factors and learning conditions.
- 3. <u>Permitting Documents</u> mean the construction permit and the sanitary permit for the inspected school.
 - 4. Grounds mean the location of the inspected school and

1	the state of the inspected school premises.
2	5. Building means the rooms, floors, walls and ceilings,
3	doors and windows, classroom equipment, seating, maintenance
4	and housekeeping, as well as the design and construction of the
5	inspected school.
6	6. Ventilation means the natural or mechanical
7	circulation of air available in a room or facility in the inspected
8	school.
9	7. Lighting means the natural or artificial light available
10	in a room or facility in the inspected school.
11	8. Plumbing means the structural systems that convey
12	sewage and liquid waste from the inspected school to a public
13	sewage system or an approved individual sewage system.
14	9. Water Supply means the water to be dispensed through
15	drinking fountains, coolers, and cups in the inspected school.
16	10. Handwashing Units mean the stations that enable
17	handwashing in the inspected school.
18	11. Showers and Locker Rooms mean the rooms or
19	facilities that enable showering and changing prior to or
20	following athletic activities in the inspected school.
21	12. Toilet Facilities mean toilet fixtures and facilities in
22	the inspected school.
23	13. Garbage and Refuse Disposal mean the garbage and
24	trash containers in the inspected school.
25	14. Food Protection means the storage, preparation, and
26	serving facilities in the inspected school.
27	15. Safety means first aid materials, first aid manuals, fire

1	extinguishers, and the risk factors present, if any, pertaining to
2	school premise structures, such as playground equipment,
3	athletic equipment, and the like,
4	16. Existing Facilities means the facilities in existence at
5	the time the "Rules and Regulations for School Building
6	Sanitation" took effect.
7	17. Accessibility and Accommodations means
8	modifications or adjustments in the inspected school that are
9	made for students and individuals with disabilities, such as
10	braille systems, wheel chair-accessible facilities, ramps, and
11	programs to assist these students and individuals.
12	18. Certified Instructors mean instructors who hold a valid
13	educator's certification at the time of the inspection.
14	(d) Online Posting Categories. This act mandates all inspection reports
15	written by the Department of Public Health and Social Service (DPHSS) inspectors
16	to be submitted to the Guam Department of Education Deputy Superintendent for
17	Assessment and Accountability, or the equivalent position should this job title
18	change, for posting on the official GDOE website or another website established
19	exclusively for the purpose of posting all school inspection reports.
20	1. Standard Categories. The categories to be reported online
21	include the assessment and grade given to the inspected school including but
22	not limited to:
23	a. Permitting Documents; and
24	b. Grounds; and
25	c. Building; and
26	d. Ventilation; and
27	e. <u>Lighting</u> ; and

1	f. Plumbing; and
2	g. Water Supply; and
3	h. Handwashing Units; and
4	i. Showers and Locker Rooms; and
5	j. Toilet Facilities; and
6	k. Garbage and Refuse Disposal; and
7	1. Food Protection; and
8	m. Safety; and
9	n. Existing Facilities; and
LO	o. Accessibility and Accommodations; and
l1	under this category the following must be posted to
L2	identify:
L3	1. the modifications and adjustments made by the
L4	inspected school that comply with the Americans
L5	with Disabilities Act (ADA), to ensure that students
L6	and individuals with disabilities are not hindered by
L7	barriers in environmental, academic,
18	extracurricular, or athletic activities; and
19	2. the programs facilitated by the inspected school to
20	Ensure that students and individuals with
21	disabilities in the inspected school are provided
22	with direct assistance in the event that the necessary
23	modifications and adjustments are not available
24	p. Certified Instructors
25	a. under this category the following must be posted to
26	identify:
27	1. the number of certified instructors necessary so

1	that each classroom has a certified instructor
2	in the inspected school; and
3	2. The number of classrooms without a certified
4	teacher in the inspected school; and
5	3. The estimated time a certified teacher shall be
6	hired and installed in the classroom lacking a
7	certified teacher in the inspected school.
8	b. GDOE Certified Instructor Reporting. In addition
9	to posting school inspection reports conducted on a
LO	single school, the Guam Department of Education
1	must also create a section on the central website to
12	include the following information regarding all
13	schools in the Guam Public School System on a
.4	quarterly basis:
.5	1. the total number of certified instructors needed
.6	in each school so each classroom has a certified
.7	instructor teaching; and
.8	2. the total number of certified instructors lacking
.9	in the Guam Public School System.
20	(e) Execution. The development, and creation of the web pages referenced in
21	this legislation shall be under the authority and guidance of the Government of Guam
22	Office of Technology. Furthermore, this legislation is in addition to the current
23	procedure of providing a copy of the inspection report to the operator of the
24	institutional facility, in which the DPHSS inspectors shall also provide a copy of the
25	inspection report to the GDOE Deputy Superintendent for Assessment and
26	Accountability, or the equivalent position should this job title change, who will then

- carry out posting all and every school inspection report on the designated website and the inspected school's website within thirty (30) days of the inspection."
- Section 5. Severability. If any provision of this Act or its application to any person or circumstance is found to be invalid or inorganic, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are severable.
- Section 6. Effective Date. This Act shall be effective six months from the date of enactment.