



OFFICE OF SENATOR
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao

38th Guam Legislature | *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

Bill Increases Law Enforcement Workforce by Authorizing Temporary Peace Officer Standards and Training Certification

Temporary POST certification valid for six months and employment is subject to completion of Commission requirements

For Immediate Release

April 7, 2025

Public Safety Chairman Senator Shawn Gumataotao has put forward legislation authorizing the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Commission to grant temporary peace officer certification for individuals who possess a degree in criminal justice or equivalent area of study and who are in good standing. Eligible applicants are required within six months to meet the standards and training requirements set by the POST Commission.

The bill was introduced based on information Senator Gumataotao received on this matter from the Attorney General and the leadership of the Guam Police Department (GPD), POST Commission, and Guam Community College.

“Recognizing that GPD alone lost twelve officers and four civilians between November of 2024 and March of 2025, I introduced this measure to help our government recruit potentially qualified applicants to fill critical positions across our public safety and law enforcement entities,” Senator Gumataotao stated.

“I offer this measure as a responsible approach to recruiting college graduates who have invested their time and resources to earn a degree and begin careers as members of our law enforcement agencies,” Senator Gumataotao added.

According to the POST Commission, more than twenty-five applications this past year were submitted by individuals who earned a criminal justice degree but lacked POST Commission certification. Senator Gumataotao’s proposal recognizes that despite having completed undergraduate degree requirements for potential employment in management and administrative positions at the Department of Corrections, Customs and Quarantine Agency of Guam, or the Judiciary of Guam, criminal justice graduates are left to either seek employment elsewhere or delay their public service career – and the opportunity to earn a salary and benefits – while they complete POST Commission requirements at their expense.

If approved, the bill authorizes the Guam Department of Labor and the Guam Community College to use a portion of their Manpower Development Fund appropriations to cover costs associated with training individuals who are granted temporary peace officer certification by the POST Commission.

For more information, please contact Senator Gumataotao’s office at (671) 647-1409/1411 or via email at office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov.

Attachment: *ESG POST Commission Temporary Certification Bill*