



OFFICE OF SENATOR
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao

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

Gumataotao: Reservation of Piti Land for Satellite Customs Inspection Facility Critical to Strengthening Public Safety

Legislation gives CQA until 2028 to develop unused government land provided by legislature since 2018

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Senator Shawn Gumataotao introduced Bill No. 183-38 (COR) extending the July 2026 deadline for the Guam Customs and Quarantine Agency (CQA) to develop a Customs Satellite Inspection, Holding, and Secured Sterile Facility. If approved, the measure grants CQA an additional two years to secure financing and begin construction work on the critical public safety facility as mandated by Public Law 34-112.

Passed in July 2018, the local statute authorized CQA to utilize a portion of Parcel 1-3 in the Municipality of Piti for developing and constructing the facility; however, the law required the property to revert to the general jurisdiction of the Government of Guam if it remained undeveloped for three years following enactment. Recognizing the challenges faced by CQA in developing the facility, the Guam Legislature in 2021 approved and the Governor of Guam subsequently enacted Bill 58-36 (COR) as Public Law 36-12, providing CQA with an additional five years to establish the Customs Satellite Inspection, Holding, and Secured Sterile Facility.

Based on information provided by CQA at the request of the Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard, a Container Inspection Facility (CIF) Working Group was established in 2024. According to CQA, the CIF Working Group is responsible for overseeing all facets of the project, including facility design, operational needs, equipment, and future growth of the agency, as well as exploring all reasonable financing options to fund facility construction and sustainability.

“With the amended deadline of July 2026 quickly approaching for CQA to utilize Government of Guam property pursuant to public law, Bill No. 183-38 (COR) if approved provides the agency and CIF Working Group with additional time to secure financing options and finalize facility layouts and cargo flow plans,” Senator Gumataotao stated.

“This measure recognizes the importance of establishing a CQA satellite inspection facility as our frontline defense against the illegal movement of weapons, drugs, and other contraband into Guam and neighboring islands in Micronesia,” Senator Gumataotao added. “By providing CQA with additional time, we ensure the agency together with its local, federal, and military partners will have the necessary infrastructure and resources moving forward to protect our citizens and environment against known and developing threats.”

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