



**OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ**

Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement,  
and Statistics, Research, and Planning

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**Senator Perez Introduces Bills Ensuring Funds for Traffic Safety and Environmental Protection**

*Hagåtña*, Guam – Senator Sabina Flores Perez introduced two measures to increase accountability and effectiveness of much needed government services. Bill 60-37, co-sponsored by Senator Joe S. San Agustin, Vice Speaker Tina Muña Barnes, Senator Chris Barnett, and Senator Roy Quinata, aims to promote and streamline the Department of Public Works' installation and maintenance of streetlights. Bill 55-37, co-sponsored by Senator Chris Barnett, improves Guam EPA's access to local funds to increase enforcement capacity.

Bill 60-37 authorizes the Department of Public Works the lead role in coordinating streetlight installation, maintenance, and operation in consultation with Guam Power Authority and Guam Police Department.

“Currently there is a backlog of streetlight projects in need of installation, repair, maintenance and operation in different villages, and the delays may be due to the lack of coordination and access to funding of different agencies that control streetlights. Bill 60-37 would streamline the process, giving DPW the mandate it needs to address streetlight insufficiencies and also ensures that funding earmarked for the purposes of these projects are spent as it was intended for and to promote public safety,” Senator Perez stated.

Bill 55-37 streamlines the distribution of 20% of Use Tax collections earmarked for the Guam Environmental Protection Agency, addressing the longstanding need to increase the resources GEPA needs to match its regulatory demands.

“Guam EPA's enforcement of laws to ensure the health and protection of our environment and people have increased significantly due to the expansion of environmental laws, increased permitting applications for construction projects, and increased incidences of violations, such as illegal dumping. Additionally, Guam EPA's regulatory capacity has been challenged due to higher salaries offered by the private sector and federal government. Bill 55-37 aims to increase access to local funds to address these regulatory demands and challenges that are essential to protecting our land, water, air, and the health of our people,” stated Senator Perez.

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