



GFT, AFT Local 1581
Together We Win!

Timothy Fedenko, President
Corazon Mucho, Secretary

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May 19, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Buenas yan Hafa Adai! It has come to the attention of GFT that many of our members and Government of Guam Employees have expressed concerns regarding GFT's support of Bill No. 359-35.

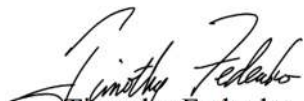
Over the weekend, GFT Field Representative Robert Koss was invited by Speaker Barnes and other Senators to assist in crafting legislation that would justify fair compensation for employees required to work during the Emergency Period. At this time we were told that \$15 million was the allocated budget. Out of that meeting came Bill No. 359, which would grant Classified Employees required to work during that time one hour of annual leave for every hour worked. We felt this was a fair compromise, as prior to this meeting, GFT had not received any legislative support in attempting to compensate Gov. Guam Employees. However, we would strongly encourage the Legislators to amend the language in the bill to include the following: the Emergency period beginning on March 14, 2020; forty-three hour work weeks for Law Enforcement and other personnel, and to address the lack of annual leave given to DOE nurses.

During a press conference Monday, May 18th, GFT was made aware of Bill 357-35, introduced by Senator Telenia Nelson that advocates for Double Pay to all employees. GFT has also since learned that there is funding available that would support such a bill. We are not against any bill that supports our workforce. The better bill should win, and we support any equity that supports our COVID-19 heroes. We do not know what the final bill will look like, however, if we feel our members have not been equitably compensated, we will seek alternative courses of action.

It is our priority here at GFT to put our members first and will continue to do what we believe is in their best interest.

For further information, please contact Robert Koss at 588-4392.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase,


Timothy Fedenko
President