

THERESE TERLAJE/DEMOCRAT

A. Real Estate Industry Related

1. The Governor's office has upgraded the classification of the real estate industry as an essential service during COVID-19 "Condition of Readiness" operating restrictions. However, Government of Guam agencies that are part and parcel of the real estate industry remain either closed or inactive. (The real estate industry encompasses private sector real estate activities as well as Government of Guam agencies that are involved in the processing of real estate transactions including taxation, recordation, land management interaction, construction and land use permitting, building inspections, building occupancy and document recordation.).

Will you support the preparation and passage of legislation to classify the whole of the real estate industry encompassing both the private sector and related Government of Guam agencies as TRUE ESSENTIAL SERVICES?

The key to opening government and non-government services is the adoption of safe practices. I have successfully pushed for the expansion of DPHSS Division of Environmental Health through the use of CARES funds so that it can more quickly review and enforce guidelines for all businesses. I continue to conduct oversight to verify that DPHSS increases its contact tracing and investigations capacity as planned to ensure safe and continued operation without the need for further mass closures or layoffs. Government agencies should be able to adopt safe operating guidelines at this point and should continue to provide services.

2. The Guam Land Use Commission (GLUC) application processing system has been rendered inactive by GovGuam COVID restrictions since March 2020 with no apparent urgency to restore the system to full operation. The estimated value of development projects currently awaiting Department of Land Management and GLUC-related action since March is nearly \$2 billion.

Will you support the classification of the GLUC application processing system (critical to improving Guam's economic well-being) as an essential service during the COVID-19 Condition of Readiness operating restrictions?

With the use of video teleconferencing, there is no reason the GLUC cannot continue to operate with the assistance of the Office of Technology and the Department of Land Management. The recent issues with GLUC have been attributed to a lack of a quorum due to the expiration of board members' terms. My committee has worked diligently using virtual hearings and remote working to swiftly confirm appointments to this board once appointments were received.