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'Crisis response to ... recovery'

Governor touts stimulus package

Staff Reports

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After many amendments, the Senate passed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, the third stimulus package, which now heads back to



Leon Guerrero

and gives funds to the government

the House of Representatives for an anticipated vote this week.

The latest version of the bill still secures the island another round of stimulus checks, extends Pandemic Unemployment Assistance

of Guam, among other measures.

"The third stimulus package was passed by the Senate early this morning. We expect the House to vote on its final passage this week for President Biden's signature before previous aid expires," Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero said Sunday.

"The additional aid to families and small businesses will help Guam move from crisis response to

economic recovery. The bill amended by the Senate will provide direct payments to individuals, extended weekly emergency unemployment checks, long-term low-interest loans for small businesses, and more funds in rental, utility, and mortgage relief," the governor said.

Lt. Gov. Joshua Tenorio noted the

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TALLYING THE BANANAS

Noredsa Repeingeny, right, weighs bananas for customers Sunday at the Martinez Roadside Market in Inarajan. The market sells local produce, pickled papaya, homemade doughnuts and other goodies.

FRANK SAN NICOLAS/PDN



Guam Housing: Mortgage relief too restrictive

Anumita Kaur

Pacific Daily News USA TODAY NETWORK

Since Guam's COVID-19 Mortgage Relief Program launched in late 2020, only two households have received awards to help make ends meet.

The program's federal income guidelines are too restrictive, rendering the majority of residents ineligible for relief, according to Guam Housing Corporation President Edith Pangelinan.

The national CARES Act last year allocated more than \$2 million to the Guam Urban Housing Renewal Authority to serve the island's housing needs. The agency granted \$714,000 to the Guam Housing Corporation to administer the COVID-19 Mortgage Relief Program, which, within would provide eligi-

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Wendy's **NEW ON GUAM JALAPEÑO POPPER**