

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
APPOINTMENTS

DOCUMENT NO.	APPOINTEE	POSITION	AGENCY	APPT. DATE	TERM LENGTH	DATE REFERRED	COMMITTEE REFERRED	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	SESSION DATE	DATE CONFIRMED	NOTES
37GL-23-0287	Evangeline M. Cepeda	Member	Guam Academy Charter Schools Council	3/20/23	Three (3) Years; August 22, 2022 to August 21, 2025	3/28/23	Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts	5/4/23 8:00 a.m.	7/11/23 2:10 p.m.			



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

July 3, 2023

Honorable Therese M. Terlaje

Speaker

Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

VIA: **Honorable Chris Barnett** *DUB*
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Re: Committee Report on the Appointment of Evangeline M. Cepeda

Håfa adai Speaker Terlaje:

Transmitted herewith is the Committee Report on the appointment of **Evangeline M. Cepeda** to serve as **Member** of **Guam Academy Charter Schools Council** which was referred to the **Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts**.

Committee votes are as follows:

<u> 4 </u>	TO DO CONFIRM
<u> 0 </u>	TO NOT CONFIRM
<u> 0 </u>	TO REPORT OUT ONLY
<u> 0 </u>	TO ABSTAIN
<u> 0 </u>	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE



COMMITTEE ON RULES

Received:

July 11, 2023 9:59 a.m.

Kamarin Nelson

Si Yu'os ma'åse',

Chris Barnett



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

COMMITTEE REPORT

Nomination of Evangeline M. Cepeda

**As a Member, Guam Academy Charter Schools for a
term of Three (3) Years; August 22, 2022, to August 21,
2025**

by Senator Chris Barnett



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

June 29, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: All Members
Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts

From: Senator Chris Barnett *DCB*
Committee Chairperson

Subject: Committee Report on the Appointment of Christine Baletto

Transmitted herewith for your consideration is the Committee Report on **Evangeline M. Cepeda** to serve as **Member** of the **Guam Academy Charter Schools Council**.

This report includes the following:

- Copy of COR Referral of the Appointment
- Copy of the Appointment Letter to the Speaker
- Copy of Appointment Packet & Supporting Documents
- Notices of Public Hearing & Other Correspondence
- Copy of the Public Hearing Agenda
- Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet
- Committee Vote Sheet
- Committee Report Digest

Please take the appropriate action on the attached vote sheet. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Si Yu'os ma'åse'



COMMITTEE ON RULES

Senator Chris Barnett, Chairperson
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guahan
37th Guam Legislature

March 28, 2023

To: **Joaquin P. Taitague**
Substitute Clerk of the Legislature

Attorney Darleen Hiton
Legislative Legal Counsel

From: **Senator Chris Barnett** 
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Subject: **Referral of Appointment**

Håfa Adai yan Biba Guahan!

As per my authority as Chairperson of the Committee on Rules and subject to §9.01, Rule IX of our Standing Rules, I am forwarding the referral of the following appointment:

Appointee: **Evangeline M. Cepeda**

Position: **Member**

Term Length: **Three (3) Years; August 22, 2022, to August 21, 2025**

Please refer the following document:

"Doc. No. 37GL-23-0287 – Office of the Governor – Appointment and Supporting Documents for Evangeline M. Cepeda, Member, Guam Academy Charter Schools Council."

Ensure the appointment is referred to the Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts chaired by Senator Chris Barnett. I also request that the same be forwarded to Management Information Services (MIS) for posting on our website.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Kamarin J.A. Nelson, Acting Committee on Rules Director at 671-472-2461.



LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HĀGAN GUĀHAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

March 20, 2023

Honorable Therese M. Terlaje
Speaker
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
37th Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96932

37GL-23-0287
OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER
THERESE M. TERLAJE

-03-24-2023

Time: 1:09 pm
Received: [Signature]

RE: Board Reappointment

Hafa Adai Madame Speaker:

By virtue of the authority vested in me pursuant to the Organic Act of Guam and the applicable local laws, 17 GCA § 12111, I am pleased to transmit the following reappointment and supporting documents:

APPOINTEE: Evangeline M. Cepeda
POSITION: Member, Guam Academy Charter Schools Council
TERM LENGTH: **Three (3) Years; August 22, 2022, to August 21, 2025**

The appointment is subject to the confirmation of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*. Please schedule a hearing at your earliest convenience.

Senseramente,

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
Maga'hågan Guåhan
Governor of Guam

cc: *Honorable* Joshua F. Tenorio, Lt. Governor of Guam



37GL-23-0287
Messages and Communications
RECEIVED
Committee on Rules
March 24, 2023
4:49 p.m.

Beatrice Cruz

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HĀGAN GUĀHAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

March 20, 2023

EVANGELINE M. CEPEDA

Hafa Adai Ms. Cepeda:

Pursuant to my authority under the Organic Act of Guam and local law 17 GCA § 12111, I am appointing you to serve as a:

MEMBER, GUAM ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOLS COUNCIL
General Public - Representative
Term Length: Three (3) Years; August 22, 2022, to August 21, 2025

Your reappointment is a testament to your commitment to public service and your understanding of the great responsibilities that this position requires. I am confident that you will continue to fulfill your duties in a professional manner for other to follow.

Once again, I appreciate your willingness to serve in this position effectively and productively to best serve the people of Guam.

As you are aware, this appointment is subject to the confirmation of *I Liheslaturan Guāhan*.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jean Taitano of the Office of the Governor at (671) 473-1121.

Senseramente,

Handwritten signature of Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero.

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
Maga'hāgan Guāhan
Governor of Guam

cc: *Honorable* Joshua F. Tenorio, Lt. Governor of Guam



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM Nomination and Appointment Information Sheet

The following information is required for submission to the
Speaker of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* in accordance with Title 4, Guam Code Annotated Section 2103

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Last Name CEPEDA	First Name EVANGELINE	Middle Initial MARIE
Mailing Address [REDACTED]		Apartment/Unit #
City [REDACTED]	State [REDACTED]	Zip Code [REDACTED]
Phone [REDACTED]	E-mail Address [REDACTED]	
Position to which Appointment is Made Member, Guam Academy Charter Schools Council		
Are you a citizen of the United States? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
If no, are you authorized to work in the United States? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		

EDUCATION

SCHOOL (Name, City and State)	DATES OF ATTENDANCE	TYPE OF DEGREE	YEAR EARNED
High School Notre Dame High School, Talofofu, Guam		High School Diploma	1984
College			
Graduate School			
Other Degree			

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Name of Present/Last Employer and Mailing Address Century 21 Realty Management Tamuning, Guam	Position Title Executive Property Manager
	Dates Held 5/2011 - Present

Previous Employer and Mailing Address Century 21 Realty Management Pacific Group Development (PGD) I & II Tamuning, Guam	Position Title Resident Manager
	Dates Held 4/2011 - 2014

Previous Employer and Mailing Address GHURA Government of Guam	Position Title Program Coordinator (I1,2&3)
	Dates Held 9/1997 - 2/2010

Previous Employer and Mailing Address Guam Legislature Office of the Speaker Government of Guam	Position Title Legislative Assistant & Research
	Dates Held 8/1988 -9/1997

Previous Employer and Mailing Address (Empty)	Position Title (Empty)
	Dates Held (Empty)

PRIOR GOVERNMENT OF GUAM SERVICE

Agency or Department Name		Position Title	
Address	Phone No.	Dates Held	

Agency or Department Name		Position Title	
Address	Phone No.	Dates Held	

PRIOR GOVERNMENT SERVICE (EXCLUDING GOVERNMENT OF GUAM)

<i>Agency or Department Name</i>		<i>Position Title</i>	
<i>Address</i>	<i>Phone No.</i>	<i>Dates Held</i>	

<i>Agency or Department Name</i>		<i>Position Title</i>	
<i>Address</i>	<i>Phone No.</i>	<i>Dates Held</i>	

TRAINING

<i>INSTITUTE/SEMINARS/ON-THE-JOB TRAINING</i>	<i>DATE</i>

AWARDS

<i>List all educational, professional, civic awards, and recognition for public service:</i>

PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT

<i>List involvement on a local/national/international level. List organizations, activities participated in, and offices held:</i>
<p>Elected Member (Lagu District), Guam Educationl Board, 2006 - 2010 Member, Workforce Investment Board, 2/1998 - 12/2008 Elected Member, Young Leaders of Guam, Bureau of Women's Affairs, 10/1995 - 11/1996 Board Member, Central Executive Committee, Dededo District, DPOG, 1/1991 - 10/2001</p>

COMMUNITY / CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

List organizations, activities participated in, and offices held:

Vice-President, Pastoral Council of Santa Barbara Catholic Church, 2016 - Present
 Member, Guam Lions Club (Ayudia Charter), 6/2014 - Present
 Regent President/Charter Member, Catholic Daughters of the America, 5/2008 - Present
 Member, Alumni Board, Norte Dame High School (Elected), 2004 - 2012
 Chair, All Liturgical Members, Santa Barbara Catholic Church
 Board Member, Advocacy for Sexual Assault & Rape Victims on Guam

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

List any published articles, papers delivered at professional meetings, etc.:

MILITARY SERVICE (Please attach Form DD-214)

<i>BRANCH</i>	<i>DATES OF SERVICE</i>	<i>RANK AT DISCHARGE</i>	<i>TYPE OF DISCHARGE</i>

OTHER INFORMATION

(1) Have you ever been found guilty of a felony in any court, whether within or without the United States?

Yes No If so, please specify in detail: _____

Address of the Court: _____

Date(s) of Conviction: _____

Specific Infraction Committed: _____

(2) Have you ever been declared mentally incompetent by any court, whether within or without the United States?

Yes No If so, please specify in detail the reasons and facts related to such declaration:

(3) Have you ever been found not guilty or not punishable in any criminal proceedings by reason of insanity?

Yes No

(4) Have you ever been confined to a mental institution for any reason?

Yes No If so, please specify in why the appointing authority believes you that you are not suffering from any mental illness or affliction:

AFFIDAVIT / DECLARATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY

I, the undersigned, do hereby depose and say that: (1) I have read and reviewed the information contained in the attached Appointment/Nomination letter from the Governor of Guam; (2) that the matters contained in the Appointment/Nomination letter, together with all attachments thereto, are true and correct and that I am competent to testify to said matters; and (3) that this Declaration is made for the purpose of complying with the requirements of 4 G.C.A. Section 2103.5.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of Guam (4 G.C.A. Section 4308) that the foregoing is true and correct.


Evangelina M. Cepeda
Print Name and Signature

3/9/2023
Date



Government of Guam
GUAM POLICE DEPARTMENT
RECORDS & IDENTIFICATION SECTION
P.O. Box 23909
Guam Main Facility, Guam 96921



March 13, 2023

SUBJECT: CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD

NAME:	Evangeline Marie CEPEDA		
DATE OF BIRTH:	[REDACTED]	FINGERPRINT#:	[REDACTED]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The individual has no record of criminal conviction(s) in the Guam Police Department files that are subject to Guam law.		

*****NOTHING FOLLOWS*****

THIS INFORMATION MAY BE LIMITED TO A LOCAL CRIMINAL OFFENSE ONLY AND IS NOT INTENDED FOR USE FOR ANY LOCAL, STATE, OR FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.

By Direction: BARBIE

STEPHEN C. IGNACIO
Chief of Police

The absence of an original GUAM POLICE seal invalidates this police clearance.
REVISED 04/26/19



SUPERIOR COURT OF GUAM

Guam Judicial Center | 120 West O'Brien Drive | Hagåtña, Guam 96910 | (671) 475-3370 | Fax: (671) 475-0078

Name: EVANGELINE MARIE CEPEDA

US Passport ID #: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED]

CERTIFICATE OF SEARCH

The undersigned Clerk hereby certifies the following results of a diligent search of the records of this Court:

Criminal Cases:
No Cases Found

Civil Cases:

Request for further information may be addressed at the Records Division of the Superior Court of Guam, Guam Judicial Center, 120 West O'Brien Drive, Hagåtña, Guam. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed Saturdays, Sundays and local/federal holidays. **Court Clearances are Non-Refundable.**

Dated: 03/10/2023

Sophia Santos Diaz
Clerk of Court

By: 
Court Archivist

Prepared by: Rachael Q Orsini



The absence of an Original Court Seal Invalidates this document. 2587



Erin M. Grajek <egrajek@guamlegislature.org>

FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing: May 4, 2023

Erin M. Grajek <egrajek@guamlegislature.org>
Bcc: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

Thu, Apr 27, 2023 at 8:00 AM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 27, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media
From: Senator Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett
Re: FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing: Thursday, May 4, 2023

The Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts will conduct a series of public hearings on **Thursday, May 4, 2023 at 8:00 am** at the Public Hearing Room in the Guam Congress Building.

The agenda is as follows:

- Appointment of Monica Okada Guzman to serve as Member of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors
- Appointment of Rolando C. Zepeda to serve as Visual Arts Representative of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors
- Appointment of Simone E.P. Bollinger to serve as Literature Representative of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors
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- Appointment of Margarita Felicitas B. Angel as Retired Teacher/School Administrator of GDOE Representative of the Guam Education Board of Directors

If you are interested in participating in the Public Hearing to provide testimony, please contact the Office of Senator Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett via electronic mail at malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org or (671) 969-3586 no later than May 3, 2023 for further guidance.

--

The Public Hearing will broadcast LIVE on local television (GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117) and stream online via i Liheslaturan Guåhan's live feed. Written testimonies may be sent via email at malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org.

All government activities, programs, and services are accessible for people with disabilities in compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Should you or interested parties require assistance or special accommodations to fully participate in this public hearing, please contact the Office of Senator Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett at (671) 969-3586 or via email at malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org.

--

Si Yu'os ma'åse',

Erin Marie Grajek, Committee Director
The Office of Senator Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett
Guam Congress Building, 2nd Floor
163 Chalan Santo Papa

6/14/23, 9:13 PM

Guam Legislature Mail - FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing: May 4, 2023

Hagåtña, Guam 96910
671-969-3586

i Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts



2023-04-27 FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing.pdf

245K



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

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FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing: May 4, 2023

 PRINT

FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing: May 4, 2023

PUBLIC HEARING



 **Posted on:** 04/27/2023 08:00 AM

 **Posted by:** Erin Grajek, Committee Director

 **Public Hearing Date:** 05/04/2023 08:00 AM

 **Department(s):**
GUAM LEGISLATURE (/notices?department_id=92)

 **Division(s):**
OFFICE OF SENATOR CHRIS BARNETT (/notices?division_id=269)

 **Notice Topic(s):** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?topic_id=74)

 **Types of Notice:** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?type_id=7)

 **For Audience(s):** PUBLIC (/notices?public=1)

 **Share this notice**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 27, 2023

MEMORANDUM

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Erin M. Grajek <egrajek@guamlegislature.org>

CORRECTION - SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing: May 4, 2023

Erin M. Grajek <egrajek@guamlegislature.org>
 Bcc: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

Tue, May 2, 2023 at 10:34 AM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 2, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media
From: Senator Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett
Re: SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing: Thursday, May 4, 2023

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--

Si Yu'os ma'åse',

Erin Marie Grajek, Committee Director
 The Office of Senator Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett
 Guam Congress Building, 2nd Floor

6/14/23, 9:14 PM

Guam Legislature Mail - CORRECTION - SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing: May 4, 2023

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910
671-969-3586

i Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts

 **2023-05-02 SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing.pdf**
245K



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 2, 2023

MEMORANDUM

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SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing: May 4, 2023

 PRINT

SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing: May 4, 2023

PUBLIC HEARING



 **Posted on:** 05/02/2023 08:00 AM


 **Posted by:** Erin Grajek, Committee Director

 **Public Hearing Date:** 05/04/2023 08:00 AM

 **Department(s):**
GUAM LEGISLATURE (/notices?department_id=92)

 **Division(s):**
OFFICE OF SENATOR CHRIS BARNETT (/notices?division_id=269)

 **Notice Topic(s):** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?topic_id=74)

 **Types of Notice:** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?type_id=7)

 **For Audience(s):** PUBLIC (/notices?public=1)

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The Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts will conduct a series of public hearings on **Thursday, May 4, 2023** at **8:00 am** at the Public Hearing Room in the Guam Congress Building.

The agenda is as follows:

Appointment of Monica Okada Guzman to serve as Member of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors

Appointment of Rolando C. Zepeda to serve as Visual Arts Representative of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors

Appointment of Simone E.P. Bollinger to serve as Literature Representative of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors

Appointment of Evangeline M. Cepeda to serve as Member of the Guam Academy Charter Schools Council

Appointment of Christine Baleto to serve as Upper Level Management Position in Private Business Representative of the Guam Education Board of Directors

Appointment of Margarita Felicitas B. Angel as Retired Teacher/School Administrator of GDOE Representative of the Guam Education Board of Directors

If you are interested in participating in the Public Hearing to provide testimony, please contact the Office of Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett via electronic mail at malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org or (671) 969-3586 no later than May 3, 2023 for further guidance.

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The Public Hearing will broadcast LIVE on local television (GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117) and stream online via iLiheslaturan Guåhan’s live feed. Written testimonies may be sent

via email at malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org.

All government activities, programs, and services are accessible for people with disabilities in compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Should you or interested parties require assistance or special accommodations to fully participate in this public hearing, please contact the Office of Senator Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett at (671) 969-3586 or via email at [**malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org**](mailto:malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org) ([**mailto:malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org**](mailto:malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org)).



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

April 26, 2023

Transmitted via Electronic Mail

████████████████████
Evangeline Marie Cepeda
████████████████████

Re: Notice of Confirmation Hearing – May 4, 2023

Håfa adai Ms. Cepeda:

Congratulations on your appointment as Member of the Guam Academy Charter Schools Council.

This letter is to notify you that the Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts has scheduled a Confirmation Hearing for your appointment on **Thursday, May 4, 2023 at 8:00 am.** The hearing will take place in the public hearing room of the Guam Congress Building.

You are welcome to invite your family members and members of the community to submit written testimony or provide oral testimony in support of your confirmation.

Written testimony should be submitted to our office on or before May 3, 2023 and may be sent via email to malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org. We look forward to your reply.

Si Yu'os ma'åse',

Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Public Hearing

Public Hearing Room – Guam Congress Building

Thursday, May 4, 2023

AGENDA

8:00 am

- Appointment of Monica Okada Guzman to serve as Member of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors
- Appointment of Rolando C. Zepeda to serve as Visual Arts Representative of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors
- Appointment of Simone E.P. Bollinger to serve as Literature Representative of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors
- Appointment of Evangeline M. Cepeda to serve as Member of the Guam Academy Charter Schools Council
- Appointment of Christine Baleto to serve as Upper Level Management Position in Private Business Representative of the Guam Education Board of Directors
- Appointment of Margarita Felicitas B. Angel as Retired Teacher/School Administrator of GDOE Representative of the Guam Education Board of Directors

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The Public Hearing will broadcast LIVE on local television (GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117) and stream online via i Liheslaturan Guåhan’s YouTube live feed.



Senator Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

PUBLIC HEARING SIGN-IN SHEET

Thursday, May 4, 2023 – 8:00 am

Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building

Evangeline M. Cepeda to serve as Member of the Guam Academy Charter Schools Council

NAME	AGENCY/ ORGANIZATION	POSITION	TESTIMONY	CONTACT INFORMATION
1. DR. JUDITH WONG PAT	ADDE	SUPPORT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input type="checkbox"/>	[REDACTED]
2. JOE Sanchez	GPDE	SUPPORT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	[REDACTED]
3. Evangeline M. Cepeda	GAAC Council	SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	[REDACTED]
4. Nadene Cepeda	ADDE	SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	[REDACTED]
5. Felicitas Alfonso	DOE	SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input type="checkbox"/>	[REDACTED]
6. Monice Cousin		SUPPORT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input type="checkbox"/>	[REDACTED]
7.		SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
8.		SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input type="checkbox"/>	

Page 1 of 1



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

Nomination of Evangeline M. Cepeda to serve as a Member, Guam Academy Charter Schools Council for a term of Three (3) Years; August 22, 2022 to August 21, 2025

	SIGNATURE/ DATE OF SIGNATURE	TO DO CONFIRM	TO NOT CONFIRM	TO REPORT OUT ONLY	TO ABSTAIN	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE
Senator Chris Barnett Chairperson	<i>DCB</i> 06/30/23	✓				
Senator Christopher M. Dueñas Vice Chairperson						
Speaker Therese M. Terlaje Member	e-vote 06/30/23	✓				
Senator Sabina F. Perez Member						
Senator Joe S. San Agustin Member	e-vote 06/30/23	✓				
Senator Joanne M. Brown Member	e-vote 06/30/23	✓				
Senator Thomas J. Fisher Member						



Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

REQUEST for E-vote: Evangeline M. Cepeda (GACSC)

Office of Senator Joanne M. Brown <office@senatorjoannebrown.com>

Fri, Jun 30, 2023 at 9:33 AM

To: Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

Cc: Senator Therese Terlaje <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, "Honorable Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, "Senator Sabina F. Perez" <office@senatorperez.org>, Chris Duenas <senatorchrisduenas@gmail.com>, "Senator Thomas J. Fisher" <senatorfisher@guamlegislature.org>

Håfa Adai,

To Do Confirm.

Very Respectfully,

Tracey Aguerro

Office Manager

Office of Senator Joanne M. Brown | *I Mina' Trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan (37th Guam Legislature)*

120 Father Dueñas Avenue

Capitol Plaza Building, Suite 103

Hagåtña, Guam 96932

Telephone: (671) 647-1409

Hafa Adai! Except with respect to public records exempt from disclosure by express provisions of the law, please be advised that, as an official office of the Legislative Branch of the Government of Guam, this electronic communication, is subject to the laws, rules and regulations governing the Sunshine Reform Act, and any other processes and procedures carried out in the spirit of an open and transparent government.

[Quoted text hidden]



Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

REQUEST for E-vote: Evangeline M. Cepeda (GACSC)

Joe S. San Agustin <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>

Fri, Jun 30, 2023 at 9:25 AM

To: Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

Cc: Senator Therese Terlaje <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, "Senator Sabina F. Perez" <office@senatorperez.org>, Chris Duenas <senatorchrisduenas@gmail.com>, "Senator Joanne M. Brown" <office@senatorjoannebrown.com>, "Senator Thomas J. Fisher" <senatorfisher@guamlegislature.org>

To Do Confirm

The Office of Senator Joe S. San Agustin

Committee on General Government Operations & Appropriations

I Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan

37th Guam Legislature

Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

T: (671) 989-5445 F: (671) 969-6737 E: senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com

Website: www.senatorjoessanagustin.com

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[Quoted text hidden]



Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

REQUEST for E-vote: Evangeline M. Cepeda (GACSC)

Speaker Therese M. Terlaje <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>

Fri, Jun 30, 2023 at 4:15 PM

To: "Office of Senator Joanne M. Brown" <office@senatorjoannebrown.com>

Cc: Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>, "Honorable Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, "Senator Sabina F. Perez" <office@senatorperez.org>, Chris Duenas <senatorchrisduenas@gmail.com>, "Senator Thomas J. Fisher" <senatorfisher@guamlegislature.org>

Hafa Adai,

To Do Confirm.

Thank you,
TMT



Office of Speaker Therese M. Terlaje

Committee on Health, Land, Justice, and Culture

I Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan 37th Guam Legislature

Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

☎ (671) 472-3586

✉ senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com

🌐 www.senatorterlaje.com

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Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

I. OVERVIEW

The Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts convened a public hearing on the appointment of Evangeline M. Cepeda on Thursday, May 4, 2023 at 8:00 am at the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building. The appointment history is as follows:

- Appointment by i Maga'håga Guåhan on March 20, 2023 for Three (3) Years from August 22, 2022 to August 21, 2025.
- Appointment packet forwarded to I Liheslatura on March 24, 2023; and
- Appointment packet forwarded to this Committee on March 28, 2023.

Public Notice Requirements

Public Hearing notices were disseminated via **e-mail** to all senators and all main media broadcasting outlets on **Thursday, April 27, 2023** (5-Day Notice), and again on **Tuesday, May 2, 2023** (48-Hour Notice).

Senators Present

Chairperson Chris Barnett
Vice-Chairperson Christopher M. Dueñas
Committee Member Joanne M. Brown
Senator Telo T. Taitague
Senator Roy A.B. Quinata

Attendees

Evangeline M. Cepeda, Nominee
Nadine Cepeda
Christine Baleto
Joseph Sanchez

II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY & DISCUSSION

The **public hearing** was Called-to-Order at **8:10 AM**.

Senator Chris Barnett, Chairman - The Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts: Good morning Guam. Håfa Adai. Buenas, Manana si Yu'os. On this Thursday morning, this public hearing conducted by the Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts is called to order at 8:10 CHamoru Standard Time. Notice of the hearing was disseminated to all local media outlets on April 27th, 2023, with a second notice provided

Guam Congress Building · 2nd Floor · 163 Chalan Santo Papa · Hagåtña, Guam 96910

671-969-3586

malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org

on May 2nd, 2023. Notice of the hearing was also made known on the Guam Legislature's website and the government of Guam Public Notices portal. This morning, the committee is holding a public hearing to hear and accept testimony on the appointment of the following members of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors, Monica Okada Guzman, to serve as member. Rolando Cepeda to serve as Visual Arts representative, and Simone Bollinger to serve as literature representative upon a conclusion of those appointments, we'll take a five-minute recess before we hear and accept testimony on Evangeline M. Cepeda to serve as member of the Guam Academy Charter Schools Council. Christine Baletto to serve as a private business representative in an upper-level management position on the Guam Education Board of Directors, and Margarita Felicitas B. Angel as the retired teacher or school administrator of GDOE representative on the Guam Education Board of Directors. I'd like to welcome my colleagues joining us today, including my Vice Chair, Senator Chris Duenas and also Senator Tom Fisher. Before we begin, I'd like to go over the general rules of conduct. No pulling hair, biting, individuals testifying shall first be recognized by the chair before speaking and state their name for record keeping purposes. Questions and testimony shall be confined to the substance or nature of the agenda. Personal inference as to the character or motive of any senator or individual testifying is not permitted. The chairperson of the committee may order the removal from a hearing any member of I Liheslaturan Guahan who fails to observe proper decorum, pursuant to the 37th Guam Legislature's Standing Rules, any violation of this general rule of conduct will result in the removal from the hearing by the host. We'll now proceed with discussions on the appointment of Ms. Monica Okada Guzman, to serve as member of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Board of Directors. We'll begin with those present, here to present testimony on Ms. Okada Guzman's behalf before we hear from the appointee herself. So is there anyone here to testify on Monica's behalf? If not, then - Okay. Come on up. And ma'am, before you begin your testimony, please just state your name for the record.

[See testimony proceedings on the appointment of Ms. Monica Okada Guzman to the Guam Council on the Arts & Humanities Agency Board of Directors]

[See testimony proceedings on the appointment of Ms. Simone Bollinger to the Guam Council on the Arts & Humanities Agency Board of Directors]

Chairman Barnett: And we're back for our Chamorro 5 minute recess. This public hearing will now reconvene for the Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts to hear and accept testimony on the appointment of Evangeline M. Cepeda to serve as member of the Guam Academy Charter Schools Council, are there any participants here to speak in favor or against this nomination? Please approach the table. And again, we're hearing the nomination of Evangeline M. Cepeda to the Guam Academy Charter Schools Council. Ma'am, if you don't mind just stating your name for the record and then proceed with your testimony.

Nadine Cepeda, District School Psychologist - Guam Department of Education: Absolutely. My name is Nadine Cepeda. Thank you, your honorable senator and chairperson Chris Barnett and the other senators that are here. My name is Nadine Cepeda. I'm a sibling of Evangeline Cepeda. I'm here in support of my sister to sit in for the

Academy Charter School Council for one of the charter schools. She has been serving for the last three years, but previously we talk about record. She's been committed and has been an ongoing public server, and is committed to this community. She has served in varieties of different boards as well as partaking in different roles in different capacities. Again, truly, she was elected years ago as a member of Guam Board of Education. And she continues to have the passion to try to make a difference. Our community does not have enough people who wanna serve. It's hard to be a public servant, not getting paid, but it's more about what can you give and how can you make a change as a therapist, as a district of school psychologist for the Department of Education and being in this field over 25 years and sitting in different boards, I must say it is something you have to balance. My sister has an empty nester. She isn't married and single. I say that because she can put all that time and energy to what needs to be done to make a difference in this community. So when I talk about someone characteristics, not everyone can be a true leader. She clearly has some traits and characteristics of leadership, and that's demonstrated through her work. One, she works with people. You cannot do it alone when you're a part of a council. Two, she's a mover and she makes a difference, not just rhetoric, not just criticizing. She is a solution. She finds solutions. And third or fourth it's about her commitment, compassion, and dedication. So if anything, I'm in support of her, not just because she's my sister, but she has a proven track record. And she's always served our Santa Barbara parish in different capacities and has a lot of passion and love to help people in our community, especially the youth. So thank you for this opportunity.

Chairman Barnett: Thank you ma'am. Christine?

Christine Baleto: Håfa Adai, once again senators, committee members. My name is Christine Baleto. I personally know Vangie Cepeda back from my time when I was in Sanctuary. It's amazing over the course of the history of my career that I've been fortunate enough to interact with many people. And Vangie Cepeda is one of them. She was at GHURA at the time, so I have come to ask for the confirmation of her to serve on the council based on my personal knowledge of her character and her work ethic. At the time that she was with GHURA and I was with Sanctuary, we worked very closely to get grants and support for the young children who were going through a difficult time. Many programs at Sanctuary were developed because of that collaboration. Her ability to work hard, drive towards a goal, and her passion for helping people have all been qualities that have made her successful. So, I didn't prepare anything more formal, but you know, again, I just want to express my support of Vangie to the council. Thank you.

Chairman Barnett: Thank you ma'am. Mr. Joe Sanchez.

Joe Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum Instruction - Guam Department of Education: Thank you. Good morning, Mr. Chair and Senators. My name is Joe Sanchez. I'm the Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum Instruction for the Guam Department of Education, and I'd like to offer my support for Ms. Vangie Cepeda for her appointment to the charter school board. I first met Ms. Vangie when she was a member of the Guam Education Board, and I was a starting administrator and I found her to be always a strong supporter of students and our teachers. She knew how to work well with

our leadership and employees even through controversial circumstances. I remember specifically about pay raises and budget matters where she was never one to shy away from engaging with us. Charter schools are an important part of any comprehensive and healthy educational community. They are not in competition with public schools, but in fact a complement to our work. They allow for educators to explore new, innovative, sometimes controversial approaches to curriculum, instructional strategies and resources that may later be considered for others to implement upon their success. Ms. Vangie understands this, especially with her experience with the Guam Department of Education board, and is committed to supporting all charter schools while at the same time promoting the strengths on collaboration and relationships between charter schools and all other public schools. I humbly ask for your consideration of her reappointment. Thank you.

Chairman Barnett: Thank you, Mr. Sanchez. Is there any more testimony for or against Evangeline . Thank you so much for your testimony. Evangeline, if you could come up? And I know you have a prepared statement so you can proceed with that. Thank you, ma'am.

Evangeline M. Cepeda: Thank you. *Håfa Adai*, Good morning, *Buenas*. Senator Barnett, Senator Duenas, Senator Fisher, Senator Quinata, and the two women on this body. Thank you very much. Senator Joanne Brown and Senator Telo Taitague. My name is Evangeline M. Cepeda. And as you know, I just wanna thank the three. I didn't inform anybody about today. I just wanted to humbly come here, state my service that I, you know, I wanna thank Governor Lou Leon Guerrero and Lieutenant Governor Joshua Tenorio for believing in me and having me be reappointed to this. And with this body here, I ask for your confidence to just serve the Guam Academy Charter School Council. It's been four years. I'll correct my sister Nadine cuz she's the educated and the smart one in the family. But I've served for four years. On my first year of entering into the council I was elected by my peers of the council to be vice chair, totally clueless. I came on board and I said, okay, let's run with this. The following year, my council members believed in me and voted me to be chair. It's not what I've signed up for, but okay, I'm going to take it. I went and ran with it. And so my job is to work hard. I have nothing to benefit from this. My children are graduated. I'm just very passionate about helping and serving in this capacity. It's a thankless job and as Senator Barnett would know, I'm very passionate. He just got on board and I'm demanding to meet with him about the charter schools. You know, it's what I'm here to do. And I just like to say that with the charter schools, there's been positive stuff since we've been on board. And when I say we, I'm a team player. So the council, the board of trustees, all the way down to each of the four charter schools. We have a new charter school, ILearn. When we came on board, we've eliminated all prior year obligations. Every school had prior year obligations, sometimes going back three years. I got on the board and as a chair I said, no, we're not doing this. I'm not going to meet Senator Joe S. San Augustin again and Senator Telo Taitague and Senator Joanne Brown and have them ask me the same thing. We're going to pay out everything. Oh, now we only have SiFA that we have to work with and we're working on that. And then we have a new charter school come on board, Career Tech. Success story in itself. Started with seven. Everyone was asking seven, how are they going to survive? They've survived, they've grown. And it's a vocational school. It's like how VO-tech used to be GCC, the old days where it's skill. It's very important because not everybody

wears the same size shoes. And in education we know this and many of them wanna go this direction and so there's a success on that. And hopefully, we'd, like the charter schools to grow. And so we're hoping to get two more charter schools on board within the next three, four years. And I think you know, this will cater to DOE because we know DOE is growing the capacity, it's overwhelming. The schools are break. It's the reality of everything. Not enough money. No matter how much money we have, there are problems that we need to fix. And charter schools, we have our own problems. I'm not gonna sit here before you and say this, but it's something that my goal is to resolve cuz I am about solution. Rhetoric, the same words, but I'm about finding solutions to these things. And hopefully while I'm here, because I always say I'm just preparing and fixing things up for the next person to come around. And so when I got on board, I was, it was clueless. We didn't have any record keeping, we didn't have anything. And so I'm proud to say before you, we do have that. And it's easier to come before this body and defend our justifications. With regards to each of the four charter schools that we have on board with each of them. They're growing. And as you know, I've reiterated this, that put a cap. The importance of putting a cap to each charter school is so we can emphasize on small. In the classroom, focus on each individual student and their strength and weaknesses, and then move them forward. That's the whole concept of keeping it capped. And I've firmly want to keep the cap and if they want to increase, open another charter school. So it just makes it better for every child to come into the schools and love where they're at, because environment is very important. And so when you have a very nice school, everybody's excited to learn. And so it's very positive. And so when everybody's positive, everybody's happy, and they're more everybody's learning. And so with that said, I just like to say if everyone you know, we've come before you before, I'm just asking for my confirmation for my reappointment to serve and serve the children and the charter school system. Thank you.

Chairman Barnett: Thank you. Thank you. Ms. Vangie. So what are your goals if you were reappointed?

Ms. Cepeda: My first goal is to basically keep everything accountable in the charter schools. And when, I mean that is from the council where we are at, to the board of trustees, to the schools and the administrators. We are doing that right now. But I think that there is a disconnect with the board of trustees. And don't get me wrong, senators, the board of trustees should be totally autonomized, should stay and remain that way. That is why there is certain success in the charter schools. But we're using the people's money, and as Joanne Brown has always said, Senator, the money has to be accountable. The money has to be accountable. So with that, I'd like to basically bring to you, on a round table very soon, to have the council at least twice a year, semi-annually, have a report justifying what the board of trustees are doing with the money. Because the board of trustees do day in, day out. They're the micromanager. They ensure that these schools are supposed, the charter schools, are supposed to do what they're supposed to do. We don't have that, that, as far as the law is concerned, I can't go in there and demand anything. I can ask for certain things that is required under the council, but I'm not gonna step on anybody's toes because I'm not in no purview or power to do so. So I'd like, like maybe semi-annually to have the board of trustees report to the council with regards and related to budget, funding. So it's easier for me when it's budget time that I come before you, that I am prepared and that I know

every dollar and what it's accounted for. I don't have that today. That's the first thing. The second thing is to have each charter school, each and every charter school give a justification with regards to their student. Because right now it's at 7.5. Okay. Bless you. Senator. 7.5 per student pupil. That already takes away from the DOE system, which they are at \$12 per student pupil. Okay. That is supposed to decrease the budget. Okay. If it doesn't, that's the whole process. That's the way it should be. I'd like to put a cap to each school. Right now there's a cap and I'm only saying that I can enforce that as a council chair, but it's nothing, a law that says, okay, there's a cap per charter school. So that's the second thing I'd like to implement. It's the cap to each charter school. And then the third, at least I like to do with the charter schools is I like each charter school, which we are kind of doing now, but I like it to be part of the law is that each charter school has a specific trait like, Guahan Academy, It's a DI program. You've got ILearn, which is a robotics. Okay. And then you've got SiFA, which is science and math. And then you've got Career Tech, which is more skilled and they emphasize on mathematics. These things I like them to bring to the floor. So we are fully aware of the success. They're not doing that. I like to enforce that. So when we come before this body, we can give success stories in black and white. And so these are the amazing things. I like to also bring up that all of them are accredited. Okay. So that's something to be proud of. Six years. And so you know this, that all of the charter schools are accredited, which is amazing. And they're performing at its best. So those are the three things I'd like to implement. If nominated today, I like to implement those immediately cuz I think that it would be a great advantage to the count, to the charter schools even after I leave. Cuz I'm just thinking that it would be something that we can move to make improvements cuz there's always room for improvements or you won't be here and I wouldn't be here. Yes.

Chairman Barnett: Thank you. Thank you, Evangeline. I wanted to just for, and I recognize my colleague, Senator Roy Quinata, good morning. I'd like to, if I could, just ask about the board of trustees. I know you had mentioned the law, but are there currently any obligations for the board of trustees to report to the council?

Ms. Cepeda: Nothing. Nothing whatsoever. And I understand that, let me go ahead and reiterate the board of trustees. There's so many bureaucracy in the government of Guam. It's just the way the government is. I like to keep the board of trustees their autonomy. Okay. That's not the concern. I want to keep that. That's what makes them the beauty of a charter school. If you look at the charter schools of California, any charter school, they have a board of trustees. They're independent. That's not what I'm saying. I'm saying that I'm, the only thing that I'd like for them by law is to have them do a semi-annual report to the council so we have an idea of what they're doing. They could be taking all this money on. When I came on board, when I came on board as a council, two schools were in a lawsuit. Okay? That was almost two years on a lawsuit. And senators, you know, this, I even met, I even asked to meet with their attorneys because I want this to be gone with and resolved. We did resolve it. It was ugly and it was too long. Part of that was because the board, the council was hadn't, was clueless. To what the board of trustees were doing. And all I'm saying is semi-annually, like, like anything else, do a report with regards maybe in August before the fiscal year and in January. And that's all they I'm requesting that the council get this maybe in August before the fiscal year of the Government of Guam and

January, so they can give us a report of their finances and what they've done with government funding.

Chairman Barnett: Thank you for that. Yeah,

Ms. Cepeda: You're very welcome. Thank you. Senator.

Chairman Barnett: I, if you could maybe just for those watching by the way, ate everyone watching on our legislature channel, Docomo, GTA and YouTube. But if you could explain the role of the board of trustees relative to the individual charter schools.

Ms. Cepeda: Sure. So the board of trustees in each different charter school, they have their board of trustees and they're basically, I'm gonna say they're very powerful. They have the power to the day in, day out operations and the money appropriated that is approved by the council. And it is drawn down by DOA. It's given to the schools that the administrators don't get it, the board of trustees receive this money, this funding, and they do as they please with the appropriation that's given, and the council has the power to get that appropriation. We sign, I sign it. And it goes to them. It's drawn down to them, and then they do within the parameters with whatever they need to do. And so the board of trustees in each of the schools are basically the micro, no, they micromanage it because they need, and they are part of the hiring, the firing. Okay. They are part of whatever necessary is to be done. That's the way it's done. So as I mentioned to you, Senator, when I came on board, \$128,000 was one board of trustees that won't mention names. But it's not done anymore.

Chairman Barnett: Oh, this is juicy. Pay attention to everybody. \$128,000 for?

Ms. Cepeda: Okay. \$128,000 was for their meeting. Having lunches, you know, extravagant lunches. When I became the chair, I was looking at this, what's this \$128,000, and it was going to that. Then I, at the time with Senator Telena Nelson as the chair. I said, Senator, we need to nip this. I need to re ensure that this is no longer happening. Put that money into the appropriation. I can disseminate it to the schools, which we have. We've done. So any lunches now is paid for by them. It's not paid for by the money appropriated by the council to the schools, to the charter schools. And so this is what, this is exactly what I'm mentioning here today.

Chairman Barnett: Thank you for that very insightful testimony. I wanted to ask ma'am, if you don't mind about the cap. So you're mentioning that you want to institute a cap for the charter schools?

Ms. Cepeda: Yes.

Chairman Barnett: But a lot of the charters that have come to see me since I got into office have actually asked for an increase in the number of students that they currently have as GDOE. And I know you said GDOE is growing, but Joe, correct me if I'm wrong, enrollment's actually down right? And yeah, enrollment is actually down.

Ms. Cepeda: So what I mean by growing, I mean as growing in as far as money, demand, needs, services. That's what I mean by growing. We're taking, you know, you've got the

private school, are taking some of those students. You've got charter schools and you've got many leaving the island, unfortunately. But for those that are entering to the charter schools with a cap, okay, we don't want to duplicate DOE, nothing bad, but we want to do, we want to keep it at charter school mentality and part of the charter schools is that it's not at 13,000 students as to oppose 350 per school. So I like to keep a cap on these things with regards to each of the four charter schools.

Chairman Barnett: Thank you. I'm gonna open it up to my colleagues for questions that we just met the other day. So I already exhausted my questions with you. Vice chair, Senator Duenas, Good morning.

Senator Christopher M. Duenas, Vice Chairperson - The Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts: Si Yu'os Ma'ãse, Mr. Chairman and Ms. Cepeda. I got to say that, yeah, my first interaction with you when I was elected in the 36th was, of course we were traversing through Covid and then many of the meetings were still being done around that. And I know that there was a lot of accountability issues and I admire you. And then of course, former super, current acting superintendent, but a former speaker was also head of one of the charter schools, so I know that there was a lot of cleaning up that was going on. So I want to just express my thanks to you for being actively involved in that. I didn't know a lot of those things have worked themselves out. We'll see in this budget session, you know, where we're going with that. But yeah, so I'm a little interested as well. I like all the discussions about accountability. I know that myself also, I've met with a couple of the charter schools. They have discussed at least maintaining their cap. And then, but some have you know, asked to increase. But I think that this should be a fundamental discussion during the budget process. Cuz what I like that you're discussing on the report on a semi-annual basis is the opportunity to, you know, to measure the success. I know that anecdotally, everybody that I meet, most of their children that are in charters, cause they're extremely excited and they're mentioning that, you know, their children are learning well, it's a good learning environment and the successes are there. I guess we'll do that through the budget process too. But I guess my only question to you would really be in terms of your tenure, what has been your most difficult over the last several years that you've been and like you said, you went from vice chair to chair and then what is one thing you definitely want to improve?

Ms. Cepeda: I like to improve, you know, I'm gonna say with the four charter schools, each of their personnel works cohesively with each other. The great thing about the charter school, I need to say, Senator Duenas, in regards to this is like if you go from Guahan Academy and you leave there and you go to ILearn, they work this out where ILearn goes into SiFA and then many of them go back to Guahan Academy to graduate or they now going choose to go to career tech. So there is a cohesive, working relationship with each of the four charter schools. What I'd like to see is, I'd like to see other, I would love to see two more charter schools come in and cater to liberal arts and cater to others because we have, already, we have like the math that they're emphasizing on robotics. I like to see others because some parents have expressed that their child is extremely good in math and they really wanna focus on that. We, you know, and unfortunately the schools are the only school that is a charter school that is from beginning to end is Guahan Academy, which is

DI instruction. And so I like to see other, maybe one or two other charter schools go into that direction. I think that would be really good for the charter schools. I think the day-to-day problems that we have, I think we can fix it, you know? And there's always room for improvement, but that's what I'd like to see going into my next few years if nominated today.

Vice Chairman Duenas: I think that's very insightful because I've heard that too. Right now it, the fluidity really is the flow and they can only go as high as where that level is and they need to articulate to the next charter school that would take them up through graduation. So I think you're on the right track. I mean, it sounds like it's gonna be more planning. And you know, of course, I think always got to do it in concert with DOE, but I'm sure they're happy too, you know, with the we've got to have this diversification. I mean, it's proven to work well and I know that at least I've come from a family of teachers. And I think maybe Joe can appreciate this, one of the things I think the charter schools have done is that you've got, like you said, nobody wears the same size shoes. You've got all kinds of different levels of individuals in schools that need different kind of training and experience. That's why DOE is so diverse. But these are focused, and I'm understanding most of the kids that are coming into these charter schools, they're prepared. They're ready to accelerate through the curriculum and the like, because, you know, their educational structure is very sound and very fundamental. I appreciate where you're going with that, and I think that's what we'll hear possibly in the presentation of the budget. And maybe that's part of the report that's due in terms of discussing the articulation through the system and refining it to where those kids can thrive all the way through moving into higher education afterwards. I appreciate your energy and I also appreciate the fact that I've seen you at the round tables and the others. I mean, you've taken an initiative to interject even though you're not particularly on the hot seat. And so I wanted to say thank you for that advocacy. It certainly bodes well for your nomination. So thank you. That's all I have. Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Barnett: Thank you, Vice. Senator Taitague.

Senator Telo T. Taitague: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My colleagues know that I'm not one to come out very much and say straight out, I support your nomination.

Ms. Cepeda: Thank you, Senator.

Senator Taitague: Yeah it's rare I do that. But for you, Vangie you know, I've seen the work you've done. You're amazing, your energy, you're constantly on top of things. I'm just so happy to see that you want to continue to serve.

Ms. Cepeda: Thank you, Senator.

Senator Taitague: So you have my full support. You're, you have an amazing family as well, and it's so impressive that you not only have the private sector, you had the, you know, public sector and then of course you had a family member here testifying in your favor. You've covered all angles and that's something I've always expected from you. Yeah.

Always bringing your A game. Thank you. And I greatly appreciate. The only thing I have to say is please, you know, you really do so much. You give 120%. So I hope that you take a little bit of that percentage and take time for yourself. Don't burn out because I definitely don't wanna see you having to, you know, leave your position because right now the charter schools are growing and you're the perfect person to watch it grow in the right direction. So thank you so much and thank you to your family. And of course my door is always open as you know that I've got calls from you, so, and you will get calls from me. Thank you so much. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman Barnett: Van, you better note this down. Yes, you're right. I've never heard her say I, I fully support right off the bat. Maybe after about 10 hard questions, but that was definitely a first. So thank you Senator Taitague, Senator Brown.

Senator Joanne M. Brown, Member - The Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts: Thank you very much. Mr. Chair and Evangeline, I have to tell you know, your presentation and your energy is very refreshing. You don't see that a lot in government, unfortunately. And, you know, you keep us from getting jaded cuz it's so easy to do that, especially with education because you know, having been around long enough, you just see the repeated problems and we pour more money into it and the problems don't change. They sometimes get worse. And, you know, the opportunity to encourage our children to enjoy education and prosper and grow is important. And we miss that time. This critical time in their growth process. I mean, that affects everything in their life. All we hear more is the drug problem and graduating to DOC and the, it doesn't show the best side of our society and our community and everything that we grew up with and want, certainly for our children and grandchildren to have and experience. And I appreciate the work that you do. I ultimately, when we supported creating the charter schools was the idea eventually to hope to phase out DOE. And I don't mean that in a negative way. I want to ensure that our public funds are going and being invested, you know, to help these children. Cuz many of them don't get, as we know, sad to say, a lot of our children don't get that support in a family environment anymore. I mean, you know, like I said, we used to be able to, if we got in trouble, our parents knew about it before we got home, before these things existed. And a lot, and many of our young people are not even growing up with that. I mean, when you hear, and it's heartbreaking to hear, as we heard during the pandemic, there are children that don't even eat. And the fact that could happen in our community is just very disturbing because you're like, oh my God, really with all that we have children in our community because whatever the situation with their family don't even eat a meal because they don't come to school. And I think we want to improve on that and by all means we have an obligation to do so. I certainly support what you do. I hope you keep DOE on their toes because you could do better for less. And I think that puts the bar up for them the expectation of better performance because they do get paid more. My son goes to private school and his teachers, I'm very impressed with them as well. And they don't get paid anywhere near and they're not there obviously for the money. Cuz if they were, they could take their credentials and go and teach in the public school system. But it's the community that is created and the environment that these children are growing up in that makes such a difference. It provides that support for them. That makes 'em wanna go to school and spend time and be with their classmates and do all these exciting things. And it

makes such a difference cuz we had that opportunity and that's what hopefully has gotten us to where we're at. I mean, you're a Notre Dame grad, you're only a year behind me, so you've probably crossed paths in the last 42, 43 years. It's been that long. But I wish you I wanna see more of what you do and see the continued improvement and growth in our charter schools. More importantly, the accountability in our charter schools. Cuz I, I'm concerned as time goes on and as our chairman continues to pursue the issues with our public education, you know, we're gonna see a lot more problems coming. And that's disturbing because at some point you think if we've done it long enough, we should be good at it and we're not there. Yeah. You know, we're not there yet. So you certainly also have my support and I wish you continued success and I appreciate the continued engagement and the energy and the drive and the commitment, cuz that's something you can't give somebody. You know, you can try and pose it on someone, but you can't make it happen. That has to come from within. And you're certainly brought a lot of bright energy to our hearing this morning, my dear. So, continued success to you. I mean, we need good people like we really do because the impact you will have and have had on our children out there, you know, they may not realize it, but you're helping pave the way of a very good and promising future for them. And that's what we wanna see for all our kids. Congratulations in advance on your vote and reconfirmation, and thank you again for your service. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Barnett: Thank you, Senator Brown. Senator Quinata.

Senator Roy A.B. Quinata: Congratulations. Good morning. Mrs. Cepeda. I don't think we have much questions or issues with you. I think you're more like a mama bear to the charter school. You wanna see more transparent activities. You wanna make sure that the children are being educated and having a full fully vetted education system. So, you know, with that being said I wish you all the best and let us know what we can do to help you and aid of all of your future endeavors. I'm sure your oversight chair of education is right behind you. He likes juicy things, so, you know, we're here to support you in any way we can. Okay. Have a great day, and God bless.

Chairman Barnett: Thank you very much. Senator Quinata, definitely love the juicy things. We're good. I think we're good. We're good? We're good. Okay. So, Evangeline, we consider your appointment duly heard, and we look forward to voting on your nomination on the floor.

Ms. Cepeda: Thank you Senators for being present. Appreciate it. Thank you.

Chairman Barnett: And if there's no more testimony to be heard committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts will continue to accept testimony on all of the appointments we heard this morning. You can drop your testimony off here at the Guam Congress Hall or email it to malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org. That's M A L A F U N K S H U N at

guamlegislature.org. This concludes this hearing of the Committee on Education and Public Safety on the Arts at 10:45. CHamoru Standard Time. Esta.

The public hearing was adjourned at **10:45** AM.

III. FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

All discussion and testimony presented to and received by the Committee affirm the support for the appointment of Evangeline M. Cepeda as a member of the Guam Academy Charter Schools Council.

The Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts hereby reports on the appointment of Evangeline M. Cepeda as a member, Guam Academy Charter Schools Council for a term of Three (3) Years; August 22, 2022, to August 21, 2025 with the recommendation **TO DO CONFIRM.**