

## HR 2400

To amend the Organic Act of Guam for the purposes of clarifying the local judicial structure of Guam.

**Congress:** 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Government Operations and Politics

**Introduced:** Jun 10, 2003

**Current Status:** Became Public Law No: 108-378.

**Latest Action:** Became Public Law No: 108-378. (Oct 30, 2004)

**Law:** 108-378 (Enacted Oct 30, 2004)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/house-bill/2400>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Del. Bordallo, Madeleine Z. [D-GU-At Large]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** GU • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Christensen, Donna M. [D-VI-At Large]	D · VI		Jun 10, 2003
Del. Faleomavaega, Eni F. H. [D-AS-At Large]	D · AS		Jun 10, 2003
Rep. Flake, Jeff [R-AZ-6]	R · AZ		Jun 10, 2003
Rep. Gallegly, Elton [R-CA-24]	R · CA		Jun 10, 2003
Resident Commissioner Acevedo-Vila, Anibal [D-PR-At Large]	D · PR		Jun 10, 2003
Rep. Abercrombie, Neil [D-HI-1]	D · HI		Oct 7, 2003
Rep. Rehberg, Dennis R. [R-MT-At Large]	R · MT		Jul 14, 2004

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Sep 29, 2004
Natural Resources Committee	House	Reported By	Sep 7, 2004

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

**(This measure has not been amended since it was introduced. The expanded summary of the House reported version is repeated here.)**

(Sec. 1) Amends the Organic Act of Guam to revise the local judicial structure of Guam to vest judicial authority, not only in the District Court of Guam (as currently), but also in a unified judicial system composed of: (1) an appellate court designated as the "Supreme Court of Guam"; (2) a trial court designated as the "Superior Court of Guam"; and (3) such other lower local courts as may have been or may hereafter be established by the laws of Guam.

Authorizes the Supreme Court of Guam to create divisions of the Superior Court and other local courts of Guam.

States that the Supreme Court of Guam shall be the highest court of the judicial branch of Guam (excluding the District Court of Guam) and shall: (1) have original jurisdiction over proceedings necessary to protect its appellate jurisdiction and supervisory authority and such other original jurisdiction as the laws of Guam may provide; (2) have jurisdiction to hear appeals over any cause in Guam decided by the Superior Court of Guam or other courts established under the laws of Guam; (3) have jurisdiction to issue all orders and writs in aid of its appellate, supervisory, and original jurisdiction, including those orders necessary for the supervision of the judicial branch of Guam; (4) have supervisory jurisdiction over the Superior Court of Guam and all other courts of the judicial branch of Guam; (5) hear and determine appeals by a panel of three of the justices of the Supreme Court of Guam and a concurrence of two such justices shall be necessary to a decision of the Supreme Court of Guam on the merits of an appeal; (6) make and promulgate rules governing the administration of the judiciary and court practice and procedure, including appeal en banc procedures; and (7) govern attorney and judicial ethics and the practice of law in Guam.

Lists the courts of record for Guam as the District Court of Guam, the Supreme Court of Guam, the Superior Court of Guam (except the Traffic and Small Claims divisions of the Superior Court of Guam), and any other local courts or divisions of local courts that the Supreme Court of Guam shall designate

Outlines the jurisdiction and powers of the local courts.

Provides that the qualifications and duties of the justices and judges of the courts shall be governed by the laws of Guam and the rules of such courts.

(Sec. 2) Repeals provisions granting the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit jurisdiction to review all final decisions of the Supreme Court of Guam.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Oct 30, 2004:** Signed by President.
- **Oct 30, 2004:** Signed by President.
- **Oct 30, 2004:** Became Public Law No: 108-378.
- **Oct 30, 2004:** Became Public Law No: 108-378.
- **Oct 19, 2004:** Presented to President.
- **Oct 19, 2004:** Presented to President.
- **Oct 12, 2004:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Oct 10, 2004:** Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources discharged by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S11183-11184)
- **Oct 10, 2004:** Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources discharged by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S11183-11184)
- **Oct 10, 2004:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Oct 10, 2004:** Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Sep 29, 2004:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests. Hearings held.
- **Sep 14, 2004:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.
- **Sep 13, 2004:** Mr. Radanovich moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Sep 13, 2004:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H7025-7028)
- **Sep 13, 2004:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 2400.
- **Sep 13, 2004:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H7025-7026)
- **Sep 13, 2004:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H7025-7026)
- **Sep 13, 2004:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Sep 7, 2004:** Reported by the Committee on Resources. H. Rept. 108-638.
- **Sep 7, 2004:** Reported by the Committee on Resources. H. Rept. 108-638.
- **Sep 7, 2004:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 382.
- **Jul 14, 2004:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 14, 2004:** Ordered to be Reported by Unanimous Consent.
- **Jun 10, 2003:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 10, 2003:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 10, 2003:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E1201)
- **Jun 10, 2003:** Referred to the House Committee on Resources.