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PR26-101-A

May 4, 2026

Limtiaco Formally Enters Congressional Race, Commits to Closing Gaps Between Federal Decisions and Results Guam Families Can Feel at Home

(Hagåtña, Guam) — Alicia Garrido Limtiaco formally filed her candidacy for Guam’s Delegate to the United States House of Representatives, outlining a clear, grounded vision for Guam’s representation in Congress that is focused on securing federal funding, and ensuring those actions translate into measurable, meaningful results our people can see and feel right here at home. Limtiaco began by acknowledging the work of those who have served before her.

“Every Delegate who has represented Guam has done so with integrity and commitment to our people,” she said. “They secured funding for hospitals, public safety, infrastructure, and essential services. Collectively, their efforts and years of hard work helped shape Guam into what it is today.”

“But today, representation that delivers is measured by outcomes, and by who those outcomes reach and what actually reaches our homes,” Limtiaco said. “If families can’t see it, access it, and rely on it, then it isn’t delivering meaningful results. That means making sure our seniors, persons with disabilities, and children in low-income households have equal access to programs like Supplemental Security Income; that Guam is fairly included in laws like the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act; that our veterans, and their spouses and families, receive the full benefits they’ve earned and have reliable access to quality healthcare, including the hospital services they depend on; and that policies like the Guam–CNMI Visa Waiver Program actually support our local economy, workforce, and families, so opportunity is not limited, but expanded right here at home.”

Limtiaco further stated, “Securing funding is the first step. Delivering results people can feel in their daily lives is what our people expect from their Delegate to Congress. That’s the job; and that’s the gap I’m running to close by turning federal decisions into access, relief, and opportunity you can see and feel right here at home.” Limtiaco pointed to the distance many residents still feel between federal decisions and local outcomes. “On paper, Guam is included in the federal system,” she said. “In practice, too many of our families are still managing the pressures of rising costs that show no signs of easing up, opportunities that don’t keep up with market demands, and programs so restrictive they don’t fully reach the people they’re meant to serve.”

Limtiaco said the gap reflects structural challenges that still need to be addressed. “Our people serve, contribute, and sacrifice at the same level as those in the mainland,” she said. “Yet in practice, federal benefits don’t always reach Guam in the same way. That’s a policy gap. It’s something very real and families here feel it every day.”

She cited ongoing disparities affecting Guam residents, including structural limits in federal healthcare funding and federal policies that continue to drive higher costs for families. “These are not isolated issues,” Limtiaco said. “They reflect a broader pattern, where Guam is expected to contribute like everyone else, but we don’t always receive the same in return. That is the gap.”

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Limtiaco emphasized that these conditions persist because they have not been systematically forced to change. “Federal law does not correct itself,” she said. “It changes when there is sustained effort, when coalitions are built, and when issues are pursued until they are resolved.”

Drawing on her experience as the first woman U.S. Attorney for Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands and former elected Attorney General of Guam, Limtiaco said her decision to pursue representation in Congress is grounded in direct experience inside the federal system. “I’ve worked in spaces where decisions are made, where progress can move or stall,” she said. “And I’ve learned that outcomes don’t happen by default. They happen when there is sustained focus, follow-through, and the ability to navigate those systems effectively.”

She emphasized that representation requires more than participation or advocacy alone. “There is a difference between what is approved and what actually gets delivered,” Limtiaco said. “Our families should be able to see and feel those results in their daily lives. Advocacy matters, but it is only one part of the responsibility. Representation must deliver meaningful results; and that means follow-through on implementation, ensuring priorities are protected, and seeing outcomes through to completion.”

Limtiaco said her campaign will focus on strengthening how Guam’s priorities are carried through the federal process by maintaining engagement at each stage, prioritizing high-impact outcomes, and ensuring accountability from authorization to execution. She then pointed to a recent example to illustrate the stakes of that gap: the absence of a coordinated digital and cybersecurity initiative for Guam in current federal authorization and funding pathways. “Every effort to bring resources to our island matters, especially given the limited number of opportunities we have,” she said.

“That work reflects a continued commitment to supporting Guam’s needs, and it deserves to be acknowledged. At the same time, one of the most strategically significant opportunities for Guam’s future has not yet been carried through the full federal process,” Limtiaco said. “Efforts to position Guam within the digital and cybersecurity space have taken shape in parts, but they have not been reflected as a comprehensive, standalone initiative in enacted authorization or appropriations.”

“In Congress, what matters is what gets authorized and funded. If it’s not there, it doesn’t move,” she said. “Ideas alone do not deliver results; sustained, focused execution does. And when priorities are not carried through to law and funding, they do not reach our people. That is where opportunities remain unrealized and that is the gap we have to close.”

She said the effort was intended to position Guam within the Indo-Pacific’s emerging digital and national security economy. “This was about more than infrastructure,” she said. “It was about creating opportunity, developing skills, supporting jobs, and giving our young people a reason to build their future here at home.”

While acknowledging continued federal investment in infrastructure and essential services, Limtiaco said those efforts alone are not enough to meet Guam’s long-term economic challenges. “Those projects are necessary, but they are no longer enough. If we are serious about lowering costs and expanding opportunity, we have to compete for the investments that shape the future. These opportunities don’t advance because they’re discussed; they advance when they’re carried through: from concept to authorization to funding and implementation, all the way to completion. And that’s what determines whether Guam is included or whether Guam actually benefits,” Limtiaco concluded.

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