

I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2009 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 7-30 (LS)

Introduced by:

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Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.
Judith P. Guthertz, DPA

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Relative to combating human trafficking in our community and throughout the world, and to emancipating the estimated twenty-seven million (27,000,000) people enslaved in today's world, with two hundred thousand (200,000) of them in the United States; and to preventing additional women, children and men from being trafficked, by encouraging greater awareness of human trafficking and all other forms of modern day slavery.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN**
2 **GUÅHAN:**

3 **WHEREAS**, human trafficking in the United States, and on Guam, is on
4 the rise, and combating it must involve the American people and the United
5 States government, and the residents of Guam and Micronesia; and

6 **WHEREAS**, human trafficking is present day slavery, involving the
7 recruitment, transportation or sale of persons for forced labor, and through
8 the use of violence, threats and coercion, enslaved persons may be forced to
9 work in the sex trade, domestic labor, factories, hotels or restaurants,
10 agriculture, peddling or begging; and

11 **WHEREAS**, historically, the United States is the only nation in the
12 world to have fought a civil war to abolish slavery, and once again its
13 government and citizens stand united to successfully defeat the current form
14 of modern slavery that is human trafficking, in the United States, on Guam,
15 and around the world, no matter how long it takes; and

16 **WHEREAS**, in June 2004, the United States Department of State
17 reported that fourteen thousand five hundred (14,500) to seventeen thousand
18 five hundred (17,500) people are trafficked annually into the United States,
19 having been bought, sold, transported, and held in inhumane conditions for
20 forced use as prostitutes or laborers; and

21 **WHEREAS**, the problem of human trafficking has reached epic
22 proportions, and is the fastest-growing criminal industry in the world, with

1 the destructive practices of human trafficking damaging both those persons
2 exploited, as well as the communities they inhabit; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the U. S. federal government and several states recognize
4 the grave human rights, health, and security implications of human trafficking
5 in the United States, on Guam, and around the world; and

6 **WHEREAS**, in 2000, the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (22 U.S.C.
7 Sec. 7101 et seq.) was enacted by the U. S. federal government to “combat
8 trafficking in persons, a contemporary manifestation of slavery whose victims
9 are predominantly women and children, to ensure just and effective
10 punishment of human traffickers, and to protect their victims”; and

11 **WHEREAS**, women and children comprise the majority of human
12 trafficking victims; the low social status of women in many parts of the world
13 facilitates a thriving human trafficking industry, with the victims of human
14 trafficking living daily with inhumane treatment, including physical violence,
15 psychological violence, sexual abuse, food deprivation, sleep deprivation,
16 threats to a victim’s family, and destruction of a victim’s dignity and self-
17 worth; and

18 **WHEREAS**, human traffickers also use techniques, such as debt
19 bondage, isolation from the public, and confiscation of passports, visas, or
20 other forms of identification, to keep victims enslaved; and

21 **WHEREAS**, under the guidance of March Against Terror, USA, the
22 National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness and the Fight Against

1 Concealed Enslavement (FACE) Program, an ongoing commitment by the
2 people of the U. S. and Guam to year-round awareness of human trafficking
3 and all other forms of modern day slavery will, through their awareness,
4 assist authorities in whatever it takes to disrupt and defeat the global human
5 trafficking network; now, therefore, be it

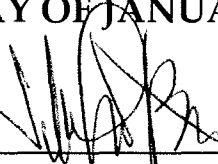
6 **RESOLVED**, that the *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,
7 on behalf of the people of Guam, declare its opposition to, and its
8 condemnation of, criminally injurious activities which exploit persons in an
9 economic or sexual manner, and does recognize the National Day of Human
10 Trafficking Awareness on January 11 of each year, in order to encourage
11 greater awareness of human trafficking on Guam, in America and throughout
12 the world, and all other forms of modern day slavery; and be it further

13 **RESOLVED**, that this Resolution affirms *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan*
14 *Guåhan's* commitment to the principles of human rights, as well as to the
15 beliefs and actions combating trafficking in human beings, and that the
16 Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attests to, the adoption hereof,
17 and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Ann Roth, President
18 of Soroptimist International Guam; to Chet Neri, President of the Guam
19 Council of Women's Clubs; to the Honorable Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.,
20 Speaker of *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* and to the Honorable Felix P.
21 Camacho, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTA NA
LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 9TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2009.



JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D
Speaker



TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary