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

**Resolution No. 13 (COR)** 

As amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

R. J. Respicio T. C. Ada <u>F. B. Aguon, Jr.</u> F. F. Blas, Jr. E. J.B. Calvo B. J.F. Cruz J. V. Espaldon Judith P. Guthertz, DPA T. R. Muña Barnes Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr. v. c. pangelinan M. J. Rector Telo Taitague Ray Tenorio Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Relative to *adding* a new Section 4.02.05 to Rule IV, "Convening and Sessions", of *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan Otden Areklamento* (Thirtieth Guam Legislature Standing Rules) to increase transparency in the legislative process. 1 BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN 2 GUÅHAN:

WHEREAS, the practice of having session meetings of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* during the late night hours has been criticized on numerous occasions
over the years; and

6 WHEREAS, it is desirable that the public be aware of the actions of the 7 government at the times that they are taken and these actions should be taken 8 at times that are easily accessible to the public; and

9 WHEREAS, late night work hours and excessively long work hours are 10 *not* conducive to good performance, whether by government officials *or* other 11 workers; and

WHEREAS, the practice of late night sessions and long hours have frequently been linked with a lack of transparency in our government, even when they are caused by impending deadlines associated with the passage of the government budget; and

16 WHEREAS, although they are carried on cable television, late night and 17 overnight sessions are difficult for the public to follow when actions are taken 18 in the early-morning hours, well after most people have retired for the 19 evening; and

20 WHEREAS, *I Liheslatura* should be able to plan its session schedule in 21 such a fashion that its work is accomplished transparently, and at times when

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the majority of the island's population is able to follow the debate, either from
 the Public Hearing Room *or* on television; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby *add*a new Section 4.02.05 to Rule IV, Convening and Sessions of *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan Otden Areklamento* (Thirtieth Guam Legislature Standing
Rules) to require sessions to be held between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. on each
calendar *or* session day that session is convened; and be it further

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**RESOLVED,** that the new Section 4.02.05 *shall* read:

9 "Section 4.02.05. Sessions to be held between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00
10 p.m. Convening of sessions and continuation of session meetings *shall*11 be after 7:00 a.m. each calendar day, and each session *shall* be recessed *or*12 adjourned on each calendar day as near as possible to 10:00 p.m., taking
13 into account finishing the immediate matter at hand on the floor at that
14 hour"; and be it further

15 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary 16 attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter 17 transmitted to all Senators of *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*; and to the 18 Legislative Counsel.

## DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 27<sup>th</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2009.

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D. Speaker

vigente c. pangelinan

Acting Legislative Secretary