

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

Resolution No. 242-30 (LS)

Introduced by:

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

Relative to recognizing and commending the Judiciary of Guam for their support of children in need; and further urging the people of Guam to join in the national effort to raise awareness about the importance of adoption in honor of "National Adoption Day" on Saturday, November 21, 2009.

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

1 **WHEREAS**, the people of Guam recognize the importance of providing
2 permanent, safe and loving families for all children, including finding safe
3 and loving families through adoption; and

4 **WHEREAS**, nearly one hundred thirty thousand (130,000) children are
5 currently in our country's foster care system waiting to be adopted, including
6 one hundred forty-one (141) children in the foster care system of Guam; and

7 **WHEREAS**, in Guam there are eighteen (18) licensed family foster
8 homes and three (3) group homes, and there are four (4) foster children in off-
9 island placements or in residential treatment; and

10 **WHEREAS**, children in the foster care system need the nurturing
11 stability that placement with a loving family in a permanent adoptive home
12 can bring; and

13 **WHEREAS**, these children, who range in age from one (1) to seventeen
14 (17) years are anxiously awaiting acceptance and to become the newest
15 member of a loving family; and

16 **WHEREAS**, children in foster care in Guam are provided with some
17 form of permanency placement through adoption, guardianship or long term
18 foster care; and

19 **WHEREAS**, nearly sixty (60) adoption cases are filed and completed in
20 the Superior Court of Guam annually, providing homes for many needful
21 children; and

1 **WHEREAS**, other children in the foster care system are actively going
2 through the system for eventual direction in their cases which, for some,
3 could also include reunification with their families; and

4 **WHEREAS**, in Guam, most of our children end up in permanency
5 placements with relatives, to remain in long term foster care status, and with
6 their biological parents usually remaining in close and supervised contact at
7 the discretion of caregivers; and

8 **WHEREAS**, to help these children find permanent, nurturing families,
9 the courts of Guam will open their doors on “National Adoption Day”,
10 Saturday, November 21, 2009, to finalize the adoptions of local children and
11 join other organizations to celebrate all adoptions; and

12 **WHEREAS**, this effort in Guam, along with similar celebrations in all
13 fifty (50) states, the District of Columbia and United States insular areas, will
14 offer children the chance to live with stable and loving families and encourage
15 other dedicated individuals to make a powerful difference in the lives of
16 children through adoption; now, therefore, be it

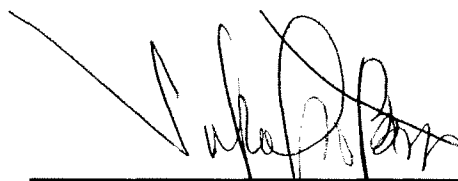
17 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina’ Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guahan*, does hereby on
18 behalf of the people of Guam, recognize and commend the Judiciary of Guam
19 for their support of children in need; and does further urge the people of
20 Guam to join in the national effort to raise awareness about the importance of
21 adoption in honor of “National Adoption Day” on Saturday, November 21,
22 2009; and be it further

1 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary
2 attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter
3 transmitted to the Honorable Robert J. Torres, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of
4 Guam; to the Honorable Alberto C. Lamorena III, Presiding Judge Superior
5 Court of Guam; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahren Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THIS 10TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2009.



JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.
Speaker



TINA ROSE MUNA BARNES
Legislative Secretary