

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

Resolution No. 61 (LS)

As amended.

Introduced by:

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

Relative to congratulating the Filipino Amateur Basketball Association (PABL) on its Thirty-fifth (35th) Anniversary, and to expressing *Un Dångkulo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse* for the outstanding contributions the PABL has made in helping the young Filipino immigrants of our island community.

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

3 **WHEREAS**, the Pilipino Amateur Basketball Association was founded
4 more than three (3) decades ago by Mr. Prospero "*Popoy*" Zamora, and it has
5 served as a tool that has helped, and continues to help, young Filipino
6 immigrants find a place in the island's community; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the Philippine Independence Basketball Tournament was
8 held in conjunction with the anniversary of Philippine Independence Week,
9 which celebrates the Republic of the Philippines' independence from Spain on
10 June 12, 1898; and

11 **WHREAS**, originally called the Philippine Independence Basketball
12 Tournament, the league grew from a Filipino-only basketball league to the
13 island's top varsity league now open to everyone; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the Guam Bayanihan Sports Association has been
15 established since 1972 as a non profit organization, and was tasked to be part
16 of helping the Pilipino and local community to establish its own varsity sport
17 activities in Guam – Philippine Independence Basketball Tournament (PIBT) –
18 with the only requirement being an all Pilipino basketball team; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the tournament began in 1972, and has become one of the
20 prime time sport activities during the Philippine Independence celebration.
21 The organization developed another ruling in 1975, after three (3) years of
22 success, to add players that have Pilipino family ancestry and requiring

1 players to have at least 30 % Pilipino blood. The league is a thirty (30) year
2 successful program under the management of the Pilipino Amateur Basketball
3 League (PABL). The achievements of PABL have resulted in many island
4 varsity basketball players joining the league, although at times the
5 organization encountered difficulty justifying a player's Pilipino lineage. The
6 Pilipino Amateur Basketball League is one of the training grounds of our
7 island's very own Guam National Basketball Team to develop their talent for
8 the Pacific competition and the PABL Tournament; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Prospero "Bobby" Zamora followed his father's
10 footsteps in 2003 to oversee the Pilipino Amateur Basketball League because
11 of his interest to lead the organization and his awareness of the numerous
12 ethnic talented basketball players in our Island; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Prospero "Bobby" Zamora took over the league upon
14 his father's retirement, promising to continue his legacy. He continued to
15 recruit young athletes to be part of the PABL Mission to serve the community
16 of Guam. Bobby was able to make changes throughout the PABL's history
17 with the help of a new organizing body, and began using the FIBA
18 International Rules used during the Olympic games allowing for year to year
19 adjustment; and

20 **WHEREAS**, in 2003 the PABL governing body changed its ruling to
21 open the league to the community regardless of race, officially inviting
22 different ethnic groups to come forward and participate in the league, now the

1 biggest basketball event on Guam. Military groups - Big Navy and the Air
2 Force, the Guam National Basketball team, and other ethnic groups, are now
3 members of this annual event; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Bobby Zamora and the PABL leadership promised the
5 athletes they will no longer play on a concrete basketball court, so as to avoid
6 serious injury, and worked to ensure that all basketball enthusiasts find ways
7 to participate in the well-known prime basketball league on the Island. Mr.
8 Zamora attributes his success with PABL to the support of dedicated friends
9 and their families working together towards making the Island's basketball
10 sport no different from any other basketball league around the world; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Bobby Zamora and his management team earned the
12 distinction of Guam having the best training ground, as evidenced with the
13 Island's very own Guam Basketball Group representing Guam during off-
14 island tournaments such as the South Pacific Games, the Oceania FIBA
15 Tournament, and numerous other basketball tournaments; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the Guam Basketball Sports Association (GBSA) extends
17 the basketball competition to a maximum level, promotes the goodwill of the
18 Island of Guam, and helps numerous athletic youth to join; and

19 **WHEREAS**, in 2005, the GBSA added the Women's Pilipino Basketball
20 League (WPABL) to help the women of our island community continue their
21 athletic activities, even after their high school senior year. For the very first
22 time, Guam will have women's basketball for the community to help our

1 youth keep away from the distraction of bad habits and influence from our
2 streets, and to develop their skills through a basketball sporting event; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the 2009 Pilipino Basketball Association League will start
4 with another big change, that will include the change of basketball court
5 ruling to the Filipino International Basketball Association (FIBA) International
6 Rules. The Tournament will also have, for the first time after thirty-four (34)
7 years of existing competitive basketball games, ten (10) games televised live
8 on local Channel 2 on Saturdays which the people of Guam can watch from
9 the comfort of home. The tournament also helps our talented players come
10 out and be involved in this very exciting competition; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the annual tip-off ceremony will have the Philippine
12 Consulate General and local government representatives in attendance to help
13 players recite the pledge of sportsmanship; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the Pilipino Basketball Association League’s mission is to
15 promote goodwill and friendship within our Island community, to develop
16 the young talent of Guam in the world of basketball that serves as a source of
17 pride for many in the island’s Filipino community, and to help newcomers to
18 the island feel at home; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the popularity of the league continues to grow with the
20 Pilipino Basketball Association League now run by Popoy Zamora’s son,
21 Bobby. The PABL and some of its long-standing teams are well established

1 and supported by island businesses offering sponsorship for teams, or helping
2 teams in finding players to fill their roster; now, therefore, be it

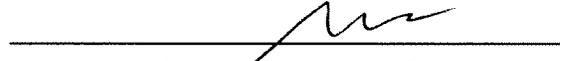
3 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on
4 behalf of the people of Guam, congratulate the Guam Bayanihan Association
5 on their Thirty-fifth (35th) anniversary celebration of the Pilipino Basketball
6 Association League Tournament on Guam, and does further extend a sincere
7 *Un Dangkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse* to Mr. Bobby Zamora, President, Guam
8 Basketball Sports Association/Pilipino Basketball Association League, and to
9 the members of the League for their outstanding contributions for the
10 betterment of our island community; and, be it further

11 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary
12 attests to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter
13 transmitted to Mr. Prospero "Popoy" Zamora; to Mr. Bobby Zamora; to the
14 Honorable Olivia V. Palala, Philippine Consul General of Guam; and to the
15 Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahren Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN* ON THIS 27TH DAY OF MARCH, 2009.



TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Acting Speaker



RORY J. RESPICIO
Acting Legislative Secretary