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

2009 (FII	A LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN RST) Regular Session
Resolution No. $243-30(45)$	
Introduced by:	FRANK B. AGUON JR. RORY RESPICIO ADOLPHO PALACIOS ATOM ADA

RELATIVE TO RECOGNIZING SATURDAY, **NOVERMBER 15, 2009 AS NATIONAL ADOPTION** DAY IN GUAM, AND URGING EVERYONE IN **GUAM TO IOIN IN A NATIONAL EFFORT TO RAISE ABOUT** THE IMPORTANCE OF AWARENESS ADOPTION.

BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN 1

GUÅHAN: 2 WHEREAS, the people of Guam recognize the importance of providing 3 permanent, safe and loving families for all children, including finding safe 4 and loving families through adoption; and 5 6 WHEREAS, nearly _____children are currently in our country's 7 foster care system waiting to be adopted, including _____children in the 8 foster care system of Guam; and 9 10 WHEREAS, in Guam there are ______licenses family foster homes 11 and three group homes, and there are four foster children in off-island 12 placements or in residential treatment; and 13 14

- WHEREAS, children in the foster care system need the nurturing stability
- 2 that placement with a loving family in a permanent adoptive home can

3 bring; and

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WHEREAS, these children, who range in age from one to 17 years of are, are anxiously awaiting acceptance and to become the newest member of a loving family; and

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WHEREAS, children in foster care in Guam are provided with some form
 of Permanency Placement through Adoption, Guardianship or Long Term
 Foster Care; and

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13 **WHEREAS**, nearly ____ adoption cases are filed and completed in the 14 Superior Court of Guam annually, providing homes for many needful 15 children; and

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17 **WHEREAS**, other children in the foster care system are actively going 18 through the system for eventual direction in their cases which, for some, 19 could also include reunification with their families; and

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WHEREAS, in Guam, most of our children end up in Permanency Placements with relatives, to remain in Long Term Foster Care status, with their biological parents usually remaining in close and supervised contact at the discretion of caregivers; and

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WHEREAS, to help these children find permanent, nurturing families, the courts of Guam will open their doors on National Adoption Day, Saturday, November 15, to finalize the adoptions of local children and join other organizations to celebrate all adoptions; and

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WHEREAS, this effort in Guam, along with similar celebrations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and United States insular areas, will offer children the chance to live with stable and loving families and encourage

other dedicated individuals to make a powerful difference in the lives of 1 children through adoption; now therefore be it 2 3 RESOLVED, that I Mina' Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guahan, on behalf of the 4 people of Guam, does hereby recognize Saturday, November 15, 2009 as 5 NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY in Guam; and be it further 6 7 RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature 8 attest to, the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter 9 transmitted to the Honorable Robert J. Torres, Chief Justice, Supreme 10 Court of Guam; to Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III, Superior Court 11 of Guam and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, I Maga'lahen Guåhan. 12 DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN ON THE DAY OF **NOVEMBER** 2009. JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed. D TINA MUNA-BARNES Speaker Secretary of the Legislature