Clork of the Legislature

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I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATU 2010 (SECOND) Regular S	IR AN CHANGE	PGEMENT RECELT
2010 (CECOND) Decoder 6	Received by:	mc
2010 (SECOND) Regular S	session :	2:50 DM

Resolution No. 270-30(cor)

Introduced by:

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T.R. Muna Barnes
F.F. Blas, Jr. 7
B.J. F. Cruz

RELATIVE TO COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE WORLD-WIDE MEMBERS OF SOKA GAKKAI INTERNATIONAL (SGI) ON THEIR TIRELESS EFFORTS AND DEDICATION IN PROMOTING WORLD PEACE AND CONGRATULATING THE MEMBERS OF SGI-USA, GUAM ON THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF SGI

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF I

MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:

3 WHEREAS, in response to the needs of an increasingly global

4 community of Soka Gakkai members, the Soka Gakkai International (SGI) was

formed in Guam on January 26, 1975, and on the same day thirty-five (35)

6 years ago, one hundred fifty-eight (158) delegates from fifty-one (51) countries

7 met for the first World Peace Conference, nominating Dr. Daisaku Ikeda, then

president of Soka Gakkai, to head the new Soka Gakkai International; and

9 WHEREAS, Guam was selected as the venue to conduct the first World

Peace Conference, given that the Chamorro people suffered so terribly from

11 the ravages of war; and

WHEREAS, from this auspicious occasion, the delegates founded Soka Gakkai International (SGI), thus began the worldwide grassroots activities of peace, education and culture, based on the humanistic outlook of Nichiren Buddhism; and

WHEREAS, today SGI is a worldwide network with eighty-two (82) constituent organizations and more than twelve million (12,000,000) members in one hundred ninety-two (192) countries and territories, sharing a common vision of global peace and prosperity and for twenty-nine (29) years has been accredited as a Non-governmental Organization (NGO) by the United Nations (UN); and

WHEREAS, as a NGO of the United Nations, SGI has worked tirelessly with other UN entities in promoting harmony and coexistence between nations in the fields of humanitarian relief and public education, with a focus on peace, environmental protection and human rights; and

WHEREAS, throughout the 1980s and 1990s, Dr. Ikeda's peace proposals addressed such themes as the power of dialogue, the adoption of a Universal Declaration Renouncing War, and the need for mutual respect in cultural exchange; and he further cited the important role of the United Nations in maintaining global security, while challenging it to become more representative of the people and rather than just nation states; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ikeda, who has attained the status of a world-renowned Buddhist scholar and peace activist, has made it his personal mission to engage in more than one thousand, five hundred (1,500) dialogues for peace with noted world leaders such as Dr. Arnold Toynbee; Nobel Laureate and

- 1 former President of South Africa Nelson Mandela; former U.S. Secretary of
- 2 State Henry Kissinger; former Soviet Union President Mikhail Gorbachev;
- 3 civil rights leader Rosa Parks; and Dr. Elise Boulding; and
- 4 WHEREAS, for his humanitarian endeavors in a range of fields, Dr.
- 5 Ikeda has been a recipient of numerous honorary doctorates and awards
- 6 including the United Nation Peace Award, the Rosa Parks Humanitarian
- 7 Award, National Order of the Southern Cross of the Republic of Brazil, the
- 8 United States Congressional Award, the Honorary Cross of Science and the
- 9 Arts from the Austrian Ministry of Education, Medal of the Grand Officer of
- 10 Arts and Letters from the French Ministry of Culture, the Grand Officer
- award from the President of the Italian Republic and the World Poet
- 12 Laureateship from the World Poetry Society, the Order of Friendship from
- 13 Russia, and the Honorary Doctorate from the University of Guam; and
- 14 WHEREAS, Dr. Ikeda has encouraged the members of SGI to devote
- 15 their lives to planting seeds of peace throughout the world, rather than
- seeking to bring the flowers of their own lives to bloom; and
- 17 WHEREAS, the members of the SGI resolve to contribute to the
- 18 prosperity of their respective societies and countries, while respecting
- 19 individual cultures, customs and laws; and
- 20 WHEREAS, Dr. Daisaku Ikeda and Mrs. Kaneko Ikeda have received
- 21 worldwide recognition for fulfilling the dreams of Mr. Tsunesaburo
- 22 Makiguchi and Mr. Josei Toda, with the establishment of the Soka Education
- 23 system, which includes elementary to university-level institutions in Japan,

and Soka University of America located in Aliso Viejo, California, the 1

establishment of the Min-On Concert Association, and the creation of the 2

Tokyo Fuji Art Museum; and 3

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WHEREAS, the members of SGI-USA, Guam have pursued activities to advance the cause of peace in dedication to the commitment by Dr. Ikeda; and

WHEREAS, on January 2000, SGI-USA, Guam commemorated the 25th anniversary of the founding of SGI, by co-sponsoring with the University of Guam, Soka University of America and SGI-USA the first Pacific Islands New Millennium Peace Conference; and

WHEREAS, the conference brought together government leaders and high chiefs from many of the Pacific Islands to share their memories of the Pacific War and resolve to never again allow such violence; and

WHEREAS, on January 2005, SGI-USA, Guam commemorated the 30th anniversary of the founding of SGI, by hosting numerous commemorative events in the name of peace, including the opening of two (2) traveling exhibitions, "Building a Culture of Peace for the Children of the World" and Morehouse College's "Gandhi, King, Ikeda: A Legacy of Building Peace"; these traveling exhibits were displayed at the office of the Governor of Guam, the University of Guam and the Guam Community College; and

WHEREAS, SGI-USA, Guam hosted the Second Pacific Islands New 20 Millennium Peace Conference for educators focusing on "Humanistic Education: Fostering a Culture of Peace" and sponsored a cultural festival celebrating the diverse culture of mankind; and

WHEREAS, on January 2007, SGI-USA, on its 32nd anniversary of the founding of SGI-USA, Guam, another milestone was realized with the grand opening of its new Activity Center, an occasion that members of SGI-USA, Guam have been working hard for years in order to accommodate their members and Buddhist activities; and

WHEREAS, on January 2010, SGI-USA, Guam will commemorate its 35th anniversary by encouraging the advancement of innovative ideas that focus on positive changes that promote a stronger, stable, and more sustainable world, beginning with the self and extending into the local community and expanding throughout our global society; and

WHEREAS, during its 35th anniversary, SGI-USA, Guam will be hosting various events throughout Guam, including a conference at the Guam Community College and an exhibit at the Agana Shopping Center offering a variety of speakers and performing artists promoting the theme "Seeds of Change: The Earth Charter and Human Potential", an awarding of honorary Professorship to President Daisaku Ikeda at the Guam Community College, an opening of a Peace Park in the village of Tamuning; and

WHEREAS, SGI-USA, Guam believes that the creation of lasting peace and the elimination of violence, rather than the promotion of high level social reform, ultimately lies upon the ability of each individual in earth to inherently embrace the spirit of peace their hearts; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Daisaku Ikeda and Mrs. Kaneko Ikeda have dedicated

more than sixty (60) years of their lives to the promotion of peace, culture, and

2 education through their committed efforts as leaders of SGI and continues to

serve as inspiring examples of how one person's committed efforts can

transform the lives of millions of people around the world including those of

5 us here on Guam; now, therefore, be it

6 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina' Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on

behalf of the people of Guam, recognize and commend the world-wide

members of SGI on it's tireless efforts and dedication in promoting world

peace, which is ever more relevant in the age of terror and war, and

congratulates SGI-USA, Guam on the 35th anniversary of the founding of SGI;

and be it further

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12 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairman of the Rules Committee

certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the adoption hereof and

that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to President Daisaku and

Mrs. Kaneko Ikeda of Soka Gakkai International (SGI);to Danny Nagashima,

16 General Director; to SGI-USA; to SGI-USA, Guam, and to the Honorable Felix

17 P. Camacho, I Maga'lahen Guåhan.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA' TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE ____ DAY OF JANUARY 2010.

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D. Speaker

Tina Rose Muna Barnes
Senator and
Secretary of the Legislature