I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2012 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. 303-31 (LS)

Introduced by:

Sam Mabini, Ph.D.

T. C. Ada

V. Anthony Ada

F. F. Blas, Jr.

B. J.F. Cruz

Chris M. Dueñas

Judith P. Guthertz, DPA

T. R. Muña Barnes

Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.

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R. J. Respicio

Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.

M. Silva Taijeron

Aline A. Yamashita, Ph.D.

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Relative to recognizing and commending Pay-Less Supermarkets for their inspiring efforts to raise environmental awareness with their "Go Green Campaign", and the launch of "M0B: Mission Zero Bags" in their attempt to preserve and improve Guam, and encouraging social responsibility and environmental stewardship.

1 BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA'TRENTAL UNU NA LIHESLATURAN

- 2 *GUÅHAN*:
- WHEREAS, in 1998, Pay-Less Supermarkets established the "Pay-Less Goes
- 4 Green" Campaign to fulfill their social responsibility to the land and people of Guam;
- 5 and

WHEREAS, since 1998, Pay-Less Supermarkets have equipped many of their stores with energy-efficient equipment; they have bailed over six hundred (600) tons of cardboard annually; they have implemented recycling bins at the *Mangilao* Pay-Less Supermarket; they have donated damaged produce and shredded paper to local farmers for feed and composting; and they have utilized electronic invoicing, and have supported many other "Go Green" efforts; and

WHEREAS, on February 28, 2008, Pay-Less Supermarkets introduced a program to get consumers to use reusable shopping bags, and they also started distributing only biodegradable plastic bags; and

WHEREAS, while these bags were a better alternative, they still can have some harmful effects on our environment when not properly disposed of; plastic bags can clog storm drains and cause flooding, and they litter Guam's beautiful beaches and can kill aquatic animals; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, Pay-Less Supermarkets, along with its community partners, realized that there is an issue that can be addressed on island, and another way to better the environment, and the planning for "Mission Zero Bags (M0B)" began; and

WHEREAS, the Recycling Association of Guam estimates that Guam consumers use over forty (40) million plastic bags annually. Payless Supermarkets issue out approximately eleven million three hundred sixty-one thousand (11,361,000) bags a year; and as the largest provider of plastic bags on Guam, Pay-Less Supermarkets acknowledge a social responsibility to encourage the public to develop habits to protect our island's environment; and

WHEREAS, the Pay-Less Supermarkets "Mission Zero Bags (M0B)" Campaign will be launched on Wednesday, January 25, 2012, and it will continue on

every third (3rd) and fourth (4th) Wednesday of the month until August 2012, which will then be on every Wednesday; and

WHEREAS, on the same launch day as M0B, the Pay-Less Supermarket branches will also be placing recycling bins for aluminum cans and plastic bottles, further providing customers the convenience of a proper disposal option for recyclables; and

WHEREAS, during M0B days, Pay-Less will not provide any plastic or brown bags, in an effort to encourage customers to use reusable bags when shopping at their stores, and anyone requesting a brown paper bag will be charged five cents (5¢) per bag, with all proceeds from the bag fees to go towards the Community Mini-Grant program, specifically for schools or non-profit organizations with a green initiative; and

WHEREAS, in commending Pay-Less Supermarkets, we hope to also make them as an example for other local businesses on-island, and encourage that they follow suit on taking steps to preserve and better the island of Guam, and its people; and

WHEREAS, it is our responsibility as an island community, as the stewards of Guam, to ensure the preservation of the island's environment and sustainability; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that *I Mina'Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize and commend Pay-Less Supermarkets for their efforts in raising environmental awareness with the Pay-Less Supermarkets "Go Green" and "M0B: Mission Zero Bags" Campaigns, in their attempt to preserve and improve Guam, and in displaying social responsibility and taking on the role as an environmental stewards; and be it further

- 1 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to,
- 2 the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Mrs.
- 3 Katherine Calvo Sgro, Executive Vice-President and Chairman Pay-Less
- 4 Supermarkets; and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE 20TH DAY OF JANUARY 2012.

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D. Speaker

TINA ROSE MUNA BARNES
Legislative Secretary