I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2011 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 30 -31(LS)

Introduced by:

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Relative to urging the Department of Defense, and in particular the Department of the Navy, to add a "fifth pillar" to the recently developed "four pillars" plan, for the purpose of properly addressing the needs and requirements of both the Federal Government and the people of Guam relative to the ongoing buildup of military forces.

BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Defense (DoD) is actively coordinating and conducting a massive military buildup in Guam that will include permanent facilities and infrastructure to support a new Marine base, expanded facilities for warfare training, additional facilities for other branches of military service, as well as

new housing and additional amenities for the increased number of personnel and dependents; and

WHEREAS, in his recent visit to Guam, the Honorable Robert O. Work, Under Secretary of the Navy, on Jan. 20, 2011, outlined "four pillars" that will shape the strategy for the buildup going forward, Secretary Work saying that the pillars "were developed over the past year after listening carefully to the concerns of both the Government and people of Guam;" and

WHEREAS, Secretary Work's "four pillars" are:

- One Guam: In which DoD acknowledges and addresses the strain the buildup places on Guam's infrastructure;
- Green Guam: In which DoD understands, supports and makes accommodations relative to the emphasis the people of Guam place on protecting environmental treasures;
- Cultural Sensitivity: In which DoD agrees to 'Round-the-Clock unimpeded access to the ancient Chamorro Pågat Village and Cave cultural and historical sites; and
- "Net negative" DoD footprint: In which DoD plans for better utilization of the approximately 30% of Guam's land now under their control, so that they can return underutilized land to the Government of Guam, and to have a smaller footprint than is now the case;" and

WHEREAS, the adoption of the "four pillars" is only a first step in the development of a working relationship between the people and Government of Guam and the DoD, and *I Liheslatura* is supportive of the concept of this approach outlined by Secretary Work, however details must still be worked out in each area; and

WHEREAS, I Liheslatura is cautiously optimistic that the DoD will work very hard to achieve the President's goals, and is hopeful that DoD will work equally as hard to achieve the goals of the third and fourth pillars; and

WHEREAS, it is likely that the ancient Chamorro village of *Pågat*, and the programmatic agreement will continue to be at the center of controversy until solutions are found that are acceptable to both Guam and the DoD, and then only if those solutions are in writing and made part of a signed agreement between Guam and the Federal Government, as past experience has taught the people of Guam that promises made are not necessarily promises kept; and

WHEREAS, relative to the DoD footprint (and the entire Federal footprint) as described in the "fourth pillar," there is no logical reason for the Federal Government to hold nearly 30% of all of Guam's land, especially when thousands of acres will remain unused, undeveloped, and inaccessible to anyone except those who

are permitted on the bases, constricting local economic opportunities;

WHEREAS, many additional issues, beyond those specifically connected to the buildup, continue to exacerbate the relationship between the Federal Government and the people of Guam, and until these issues are fully discussed and acknowledged, and measurable progress on these issues is made, *I Liheslatura* and the people of Guam *cannot* be convinced that DoD is in any way serious about "listening carefully to the concerns of both the Government and people of Guam," as Secretary Work noted in his statement; and

WHEREAS, it is the belief of *I Liheslatura* that the DoD must, at a minimum, add a "fifth pillar" to Secretary Work's four pillars, this fifth pillar being "Guam's Agenda of Priority Concerns," a listing of which has been presented repeatedly over the years to several Presidents, many Congresses, and to the Department of Defense, with the end result being very little progress on Guam's federal-territorial issues, which are listed here:

- 1. Self-determination;
- 2. Political status;
- 3. War reparations;

4. Unreturned ancestral lands;

- 5. Clean-up of DoD generated environmental hazards;
- **6.** Investigation and treatment of serious health problems resulting from exposure to DoD generated environmental hazards;

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WHEREAS, in developing the four pillars, DoD's own research of recent Guam history should have revealed that the people of Guam consider these issues (individually and as a group) to be critical to Guam's future, and most have been festering for many years, with little more than platitudes on the part of DoD and the Federal Government to address and resolve them; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of the fifth pillar will be seen by *I Liheslatura* as a sign that DoD's proposed "four pillars" are actual proposals for real action in support of the government and people of Guam, and that the following more recent, yet still unresolved, federal-territorial issues, which were created by blatantly discriminatory acts on the part of the Federal Government, must also be subject to review:

• Inequitable funding caps on Medicaid and other federally mandated public assistance programs; these must be removed

1 (the American citizens of Guam are treated differently than the 2 American citizens living in the 50 states);

- Reimbursement to the Government of Guam for all Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC) paid or owed to Guam tax filers, and a commitment to fund all future EITC payment obligations (the American citizens of Guam are treated differently than the American citizens living in the 50 states);
- Full reimbursement to the Government of Guam for the impact costs of the Compacts of Free Association (the American citizens of Guam bear the balance of the costs, that have never been fully reimbursed, of a treaty between the United States and the Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Republic of Palau);
- Inclusion in the Supplemental Security Income program for the disabled (the American citizens of Guam are treated differently than the American citizens living in the 50 states);
- Exemption from the Jones Act, which continues to adversely impact Guam's cost of living and which applies fully **ONLY** to Guam among all U.S. insular areas (the American citizens of the U.S. insular area of Guam are treated differently

than the American citizens living in all other insular areas of the United States); and

• Promoting growth in Guam's tourism-based economy by authorizing a Guam-Only Visa Waiver Program for visitors; and by including visitors from the Philippines, Russia and the People's Republic of China on the list of approved countries for the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program (Guam is not permitted to grow its own economy, even when burdened by Federal inaction and constraints);

and

WHEREAS, until the United States Federal government is prepared to finally and realistically address the numerous constraints and inequalities that have been forced on the people of Guam, there will always be resistance from *I Liheslatura* and the people of Guam relative to an expanded military presence that seeks to achieve its goals without consideration of the constraints placed on our island home; and

WHEREAS, when the people of Guam are treated with the dignity they deserve, and with equality as the loyal, hard-working, patriotic Americans they have always been, then *I Liheslatura* and the people of Guam will be ready to fully accept and embrace the

buildup and the "five pillars" in the manner that Guam's future demands; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that I *Liheslaturan Guåhan* recognizes the need for safety and security in the Asia-Pacific region, and our duty, as loyal Americans, to support our Department of Defense (DoD) and our brave men and women in uniform; and be it further

RESOLVED, that *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* also recognizes and reminds the DoD that the buildup will bring added pressures on Guam's limited infrastructure and resources, making it necessary that DoD work in tandem with Guam and its people to create sustainable solutions for land and resources, **INFRASTRUCTURE** protection of historic and cultural treasures, timely return of unused land, elimination of inequitable federal requirements, and resolution of historic injustices that have been imposed upon the American citizens of Guam; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Honorable Robert M. Gates, Secretary of Defense; to the Honorable Ken Salazar, Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior; to the Honorable Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Navy; to the Honorable Robert O. Work, Under

- 1 Secretary of the Navy; to the Honorable Jackalyne Pfannenstiel,
- 2 Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations and
- 3 Environment; to the Honorable Tony Babauta, Assistant Secretary of
- 4 the Interior for Insular Areas; and to the Honorable Edward J.B.
- 5 Calvo, I Maga'lahen Guåhan.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2011.

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D. TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Speaker Legislative Secretary