

I MINA' TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN  
2011 (FIRST) REGULAR SESSION

Resolution No. 40-31 (COR)

Introduced By:

T.R. Muna Barnes  
B.J. Cruz

**Relative to requesting Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo to introduce legislation in the United States House of Representatives to amend the "Tourism Promotion Act of 2009", insuring Guam's access to millions of tourism related dollars from the federal government**

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

3 **WHEREAS**, President Barack Obama signed the "Travel Promotion Act  
4 of 2009" (The Act) into law on March 4<sup>th</sup> 2010; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the Act created "The Corporation for Travel Promotion" as a  
6 nonprofit corporation; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the corporation must provide useful information to foreign  
8 tourists, business people, students, scholars, scientists, and others interested in  
9 traveling to the United States; and

10

11 **WHEREAS**, this information must include the distribution of material  
12 provided by the Federal government concerning entry requirements, required

13 documentation, fees, processes, and information concerning declared public health  
14 emergencies, to prospective travelers, travel agents, tour operators, meeting  
15 planners, foreign governments, travel media and other international stakeholders;  
16 and

17 **WHEREAS**, the corporation must identify, counter, and correct  
18 misperceptions regarding United States entry policies around the world; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the corporation is tasked with maximizing the economic and  
20 diplomatic benefits of travel to the United States by promoting the United States of  
21 America to world travelers through the use of, but not limited to, all forms of  
22 advertising, outreach to trade shows, and other appropriate promotional activities;  
23 and

24 **WHEREAS**, the Act and its associated fee is intended to “support state,  
25 regional, and private sector initiatives to promote travel to and within the United  
26 States; and

27 **WHEREAS**, the island of Guam receives approximately 1.3 million  
28 tourists from throughout the world including Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, and  
29 others; and

30 **WHEREAS**, the Act requires that no later than September 30, 2009, that  
31 the Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish a fee for the use of the System  
32 and begin assessment and collection of that fee; and

33           **WHEREAS**, the initial fee shall be the sum of \$10.00 per travel  
34 authorization; and

35           **WHEREAS**, the US territory of Guam is not a part of the several “states”  
36 as defined by the Supreme Court of the United States of American and the Travel  
37 Promotion Act of 2009; and

38           **WHEREAS**, Guam’s exclusion may result in the loss of more than  
39 \$10, 000,000 in tourism promotion dollars to Guam; and

40           **WHEREAS**, the people of Guam have throughout our history sacrificed  
41 life, limb, and land in support of the American way of life; and

42           **WHEREAS**, Guam’s tourism industry accounts for approximately 60% of  
43 our island’s economic base; and

44           **WHEREAS**, any additional fees assessed to Guam’s visitors should be  
45 used to enhance the experience of visitors to Guam; and

46           **WHEREAS**, the island of Guam is the westernmost soil of the American  
47 Union; and fully deserving of full and fair treatment in federal programs that  
48 enhance our visitor base, enrich the international view of the “American” brand,  
49 and enrich our economy; and

50           **WHEREAS**, congressional action must be taken to include the island of  
51 Guam within the “Travel Promotion Act of 2009”; now, therefore, be it

52           **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does  
53 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, petition Congresswoman Madeleine Z.  
54 Bordallo to initiate the process of including Guam within the “Travel Promotion  
55 Act of 2009; and be it further

56           **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary  
57 attests to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter be  
58 transmitted to the Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam's Delegate to the U.S.  
59 Congress; and to the Honorable Eddie B. Calvo, *I Maga'lahen Guiihan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA 'TRENTAI UNU NA  
LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THIS 21<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2011.**

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JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.  
Speaker

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TINA ROSE MUNA BARNES  
Legislative Secretary