I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 15 Erom 2012 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. 600 -31 (COR)

Introduced by:

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D. T. R. Muña Barnes

Relative to recognizing and commending Victims Advocates Reaching Out (VARO) for their advocacy and crisis intervention services to victims of sexual assault and family violence

1BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I2MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:

WHEREAS, the non-profit organization, known as Victims Advocates
Reaching Out (VARO), is commemorating thirty years of advocacy and crisis
intervention services to victims of crime in Guam; and

6 WHEREAS, VARO , originally began as Counseling Advocates 7 Reaching Out or (CARO), to organize appropriate enforcement, legal and 8 supportive services to those affected by sexual assault and abuse; and

9 WHEREAS, CARO was entirely volunteer based and was comprised of 10 persons representing both the civilian and military sectors who provided 11 services to victims of sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, CARO expanded its services to victims of family violence in
13 1989 and became VARO; and

WHEREAS, VARO gained grant funding to hire staff and support crisis 1 intervention and prevention services; and 2

WHEREAS, VARO continued to provide advocacy 3 and crisis 4 intervention services twenty four (24) hours a day seven (7) days a week using 5 volunteers who, when trained are scheduled to respond to victims of sexual 6 assault and family violence; and

7 WHEREAS, VARO has become part of an island-wide network of 8 agencies responding to victims of sexual assault and family violence; and

9 WHEREAS, VARO and CARO combined have helped thousands of 10 victims in Guam, both primary and secondary, these past thirty years and , 11 now therefore, be it

12 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of I Mina'Trentai Unu Na 13 Liheslaturan Guåhan does hereby, on behalf I Liheslaturan Guåhan and the 14 people of Guam, recognizing and commending Victims Advocates Reaching Out (VARO) for their advocacy and crisis intervention services to victims of 15 16 sexual assault and family violence; and be it further,

17 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and 18 that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Victims Advocate 19 20 Reaching Out and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, I Maga'lahen Guåhan.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF *I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE DAY NOVEMBER 2012.

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D. Speaker **RORY J. RESPICIO** Chairperson, Committee on Rules

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES Legislative Secretary