





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

**Resolution No.** 8-31(COR)

Introduced by:

**Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.**   
**v. c. pangelinan**   
**R. J. Respicio**   
**T.C. Ada** 

2011 JAN 11 PM 4:36

**RELATIVE TO EXPRESSING THE OBJECTION OF *I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* TO THE 112TH UNITED STATES CONGRESS FOR RESTRICTING THE VOTING RIGHTS OF TERRITORIAL AND DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATES.**

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF *I MINA'TRENTAI***  
2 ***UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*:**

3 **WHEREAS**, the 112th United States Congress amended House rules whereby revoking  
4 the voting privileges for territorial and district Delegates in the Committee of the Whole; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the Delegate of Guam represents 173,430 U. S. citizens, and the Delegates  
6 from the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Northern Marianas, and Puerto Rico represent  
7 approximately 5 million U. S. citizens; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. citizens residing in Guam and the other territories and districts are  
9 NOT granted full representation and voting rights in the United States government, but have  
10 been granted limited representation in the person of a non-voting delegate to the House of

1 Representatives; and

2           **WHEREAS**, the 103rd United States Congress approved a rule to allow the four  
3 Delegates and One District Commissioner to vote in the Committee of the Whole as a  
4 ceremonial gesture; and

5           **WHEREAS**, the voting privileges of the Territorial and District Delegates in the  
6 Committee of the Whole were restored by the 111th United States Congress; and

7           **WHEREAS**, the majority in the 112<sup>th</sup> United States Congress determined that delegates  
8 should not be given voting privileges in the Committee of the Whole because they are non-state  
9 delegates; and

10           **WHEREAS**, the majority in the 112<sup>th</sup> United States Congress further determined that  
11 Territorial and District Delegate votes violate the idea of equal representation because the  
12 population of the territories and district is below the average population of a state; and

13           **WHEREAS**, the 112<sup>th</sup> United States Congress amended House Rules further restrict the  
14 already limited powers of the Territorial and District Delegates; and

15           **WHEREAS**, the amendment of the House Rules by the 112<sup>th</sup> United States Congress  
16 will impede the democratic process by restricting the representation of the approximately 5  
17 million U.S. citizens residing in Guam and the other territories and district; now, therefore, be it

18 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*, on behalf of the people of  
19 Guam, believes in the principles of democracy upon which the United States of America was  
20 founded; and be it further

21           **RESOLVED**, that *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* expresses its clear and unequivocal objection  
22 to the amendment of the House Rules by the 112<sup>th</sup> United States Congress, which amendment  
23 restricts voting rights for Territorial and District Delegates in the Committee of the Whole; and

1 be it further

2 **RESOLVED**, that the people of Guam, as U.S. citizens, must be granted full  
3 representation before the United States Congress; and be it further

4 **RESOLVED**, that *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* opposes all legislation, resolutions, and/or  
5 amendments that may limit and/or restrict the rights of citizens of Guam to representation before  
6 the United States Congress and/or any entity of the United States government; and be it further

7 **RESOLVED**, that *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* supports full restoration of voting privileges  
8 for Territorial and District Delegates, including the resolution introduced by Democratic  
9 Minority Whip Steny H. Hoyer (MD) to amend the 112th House Standing rules to allow the  
10 Territorial Delegates and Resident Commissioner to vote in the Committee of the Whole House;  
11 and be it further

12 **RESOLVED**, that *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* recognizes the United States government's  
13 duty to protect human rights and to ensure that all U. S. citizens have proper and adequate  
14 representation; and be it further

15 **RESOLVED**, that *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* urges the United States Congress to take  
16 immediate action to restore voting privileges to Territorial and District Delegates so as to ensure  
17 a fair democratic system for all U.S. citizens; and be it further

18 **RESOLVED**, that *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* urges the United States Congress to  
19 demonstrate a strong commitment to the U.S. citizens residing in Guam and the other territories  
20 and districts, recognizing that the voices of ALL U.S. citizens are important and must be  
21 recognized and represented in the United States House of Representatives; and be it further

22 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the  
23 adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Rep. John Boehner,

- 1 Speaker of the House of Representatives of the 112<sup>th</sup> United States Congress; to Rep. Eric
- 2 Cantor, Majority Leader of the House of Representatives of the 112<sup>th</sup> United States Congress; to
- 3 Rep. Nancy Pelosi, House Democratic Leader; to Rep. Steny Hoyer, Democratic Minority Whip;
- 4 to Congresswoman Madeline Bordallo; and to Honorable Edward J. B. Calvo, *I Maga'laha*
- 5 *Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I  
MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF  
JANUARY, 2011**

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**JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.**  
**Speaker**

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**RORY RESPICIO**  
**Chair, Committee on Rules**

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**TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES**  
**Legislative Secretary**