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<td>244-32 (COR)</td>
<td>T. R. Muna Barnes, Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D., B. J.F. Cruz</td>
<td>Relative to congratulating the Palau Community Association of Guam and the Palauan Community in recognition and commemoration of their independence on the auspicious occasion of the 19th Annual Celebration of the Establishment of the Republic of Belau.</td>
<td>10/1/13 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>10/5/13 7:00 p.m.</td>
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Resolution No. 244-32 (COR)

Introduced by: T. R. Muña Barnes
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.
B. J.F. Cruz
R. J. Respicio
T. C. Ada
V. Anthony Ada
FRANK B. AGUON, JR.
Chris M. Dueñas
Michael T. Limtiaco
Brant T. McCreadie
Tommy Morrison
Vicente (ben) C. Pangelinan
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
Michael F. Q. San Nicolas
Aline A. Yamashita, Ph.D.

Relative to congratulating the Palau Community Association of Guam and the Palauan community in recognition and commemoration of the auspicious occasion of the 19th Annual Celebration of the establishment of the Republic of Belau.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN:

WHEREAS, Palauans first greeted the British traders and government officials who were prominent visitors in the 18th century, followed by the expanding Spanish influence of the 19th century. After the serious confrontation in Micronesia between Spain and Germany, war was averted when Pope Leo XIII arbitrated the conflict and issued the Protocol of Rome in 1885 that reaffirmed Spanish sovereignty in Micronesia, but gave rights to do business and enter ports to Germany. Financially
exhausted with administering its colonies in Micronesia, Spain sold the islands to
Germany in 1899 for 4.2 Million Dollars. The German Eagle prevailed, taking all the
island groups except Guam; and

WHEREAS, the control of Micronesia then passed to Japan in 1914 by virtue
of the Japanese monitoring of German warships during World War I, and the islands
were legally granted to Japan by the League of Nations as a mandate in 1920 at the
Paris Peace Conference. After the defeat of Japan in World War II, and the historic
battles of Peleliu and Angaur in September 1944 that took the lives of more than
2,000 Americans and 10,000 Japanese, the United States gained control of what was
then called the Marshall, Caroline, and Mariana Islands through the United Nations
auspices in 1947 as part of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, with Palau being
administered as one of the three island groups’ six districts; and

WHEREAS, after forty-seven years as part of the U.N. Trust Territory of the
Pacific Islands under a U.S. administration, Palau’s leaders opted for separation from
the other island areas in a special referendum in 1978; and on July 9, 1980, the Palau
Constitution was ratified, and its first constitutional elections were held. The islands
then became known as the Republic of Palau in 1981; and

WHEREAS, Palau adopted self-government by way of its Constitution and the
Compact of Free Association with the United States, which was approved in 1993
after eight referendums and an amendment to the Palau Constitution; and

WHEREAS, in May 1994, the United Nations Trusteeship Council issued a
Resolution requesting the Government of the United States, in consultation with the
Government of Palau, to agree on a date on or about October 1, 1994, for the full entry
into force of the Compact of Free Association; and in July 1994, the President of the
United States, the Honorable William Clinton, reaffirmed October 1, 1994, as the
effective date of the Compact, provided, that all legal challenges to the Compact had
been resolved and they had been so resolved; and
WHEREAS, the Republic of Palau is an island nation in the northern Pacific Ocean, located east of the Philippines, and perched on the Kyushu-Palau Ridge. The westernmost cluster of the Caroline Islands consists of 20 large islands and 566 smaller islands, and is one of the world’s youngest and least populated nations; and

WHEREAS, Koror, or “Oreor,” the largest town in Palau, is where seventy (70) percent of the Republic’s population live and is the place that hosts most annual festivities and special events for the island nation, and was the site of the Palauan Capital from the time of its Independence in 1994 to 2006, when Melekeok became the new Capital; and

WHEREAS, the Republic of Palau joined the United Nations as its 185th member, and took its seat in the U.N. in December 1994; and

WHEREAS, the splendor of Palau’s tropical wonder, with emerald green islands stretching for many spectacular miles across pristine azure waters, is a Pacific jewel of limestone coral reefs rising majestically from the sea, nourished by ocean currents and sculpted by nature and time, creating the stunning, world-famous Rock Islands of Palau, a marvel of nature; and

WHEREAS, Palau was named as the number one Underwater Wonder of the World by Conservation, Education, Diving, Awareness and Marine-Research (CEDAM) International, an organization of divers, marine scientists and conservationists. Spectacular scuba diving locales, with coral reefs, blue holes, WWII wrecks, hidden caves and tunnels, and over 60 vertical drop-offs are found in Palau, where three major ocean currents meet to create an environment of abundance and enormous variety of marine life; the waters surrounding the Rock Islands literally teem with over 1,500 varieties of reef and pelagic fish, and more than four times the number of coral species found in the Caribbean; and

WHEREAS, this small nation, a world leader in the global struggle to save our planet, stands tall among the nations setting new standards for environmental
stewardship and nature conservancy, which has contributed enormously towards the progress of the people of Palau. The traditional leadership, the National Congress, and the President, have worked together to move towards developing a thriving and prosperous tourism industry and a vibrant future based on cultural integrity and protection of its natural resources; and

WHEREAS, Palau’s wealth is not just found in its natural beauty, but also in a blessing of human resources, a well-educated and highly talented people, an integration of modern technology, and developed techniques to weave these sources of natural and human wealth together to promote, protect, and conserve the most important resource of all: the traditions, culture, and history of a free and independent people, the nation of the Republic of Belau; and

WHEREAS, soon after World War II, the diversity of peoples from Palau brought their culture of hard work and respect for family and traditions to Guam, their home away from home; and

WHEREAS, on October 1, 2013, the Republic of Palau celebrates its 19th year of Independence commemorating the establishment of its statehood, followed by the Palauan community celebration on Guam on October 5, 2013; and

WHEREAS, from the mid-1970s to the early 1990s, the Palauan Community Association of Guam (PCAG) had an abai (community meeting house) at the Harmon cliffline area; and after several years of keeping a low profile, the PCAG has refocused its efforts on revitalizing the organization and the Palauan community on the island; and

WHEREAS, in July 2013, three state clubs, Melekeok, Ngiwal, and Ngchesar, combined their resources and built a new abai (meeting house) in the Lada area of Dededo; and

WHEREAS, the PCAG is the umbrella organization of all the Palauan non-profit organizations on Guam, representing the sixteen (16) states comprising the
Republic of Palau (Aimeliik, Airai, Angaur, Hatohobei, Kayangel, Koror, Melekeok, Ngaraard, Ngarchelong, Ngardmau, Ngatpang, Ngchesar, Ngeremlengui, Ngiwal, Peleliu, and Sonsorol); and

WHEREAS, from February to June 2013, the PCAG partnered with the Palau Softball League (PSL) to coordinate an annual softball tournament, which was held at the “Bill Muna Baseball Field” in Mangilao. The PSL gives further assistance and support to the Mangilao Mayor’s office by undertaking the beautification and upkeep of the field throughout the year. The PSL stays committed to its partnership with the PCAG by developing youth-focused programs that provide alternative sports and healthy activities for Palauan youth; and

WHEREAS, from December 2012 to January 2013, the PCAG rallied the community and coordinated a disaster relief drive in response to Typhoon Bopha that devastated Palau two weeks before Christmas. The Palau Community Association of Guam (PCAG) donated Ten Thousand Dollars ($10,000) to the Palau Chapter of the Red Cross, and also coordinated a month-long relief drive, collecting enough non-perishable items to fill a 20-foot container, which was shipped to Palau to help those most in need; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Palau Community Association of Guam are proud to be strong supporters of our island, and the general island community, in contributing to various educational, sports, and community charities over the past several years; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Palauan community have continued to enrich our proud tradition of diversity and endow our island of Guam with their unique and collective strength; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Committee on Rules of I Mina’Trentai Dos Na Lihesluran Guåhan does hereby, on behalf of I Lihesluran Guåhan and the people of Guam, recognize and congratulate the Palau Community Association of Guam and
the Palauan community on the 19th Annual Celebration of the establishment of the Republic of Palau, and join with the people of the Republic of Palau as they commemorate their 19th Independence Day by means of this celebration; and does further extend a sincere Un Dângkolo Na Si Yu’os Ma’âse’ to all our fellow Palauans on Guam for the positive contributions they have made for the betterment of our island community; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Honorable Tommy E. Remengesau, President of the Republic of Palau; to the Council of Chiefs; to the Palau Community Association of Guam; to Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo; 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 DOS NA LIHESLURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 4TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2013.

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

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary
VOTING SHEET

Resolution No. 244-32 (COR) T.R. Muña Barnes, Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D. B. J.F. Cruz - “Relative to congratulating the Palau Community Association of Guam and the Palauan community in recognition and commemoration of the auspicious occasion of the 19th Annual Celebration of the establishment of the Republic of Belau.”

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<td>SENATOR MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS</td>
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For Sponsor’s Office Use Only

Sponsor Signature: ____________________________

Staff Contact Person: Demec Rivera

Date: 10/4/13

For COR/Clerk’s Office Use Only

Name: ____________________________

Date: 10/4/13

Certified: ___ Returned: ___

Notes: ____________________________