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<th>Resolution No.</th>
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<tr>
<td>278-32 (LS)</td>
<td>T.R. Muña Barnes</td>
<td>Relative to commending and congratulating Alexander Xavier Gaces Allen for his athletic achievements, and on garnering a Silver Medal in Taekwondo, in the 68-74 kilogram class, while representing Guam at the 2013 6th East Asian Games, held in Tianjin, China.</td>
<td>11/26/13 3:10 p.m.</td>
<td>12/06/13 10:30 a.m.</td>
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</table>
Paragraph 1

Paragraph 2

Paragraph 3

Paragraph 4

Paragraph 5

Paragraph 6

Paragraph 7
WHEREAS, Alexander Allen, from the village of Barrigada, was born in Quezon City, Philippines; and he is the son of Guam residents, Esther Gaces Allen and Christopher Allen. He is a freshman at the University of Guam, majoring in criminal justice. After graduation, Alexander plans to get involved in the field of law enforcement as a career; and

WHEREAS, Alexander Allen first took interest in the martial arts at the age of 5 years old for the sole purpose of learning self-defense and the art of its science. As a child, Alexander’s father taught him the basics of Jeet Kune Do and Taekwondo. At this young age, he began his studies in martial arts philosophy and etiquette through the teachings of Bruce Lee’s “Tao of Jeet Kune Do” and “The Art of War” by Sun Tzu, as well as many other books by other martial arts philosophers. Martial arts is his passion, and he does not consider himself as a fighter, but rather as an artist; and

WHEREAS, through the help of his studies, and his teacher, Mike Ho, Alexander learned how a martial artist should think, feel, react, and behave as a proper “black belt”, and at the same time be “expressively you.” Freedom, adaptability, individuality, simplicity, directness, and efficiency is his way of combat, as well as his way of life; and

WHEREAS, while Taekwondo may be his main discipline, Alexander incorporates other martial arts in his practice, as well as in his way of practicing Taekwondo, while still abiding with competition rules, such as the footwork, body movement, and hand work of fencing and boxing, to include the directness of the Chinese martial art of Wing Chun; and

WHEREAS, Alexander expresses that combat is a game of chess. Not only must you be strong, but also crafty and smart. He learned that genuine skill comes not just from knowledge and practice, and also from discipline over one’s body, mind, and spirit. “Discipline the mind, the body follows”; and
WHEREAS, by 2005, the lessons of his father ceased, and Alexander enrolled in Taekwondo classes under the “Minors Taekwondo” program at the Barrigada Community Center, where he excelled tremendously and fought and beat those far above his belt ranking; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, Alexander transferred to the “James Hi Taekwondo Academy” in Maite, where he came in as a green belt in this art. In that same year, Alexander fought someone with a Red Belt, who was two levels above him, at a martial arts tournament held at the Westin Hotel. He dominated the three rounds and was declared the victor; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, Alexander competed against the “Universal Taekwondo Studios”; however, due to a foot injury beforehand, he lost his match. Later in 2009, his school was visited by the “Ultimate Martial Arts” (UMA) for a friendly challenge, and his match ended within 16 seconds due to an injury his opponent sustained with a kick to the head; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, at the age of 16, Alexander earned his 1st degree black belt. Weeks later, his school was visited again by the “Ultimate Martial Arts”, where he won his match in one round due to the great gap in the score between himself and his opponent, and his domination over him. The UMA visited again in 2011, and Alexander, facing a tough opponent, won his match in three rounds; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, while still attending the “James Ji Taekwondo Academy,” Alexander also began cross training with the UMA in Maite, studying boxing, kickboxing, and the use of various weapons. In April, he travelled with the instructor, Henry Herr, to Saipan to compete in the “Rites of Passage 14” event, where Alexander signed up for kickboxing and won his match after the third round. Months later, he competed in kickboxing again at the “DLX” Boxing and Kickboxing competition held at the Micronesia Mall; and
WHEREAS, later in 2013, Alexander entered his first “International” Taekwondo tournament at the “Wallis and Futuna Pacific Mini Games”, held on Wallis Island, in French Polynesia. Although Alexander faced two opponents for both the Bronze and Silver Medal, he lost his match for the Silver, but won his first match against an opponent from the island of Vanuatu, thus bringing the Bronze Medal back home to Guam; and

WHEREAS, while Alexander realizes that he is young, and still learning, he now has is eyes set on bringing home a Gold Medal from the 2016 Olympic Games to be held in Brazil; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that I Mina'Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guåhan does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize and does commend Alexander Xavier Gaces Allen for his numerous athletic achievements, and congratulate him on winning a Silver Medal in Taekwondo, in the 68-74 kilogram weight class, while representing Guam at the 2013 Sixth East Asian Games in Tianjin, China; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Alexander Xavier Gaces Allen; to his parents, Christopher and Ester Gaces Allen; to Mike Ho, trainer at the James Ji Taekwondo Academy; and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, I Maga’lahen Guåhan.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE I MINA ’TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 26TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2013.

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.
Speaker

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary