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<th>Resolution No.</th>
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<td>382-32 (LS)</td>
<td>Tommy Morrison</td>
<td>RELATIVE TO RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF MAY 2014 AS “LUPUS AWARENESS MONTH” AND FURTHER COMMENDING THE LUPUS AWARENESS GROUP OF GUAM FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING EFFORTS FOR BRINGING GREATER AWARENESS TO THIS INCURABLE DISEASE.</td>
<td>5/9/14 2:24 p.m.</td>
<td>05/16/14</td>
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<td>05/09/14</td>
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RESOLUTION NO. 382-32 (LS)

Resolution No. 382-32 (LS)

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

Relative to recognizing the observance of “Lupus Awareness Month” during the month of May 2014; and to further commending the Lupus Awareness Group of Guam for its outstanding efforts in bringing greater awareness of this incurable disease.

BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:

WHEREAS, each year, I Maga’lahen Guåhan designates the month of May as “Lupus Awareness Month” for our Island to recognize the estimated 1.5 to 2 million fellow Americans and Guamanians who have lupus; and

WHEREAS, lupus is an autoimmune disease in which the immune system is imbalanced causing inflammation and tissue damage to nearly every organ system in
the body, for which there is no known cure or cause, and despite the current
treatments and medications available, many lupus patients have symptoms that
prevent them from leading normal lives; and

WHEREAS, this debilitating medical disorder is highly prevalent in African-
American, Hispanic, Asian-American, Native-American and Pacific Islander women;
and it can be difficult to diagnose because its symptoms are similar to those of many
other diseases, creating challenges in understanding the causes and effects of lupus;
and

WHEREAS, on Guam, the diagnosing and treating of lupus is further
exacerbated by the lack of a Rheumatologist, a specialist in autoimmune diseases such
as lupus; and

WHEREAS, the Lupus Awareness Group of Guam (LAGG) was established in
April 2012 in order to provide support, to increase awareness, and to advocate for
individuals and their families affected by lupus on Guam; and

WHEREAS, the Lupus Awareness Group of Guam is led by a dedicated
volunteer Board of Directors, along with professional advisors, including local
healthcare providers. The primary objective of this Board is to provide advocacy and
identify the needs of persons with lupus to develop plans and implement strategies to
meet those needs; and

WHEREAS, the Lupus Awareness Group of Guam has a current membership
of seventy-five (75) women, men, and children of all ages and ethnicities living on
Guam; and it consists of patients afflicted by lupus, their caregivers, families, friends,
colleagues, healthcare providers, and supporters; and

WHEREAS, in the short time since its establishment, the Lupus Awareness
Group of Guam has undertaken many activities and advocacy campaigns, to include:
sunset waves, the “Put on Purple Day,” patient education activities, and the “Lupus,
Living and Learning” symposium. The organization’s future projects include working in cooperation with the Department of Public Health and Social Services and private health clinics to organize clinic visits for lupus patients with a visiting Rheumatologist on at least a quarterly basis. The LAGG also is working in cooperation with healthcare providers and the Department of Public Health and Social Services in developing a statistical registry of persons with lupus on Guam; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that I Mina’Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guåhan does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize the observance of “Lupus Awareness Month” during the month of May 2014, with the hope that more attention and awareness may be given to this incurable medical disorder; and does further commend and congratulate the Lupus Awareness Group of Guam for its outstanding contributions to our community in creating awareness and advocacy for persons living with lupus, their families, and caregivers; 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 Amylynn Anderson, LAGG Executive Director; to Joann L.G. Santos, LAGG Chairwoman; and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, I Maga’lahen Guåhan.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA’TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 1ST DAY OF MAY 2014.

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.  
Speaker

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES  
Legislative Secretary