

**I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	NOTES
324-35 (COR)	Tina Rose Muña Barnes	Relative to supporting the Republic of China's (Taiwan) participation in the World Health Organization and to further commending them for their successful response to the COVID-19 pandemic.	4/24/20 2:16 p.m.							

I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2020 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. 324 -35 (COR)

Introduced by:

Tina Rose Muña Barnes 

Relative to supporting the Republic of China's (Taiwan) participation in the World Health Organization and to further commending them for their successful response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

3 **WHEREAS**, One Hundred and Nine years ago on October 10, 1911, the
4 Republic of China was founded. The United States of America and the Republic of
5 China have been friends and allies for many years. Throughout this time the ties of
6 friendship and the commercial interests of the United States of America and the
7 Republic of China have developed into a strong partnership; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the freedom and democracy enjoyed by the people of the
9 Republic of China (Taiwan) are clearly demonstrated in the progress and growth of
10 the economy of this great country. In furthering its commitment to freedom and
11 democracy Taiwan continues to seek representation in international organizations; and

12 **WHEREAS**, in April 2008, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* adopted Legislative
13 Resolutions commending the efforts of the Republic of China (Taiwan) to promote
14 World Health and had endorsed Taiwan's observer status in the World Health
15 Assembly. The people of Guam maintained a special Sister-City relationship with the
16 people of Taipei City since 1973, and believe that good health is important to every

1 citizen of the world and believe that access to the highest standard of health
2 information and services is necessary to improve the public health; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the preamble of the World Health Organization (WHO)
4 Constitution states that “the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is
5 one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race,
6 religion, political belief, economic or social condition.” Taiwan’s twenty-three million
7 five hundred thousand (23,500,000) people wish to attend the WHA as an observer;
8 and have a population that is greater than three-fourths of member states already
9 admitted into the WHO. Because health and disease have no borders, it is in the best
10 interest of the human condition that Taiwan be afforded observership in the WHO in
11 order to benefit from information regarding the prevention, monitoring and cure of
12 epidemic diseases, prevention of terrorist bio-chemical attacks, and discussions of
13 global health policies; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Taiwan’s achievement in the field of health are substantial,
15 including one of the highest life expectancy levels in Asia; maternal and infant
16 mortality rates comparable to those of western countries; the eradication of such
17 infectious diseases as cholera, smallpox and the plague; and being the first nation to
18 eradicate polio and provide children with Hepatitis B vaccinations; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Direct and unobstructed participation in international health
20 cooperation forums and programs is beneficial for all parts of the world, especially
21 with today’s greater potential for cross-border spread of various infectious diseases
22 such as human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), tuberculosis, malaria, and the 2019
23 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). The 2019, Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)
24 pandemic that has ravaged the World has shown the acute need for the complete
25 cooperation of all members of the international community in matters of health.
26 Because we live in a world that is closely linked by travel and commerce, any

1 loophole in the prevention and treatment network presents a danger for the entire
2 global community; and

3 **WHEREAS**, On January 5, 2020, the WHO published their first Disease
4 Outbreak News on Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the public health response to
5 the cases in Wuhan China (People’s Republic of China). Prior to the WHO’s January
6 5th publication, the Republic of China (Taiwan) initiated a series of one hundred
7 twenty-four (124) actions to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak from December 31st
8 to February 21st. Due to their decisive response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Taiwan
9 currently has four hundred twenty-five (425) confirmed COVID-19 cases, and six (6)
10 deaths out of a population of twenty-three million five hundred thousand
11 (23,500,000). On March 19, 2020, President Tsai Ing-wen announced on Twitter that
12 the Republic of China (Taiwan) is “willing to contribute [their] capabilities to better
13 protect human health around the world;” and on April 1, 2020 Taiwan pledged to
14 donate ten million (10,000,000) masks to the United States, and eleven (11) other
15 countries, as well as, their diplomatic allies. Taiwan’s commitment to their fellow
16 nations during the COVID-19 pandemic is just one of several instances in which the
17 Republic has expressed their willingness to provide the WHO with financial and
18 technical assistance; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the World Health assembly has allowed observers to participate in
20 activities of the organization, including the Palestine Liberation Organization in 1974,
21 the Order of Malta, and the Holy See in the early 1950s. The United States, in the
22 1994 Taiwan Policy Review, declared its intention to support Taiwan’s participation
23 in appropriate international organizations. U.S. Public Law 106-137 required the
24 Secretary of State to submit a report to the congress on efforts by the executive branch
25 to support Taiwan’s participation in international organizations, in particular the
26 WHO; and

1 **WHEREAS**, in line with the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979, Asia Reassurance
2 Initiative Act of 2018, as well as the recently enacted Taiwan Allies International
3 Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act of 2019, Guam intends to
4 continue to maintain relationships with one of our closest democratic countries in the
5 Pacific; now, therefore be it

6 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'trentai Singko Na*
7 *LiheSlaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, in light of all
8 benefits that the Republic of China's (Taiwan) participation in the WHO can bring to
9 the state of health not only in Taiwan, but also regionally and globally, Taiwan and its
10 twenty-three million five hundred thousand (23,500,000) people should have
11 appropriate and meaningful participation in the WHO. As noted in his speech made in
12 the World Medical Association on May 14, 2002, Secretary of Health and Human
13 Services Tommy Thompson announced America's work for a healthy world cuts
14 across political lines. According to Secretary Thompson, the U.S. government
15 supports Taiwan's efforts to gain observer status at the World Health Assembly; and
16 be it further

17 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'trentai Singko Na LiheSlaturan Guåhan*, on behalf of
18 the people of Guam, does hereby express its support for the people of Taiwan, that
19 they deserve the same level of public health as citizens of every nation on earth, and
20 that we support them in their efforts to achieve its objective to become an observer of
21 WHO; and commend them for their successful response to the COVID-19 pandemic;
22 and be it further

23 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules
24 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of
25 the same be thereafter transmitted to the Honorable Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus,
26 Director General, World Health Organization; to the Honorable Donald J. Trump,
27 President of the United States of America; to the Honorable Mike Pompeo, Secretary

1 of State, United States of America; to the Honorable Alex M. Azar II, Secretary of
2 Health and Human Services, United States of America; to Her Excellency Tsai Ing-
3 wen, President, Republic of China (Taiwan); to His Excellency Joseph Wu, Minister,
4 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of China (Taiwan); to the Honorable Chen
5 Shih-Chung, Minister, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Republic of China (Taiwan);
6 to His Excellency Wallace M.G Chow, Ambassador of the Republic of China
7 (Taiwan) in Palau; to the Honorable António Guterres, Secretary General of the
8 United Nations; to the United States Congressional Taiwan Caucus; to the Honorable
9 Michael F.Q. San Nicolas, Guam's Delegate to the United States Congress and to the
10 Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF
I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE DAY
OF**

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Speaker

RÉGINE BISCOE LEE
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary