<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resolution No.</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Date Intro</th>
<th>Date of Presentation</th>
<th>Date Adopted</th>
<th>Date Referred</th>
<th>Referred to</th>
<th>PUBLIC HEARING DATE</th>
<th>DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>323-35 (COR)</td>
<td>Committee on Rules</td>
<td>Relative to adding new Sections 20.01 through 20.03 to a new Rule XX, Part G, I Mina'Trentai Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan Otden Areklamento (the 35th Guam Legislature Standing Rules) to temporarily authorize I Liheslatura to conduct committee meetings and public hearings remotely during a public health emergency or state of emergency declared as a result of the effects of COVID-19 on Guam.</td>
<td>4/22/20 4:13 p.m.</td>
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Resolution No. 323-35 (COR)

Introduced by: Committee on Rules

Relative to adding new Sections 20.01 through 20.03 to a new Rule XX, Part G, I Mina'Trentai Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan Otden Areklamento (the 35th Guam Legislature Standing Rules) to temporarily authorize I Liheslatura to conduct committee meetings and public hearings remotely during a public health emergency or state of emergency declared as a result of the effects of COVID-19 on Guam.

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

WHEREAS, I Mina'Trentai Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan Otden Areklamento (the 35th Guam Legislature Standing Rules) establishes the rules and procedures of I Mina'Trentai Sinkgo Na Liheslaturan Guåhan; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, Governor Leon Guerrero issued Executive Order 2020-03, declaring a state of emergency pursuant to 5 GCA § 19401 for Guam as a result of the effects of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) on the island; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, Governor Leon Guerrero, in consultation with the Department of Public Health and Social Services and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, implemented a fourteen (14) day suspension of non-essential Government of Guam (GovGuam) operations; and
WHEREAS, in conjunction with the Governor Leon Guerrero’s fourteen (14) day suspension of non-essential GovGuam operations, on March 16, 2020, I Liheslatura implemented a fourteen (14) day suspension of non-essential operations of the Guam Legislature in an effort to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak and flatten the curve; and

WHEREAS, I Liheslatura finds that in light of the public health emergency on Guam caused by the COVID-19 outbreak and the high risks posed to the public, legislative employees, and Members of the Legislature during in-person meetings, other means of safely conducting legislative business to respond to the emergency on a temporary basis must be considered; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Committee on Rules of I Mina'Trentai Singko Na Lihesluran Guåhan does hereby add new Sections 20.01 through 20.03 to a new Rule XX of Part G of the 35th Guam Legislature Standing Rules, to read:

“PART G
TEMPORARY RULES DURING A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

RULE XX
TEMPORARY RULES GOVERNING PROCEDURE DURING A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

Section 20.01. Committee Meetings and Public Hearings Conducted During Public Health Emergency. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, rule, or these Standing Rules, during a public health emergency or declaration of state of emergency as a result of the effects of COVID-19 on Guam, as declared by I Maga'hågan Guåhan, Standing Committees of I Lihesluran Guåhan may convene and conduct committee meetings and
public hearings remotely via videoconference or similar technological means, allowing Members of Standing Committees and the public to participate. Standing Committees shall comply, to the extent practicable, with protocol established under Section 20.02 of this Rule XX and existing provisions of these Standing Rules governing procedure for committee meetings and public hearings.

Section 20.02. Protocol and Compliance with Standing Rules. The Committee on Rules shall establish and communicate to all Members the protocols and procedures governing committee meetings and public hearings conducted via videoconference or other technological means as authorized under this Rule XX to ensure order and fair opportunities for all Members and the public to participate. To the extent practicable, procedures and requirements for committee meetings, and public hearings conducted via videoconference or other technological means shall be governed by these Standing Rules.

Section 20.03. Expiration Upon Termination of Public Health Emergency. Unless amended or revoked by I Liheslatura, the authority to call or conduct committee meetings or public hearings via videoconference or other technological means as provided under this Rule XX, shall expire when the declaration of a public health emergency or state of emergency as a result of the effects of COVID-19 on Guam is terminated by I Maga’hågan Guåhan’s executive order, proclamation, or operation of law.”; 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 Members of *I Mina’Trentai Singko Na Lihesluran Guåhan*; to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga’håhan Guåhan*; to Ms. Rennae Vanessa C. Meno, Clerk of the Legislature; and to Mr. Joseph R. San Agustin, Executive Director of the Legislature.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF *I MINA’TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE ___ DAY OF ________ 2020.

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TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES          RÉGINE BISCOE LEE
Speaker                          Chairperson, Committee on Rules

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AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary