

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN

2024 (SECOND) Regular Session

VOTING RECORD

Resolution No. 179-37 (LS) As amended by the Author.	Speaker Antonio R. Unpingco Legislative Session Hall Guam Congress Building April 26, 2024					
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NAME	Aye	Nay	Not Voting/ Abstained	Out During Roll Call	Absent	Excused
Senator Chris Barnett	✓					
Senator Frank Blas, Jr.	✓					
Senator Joanne Brown	✓					
Senator Christopher M. Dueñas	✓					
Senator Thomas J. Fisher	✓					
Senator Jesse A. Lujan	✓					
Vice Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes	✓					
Senator William A. Parkinson	✓					
Senator Sabina Flores Perez	✓					
Senator Roy A. B. Quinata	✓					
Senator Joe S. San Agustin	✓					
Senator Dwayne T. D. San Nicolas	✓					
Senator Amanda L. Shelton	✓					
Senator Telo T. Taitague	✓					
Speaker Therese M. Terlaje	✓					

TOTAL	15	0			0	0
	Aye	Nay	Not Voting/ Abstained	Out During Roll Call	Absent	Excused

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

AQ

JOAQUIN P. TAITAGUE
Clerk of the Legislature

I = Pass

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2023 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 179-37 (LS)

As amended by the Author.

*

Introduced by:

Jesse A. Lujan
Chris Barnett
Sabina Flores Perez
Roy A. B. Quinata
Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas
Joanne M. Brown
William A. Parkinson
Telo T. Taitague
Christopher M. Dueñas
Frank Blas, Jr.
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Joe S. San Agustin
Therese M. Terlaje
Thomas J. Fisher

Relative to requesting the United States Congress and the Biden Administration to favorably consider providing the multi-year funding needed to harden Guam's infrastructure to meet the goals of installation resiliency and ensure Guam is capable of withstanding future natural and manmade threats and disasters.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN***
2 ***GUÅHAN*:**

3 **WHEREAS**, the 2022 National Security Strategy describes the Indo-Pacific as
4 the “epicenter of 21st Century Geopolitics” and the 2022 Quadrennial Defense Review
5 reaffirmed Guam as one of the most critical operating bases for U.S. efforts to maintain

1 a free and open Indo-Pacific Region, allowing Washington D.C. to project power eight
2 thousand (8,000) miles to the west right into the heart of the so-called “second island
3 chain” which is absolutely critical to sustaining and strengthening U.S. deterrence
4 against China; and

5 **WHEREAS**, President Joseph Biden recently stated, “Cybersecurity is essential
6 to the basic functioning of our economy, the operation of our critical infrastructure, the
7 strength of our democracy and democratic institutions, the privacy of our data and
8 communications, and our national defense”; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Microsoft recently reported that Chinese hackers attacked and
10 interrupted part of the island’s telecommunications network as well as infiltrated
11 multiple Guam-based companies’ internal networks. The hackers disrupted local
12 services and business operations. Until Microsoft uncovered and announced the
13 cyberattack, the vast majority of Guam residents were unaware of the cause and reason
14 for the disrupted telecommunications services the island experienced during that period;
15 and

16 **WHEREAS**, in May 2023, Guam was struck by Typhoon Mawar, a Category 4
17 storm that caused significant damage to the island including critical water, power and
18 communications infrastructure underpinning civilian and military operations; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Guam lies in a region of the Pacific that has a long history of
20 typhoon strikes, and the National Weather Service has affirmed that an *El Niño* weather
21 pattern and warmer ocean temperatures in 2023 are likely to bring more catastrophic
22 typhoons to the region which are viewed as a threat multiplier that must be mitigated;
23 and

24 **WHEREAS**, the stark comparisons made between Guam’s challenges in
25 recovering from Typhoon Mawar and Florida’s relatively swift recovery from
26 Hurricane Ian highlighted the striking disparity in rebounding from natural disasters and

1 emphasized the urgent need for federal assistance and concerted efforts to bolster
2 Guam’s resilience and aid its recovery efforts; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the Congressional Research Service in June of 2023 issued a report
4 on U.S. Defense Infrastructure in the Indo-Pacific underscoring the critical importance
5 of reinforcing and building out a resilient security architecture in the Indo-Pacific
6 region, with Guam as the strategic hub for U.S. military operations, and further
7 reinforcing that one of the most cost-effective ways to improve base resilience are
8 robust passive defenses, including basic infrastructure hardening; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Defense has committed to building an
10 extensive Missile Defense System at over \$1.5 Billion Dollars to protect Guam and its
11 assets; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Defense has already begun the
13 development of mobile nuclear microreactors for potential use in Guam to supplement
14 power generation as it clearly recognizes the deficiencies and limitations of Guam’s
15 current power generation and electrical grid; and the need to develop microreactors as
16 an option demonstrates how significant and crucial it is to improve and harden Guam’s
17 power generation and electrical grid; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Defense has invested billions of dollars
19 more in Guam in upgrades and operations for Andersen Air Force Base, Naval Station
20 and soon the first new Marine Base in seventy (70) years, with over \$4 Billion Dollars
21 more in current NDAA authorizations set to be spent on Guam; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the most critical element of installation resiliency is the hardening
23 and resiliency of the electricity, water and communications infrastructure on Guam that
24 is relied upon by the military and civilian community alike and underpins all operations
25 of all U.S. Armed Forces, and the missile defense system; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Guam should not be treated as a backwater region or an
2 afterthought of the U.S. Congress and the Executive Branch. The rapid improvement
3 and hardening of Guam's power and water infrastructure is long overdue; and the federal
4 government and the U.S. military should invest the money necessary to put all main
5 power lines underground and build concrete bunkers over all power-generating facilities
6 as a matter of national security; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the Guam Power Authority and the Guam Waterworks Authority,
8 which service the military and civilian populations, have developed plans to place the
9 electrical system underground and harden water production and distribution systems
10 thus protecting them from powerful typhoons which are a recurring and ongoing threat
11 faced by the island, and from any other natural or man-made disasters that may threaten
12 Guam; and

13 **WHEREAS**, hardening the power system will also contribute to resiliency of
14 critical internet and communications systems to withstand any potential natural or man-
15 made disasters that may occur; and

16 **WHEREAS**, with China setting Guam directly in their sights for both missile
17 strikes and cyberattacks, and as the "Tip of the Spear" for the U.S. military in the Indo-
18 Pacific region, Guam must be fortified and its infrastructure upgraded. *I Liheslaturan*
19 *Guåhan* believes additional funding for major improvements and the hardening of
20 Guam's power system should be included in upcoming National Defense Authorization
21 Acts, FEMA, and other pertinent federal agencies; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the limited population of Guam and the existing high cost of living
23 there, caused by its geographic location and the need to adhere to policies that impact
24 its economy, make it economically unfeasible for the local civilian population to
25 shoulder the cost of hardening the infrastructure; and

1 **WHEREAS**, it is in the best interests of the U.S. Department of Defense to assist
2 Guam in obtaining funding to improve infrastructure resiliency through the hardening
3 of Guam’s power, water and communications systems, which will result in improved
4 force readiness and significant cost savings during future storm recovery efforts for the
5 U.S. Department of Defense and all other federal agencies involved in said efforts; now
6 therefore, be it

7 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,
8 on behalf of the people of Guam, request that the United States Congress and the Biden
9 Administration favorably consider providing the multi-year funding needed to harden
10 Guam’s infrastructure to meet the goals of installation resiliency and ensure Guam is
11 capable of withstanding future natural and manmade threats and disasters; and be it
12 further

13 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the
14 adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Honorable
15 Joseph R. Biden, Jr., President of the United States; the Honorable Lloyd Austin, U.S.
16 Secretary of Defense; the Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas, U.S. Secretary of Homeland
17 Security; the Honorable Deb Haaland, Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior;
18 the Honorable Mike Johnson, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the
19 Honorable Charles Schumer, U.S. Senate Majority Leader; the Honorable Mike
20 Rodgers, U.S. House Armed Services Committee Chairman; the Honorable Jack Reed,
21 U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman; the Honorable Erik Raven, U.S.
22 Undersecretary of the Navy; the Honorable James C. Moylan, Guam Delegate to the
23 U.S. Congress; and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE DAY OF 2024.

THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker

AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary