


I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN

2024 (SECOND) Regular Session

VOTING RECORD

	Speaker Antonio R. Unpingco Legislative Session Hall Guam Congress Building October 7, 2024					
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	13	0			2	2
	Aye	Nay	Not Voting/ Abstained	Out During Roll Call	Absent	Excused

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:


 JOAQUIN P. TAITAGUE
 Clerk of the Legislature

I = Pass

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2024 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. 441-37 (LS)

As amended on the Floor.

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Introduced by:

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

Relative to expressing support for the passage of H.R. 8786, introduced in the United States House of Representatives, which seeks to provide for a cabotage exemption for foreign air carriers landing in Guam or the Northern Mariana Islands.

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

3 **WHEREAS, Guam, being a geographically distant territory from the Continental**
4 **United States, relies heavily on air travel to the U.S. for the importation of goods and**

1 commodities, healthcare needs, as well as for business, education, and other personal
2 reasons; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the restrictive nature of the cabotage laws places a heavy economic
4 burden on the people of Guam and businesses in the region. The current aviation
5 cabotage policy, as defined by the Federal Aviation Act of 1958, prohibits foreign
6 airlines from transporting passengers or cargo between two (2) points within the United
7 States, including its territories such as Guam; and

8 **WHEREAS**, these policies have far reaching consequences on the people of
9 Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands; and as the regional economic hub, these
10 consequences are further felt in other islands across Micronesia; and

11 **WHEREAS**, since the departure of Delta Air Lines in 2018, the residents of
12 Guam for the first time in many decades have been served by a single American-based
13 airline for passenger air travel. Since then, airfare tickets have increased, as well as the
14 cost of goods, and residents and stakeholders continue to raise concerns on fair
15 competition in the airline industry; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the people of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands have been
17 left to shoulder rising airfare tickets and cost of goods, exacerbating quality of life issues
18 in comparison to Americans living in the continental United States. Often travel
19 between our two (2) islands can be too cost prohibitive, slowing down economic
20 collaboration in this region. Moreover, Guam and the Northern Marianas Islands
21 tourism industries are unable to compete with similar destinations in the region due to
22 the cost to get to our islands; and

23 **WHEREAS**, additionally, having a limited number of airlines in Guam poses
24 safety and security concerns pressuring emergency responsiveness during times of
25 crisis, including typhoons, and especially during heightened geopolitical tensions in the
26 region; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the island economies in Micronesia are especially vulnerable to
2 rising airfare and air freight costs. Leaders from the island nations in Micronesia have
3 stated their concerns with being served by one (1) passenger airliner. This issue
4 continues to be a top priority among policymakers in the region. Without meaningful
5 economic stimulation, island nations are more susceptible to dollar diplomacy from
6 other adversarial nations to provide for the basic needs of their island nations; and

7 **WHEREAS**, a cabotage exemption on passenger and freight travel can alleviate
8 quality of life issues affecting the people living in Guam and the Northern Mariana
9 Islands and stimulate the region’s stagnant economy; and

10 **WHEREAS**, H.R. 8786, introduced by the Honorable James C. Moylan, Guam
11 Delegate to the U.S. Congress, is crucial to addressing the increasing challenges faced
12 by Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands due to existing cabotage laws; and

13 **WHEREAS**, a cabotage exemption for Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands
14 through H.R. 8786 would foster economic development through competitive airfare
15 pricing and facilitate more efficient and affordable access to goods and services.
16 Moreover, the exemption can further aid in addressing supply chain issues in the nation
17 through transshipment opportunities in Guam; and

18 **WHEREAS**, with increasing pressures from adversarial nations in the region,
19 the exemption aids in the security and the economic resiliency and sustainability across
20 Micronesia; now therefore, be it

21 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* (the 37th Guam
22 legislature) does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, express support for the
23 passage of H.R. 8786, introduced in the United States House of Representatives, which
24 seeks to provide for a cabotage exemption for foreign air carriers landing in Guam or
25 the Northern Mariana Islands; and be it further

1 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the
2 adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Honorable
3 Joseph R. Biden, President of the United States of America; to the Honorable James C.
4 Moylan, Guam Delegate to the United States Congress; to the Honorable Sam Graves,
5 Chairman of the U.S. House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; and to the
6 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 MONTH 2024.