


I MINA' TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN
2014 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 351-32 (LS)

Introduced by:

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D. 

AN ACT TO AMEND § 1022 OF CHAPTER 10,
ARTICLE 1 OF TITLE 1, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED,
RELATIVE TO THE GUAM FLOWER.

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1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

2 Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*

3 finds that Guam's National Flower is the *Bougainvillea* (*Bougainvillea*
4 *glabra*), or *Puti Tai Nobio* in *Chamorro*, a vine flowering plant native to and
5 introduced from South America, specifically, the countries of Brazil and
6 Peru and is considered as an invasive species to the islands. *I Liheslaturan*
7 *Guåhan* finds that the *Bougainvillea* are the official flowers of Guam;
8 Lienchiang and Pingtung Counties, Taiwan; Ipoh, Malaysia; the cities of
9 Tagbilaran, Philippines; Camarillo, California USA; Laguna Niguel,
10 California USA; San Clemente, California USA; the cities of Shenzhen,

1 Huizhou, Zhuhai, and Jiangmen in Guangdong Province, China; and
2 Naha, Okinawa. *I Liheslatura* finds that the Torchwood (*Bikkiamarianensis* /
3 *Bikkietetrandra*), or *Gaosåli* in the *Chamorro* language, a plant endemic to the
4 Mariana Islands was nominated to be the national flower in the
5 past. *Gaosåli*, characterized by oblong green leaves and long tubular square
6 white flowers are exceptionally beautiful, are now found growing on the
7 rugged limestone cliffs near the ocean due to development. Lastly, *I*
8 *Liheslatura* finds that the *Gaosåli* was used a wick for lighting during the
9 night and as a torch light by our *Chamorro* ancestors. The stems contain a
10 flammable element and can be used as candles for lighting when cut into
11 short sections (University of Guam, Agriculture and Natural Resources,
12 Guam Cooperative Extension – Plants of Guam 99-2).

13 *I Liheslatura*, therefore, intends to pass legislation that will make the *Gaosåli*
14 the national flower of Guam and will serve to represent the unique and
15 rich heritage and culture of Guam.

1 **Section 2.** § 1022, Chapter 10, Title 1, Guam Code Annotated, is
2 hereby *amended* to read:

3 “§ 1022. **Guam Flower.** There shall be and is hereby adopted an
4 official National flower which shall be the local flower known as “*Puti Tai*
5 ~~*Nobio.*~~” — “*Gaosâli.*”

6 **Section 3. Severability.** *If* any provision of this law or its application
7 to any person *or* circumstance is found to be invalid *or* contrary to law,
8 such invalidity *shall not* affect other provisions or applications of this law
9 which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or applications,
10 and to this end the provisions of this law are severable.