

**I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN**  
**2009 (FIRST) Regular Session**

**Resolution No. 74 (LS)**

As amended.

Introduced by:

Ray Tenorio  
Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.  
E. J.B. Calvo  
T. C. Ada  
F. B. Aguon, Jr.  
F. F. Blas, Jr.  
B. J.F. Cruz  
J. V. Espaldon  
Judith P. Guthertz, DPA  
T. R. Muña Barnes  
v. c. pangelinan  
M. J. Rector  
R. J. Respicio  
Telo Taitague  
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

**Relative to recognizing the month of April 2009 as “Child Abuse Prevention Month” with the theme: “Focusing on the Future: Strengthening Families and Communities” and to commending the employees of government and non-government agencies and volunteers of private organizations for providing care and services to victims.**

1           **BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN**

2 **GUÁHAN:**

3           **WHEREAS**, Child Abuse Prevention Month is aimed at bringing to light  
4 the abuse and neglect suffered by children, and the need to provide programs  
5 to prevent child abuse and to assist parents and families affected by child  
6 maltreatment; and

7           **WHEREAS**, there was a total of one thousand one hundred seventy-six  
8 (1,176) referrals of suspected abuse made in 2008 to Child Protective Services,  
9 involving one thousand nine hundred seventy-five (1,975) children, with one  
10 hundred ninety seven (197) children in foster care; and

11           **WHEREAS**, most cases of child abuse are never reported, and children  
12 endure the pain and suffering in silence waiting to be saved; and

13           **WHEREAS**, families are regarded as a central and integral part of a  
14 child's safety and well-being, and families with limited resources, or those  
15 facing additional challenges, have a greater need for support and assistance;  
16 and

17           **WHEREAS**, Child Protective Services under the Bureau of Social  
18 Services Administration of the Division of Public Welfare, Department of  
19 Public Health and Social Services, is responsible for receiving and  
20 investigating reports of child abuse and neglect; providing protective services  
21 to safeguard and ensure the child's well-being, executing protective custody if  
22 necessary; preserving and stabilizing the family whenever appropriate;

1 providing direct services to support families in addressing the problems that  
2 led to maltreatment and reducing the risk of future abuse; coordinating  
3 services provided by other professionals; developing individualized case  
4 plans and monitoring the progress of the case; attending court hearings;  
5 participating in case reviews and treatment team meetings; and educating the  
6 community about child abuse and neglect, and its prevention; and

7       **WHEREAS**, child abuse prevention programs succeed at the  
8 community level because of partnerships forged among families, social  
9 service agencies, schools, religious and civic organizations, and law  
10 enforcement agencies; and

11       **WHEREAS**, Child Protective Services joins forces with many agencies  
12 on island in its efforts to protect children and strengthen families, including,  
13 but not limited to: Guam Police Department, Guam Memorial Hospital  
14 Authority, Office of the Attorney General, Department of Mental Health and  
15 Substance Abuse, Guam Public School System, Department of Youth Affairs,  
16 Superior Court of Guam, Department of Integrated Services for Individuals  
17 with Disabilities, Navy Fleet and Family Support Center and Andersen Air  
18 Force Base Family Advocacy Program, Catholic Social Services, Sanctuary  
19 Incorporated, Erica’s House, and Victims Advocates Reaching Out; and

20       **WHEREAS**, we acknowledge the negative effects of child abuse and  
21 child neglect, and take responsibility by supporting parents to raise their  
22 children in a safe and nurturing environment, thereby strengthening the

1 communities in which we live; and

2         **WHEREAS**, Guam joins the nation in recognizing the month of April  
3 2009 as “Child Abuse Prevention Month”, and celebrating it with the theme:  
4 “Focusing on the Future: Strengthening Families and Communities”; now,  
5 therefore, be it

6         **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina’Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on  
7 behalf of the people of Guam, commend the employees of the Child Protective  
8 Services Program under the Bureau of Social Services Administration of the  
9 Division of Public Welfare, Department of Public Health and Social Services,  
10 and the employees and volunteers of private organizations for their efforts in  
11 the prevention of child abuse and neglect and for the services they provide to  
12 children; and be it further

13         **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify and the Legislative Secretary attest  
14 to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted  
15 to the Child Protective Services Program under the Bureau of Social Services  
16 Administration of the Division of Public Welfare, Department of Public  
17 Health and Social Services; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I*  
18 *Maga’lahen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN* ON THE 31<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2009.



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**BENJAMIN J.F. CRUZ**  
Acting Speaker



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**TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES**  
Legislative Secretary