


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

Resolution No. **B** (COR)

Introduced by:

Rory J. Respicio 

Relative to adding a new Section 4.02.05 to Rule IV, "Convening and Sessions," of *I Mina'Trenta na Liheslaturan Guåhan's Otden Areklamento* (Thirtieth Guam Legislature's Standing Rules) to increase transparency in the legislative process.

2009 JAN 20 PM 2:43


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

2 ***GUÅHAN*:**

3 **WHEREAS**, the practice of having session meetings of *I Liheslaturan*
4 *Guåhan* during the late night hours has been criticized on numerous
5 occasions over the years; and

6 **WHEREAS**, it is desirable that the public be aware of the actions of
7 the government at the times that they are taken and these actions should be
8 taken at times that are easily accessible to the public; and

9 **WHEREAS**, late night work hours and excessively long work hours
10 are not conducive to good performance, whether by government officials
11 or other workers; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the practice of late night sessions and long hours have
13 frequently been linked with a lack of transparency in our government, even

1 when they are caused by impending deadlines associated with the passage
2 of the government budget; and

3 **WHEREAS**, although they are carried on cable television, late night
4 and overnight sessions are difficult for the public to follow when actions
5 are taken in the early-morning hours, well after most people have retired
6 for the evening; and

7 **WHEREAS**, *I Liheslatura* should be able to plan its session schedule in
8 such a fashion that its work is accomplished transparently, and at times
9 when the majority of the island's population is able to follow the debate,
10 either from the Public Hearing Room or on the cable channel 13, now,
11 therefore, be it

12 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trente Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby
13 add a new § 4.02.05 to Rule IV, Convening and Sessions, of *Mina'Trenta na*
14 *Liheslaturan Guåhan's Otden Ariklamento* (Thirtieth Guam Legislature's
15 Standing Rules) to require sessions to be held between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00
16 p.m. on each calendar or session day that session is convened; and be it
17 further

18 **RESOLVED**, that the new Section 4.02.05 shall read:

19 **"Section 4.02.05. Sessions to be held between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00**
20 **p.m.** Convening of sessions and continuation of session meetings shall be
21 after 7:00 a.m. each calendar day, and each session shall be recessed or

1 adjourned on each calendar day as near as possible to 10:00 p.m., taking
2 into account finishing the immediate matter at hand on the floor at that
3 hour.”; and be it further

4 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairman of the Committee on
5 Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to the adoption hereof
6 and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Honorable Felix
7 P. Camacho, *I Maga’lahen Guåhan*

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES
OF I MINA’TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE _____
DAY OF _____ 2009.**

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed. D.
Speaker

RORY J. RESPICIO
Senator and Chairperson
Committee on Rules

TINA ROSE MUÑA-BARNES
Senator and
Legislative Secretary