

I MINA' TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2009 (First) REGULAR SESSION

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Resolution No. 50 (LS)

Introduced by:

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Relative to Expressing the Support of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* for a one hundred eighty (180) day extension of the implementation date for the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program.

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

3 **WHEREAS**, P.L. 110-229, the Consolidated Natural Resources Act (CNRA)
4 of 2008, authorized the promulgation of rules for the revised Guam-CNMI Visa
5 Waiver Program; and

6 **WHEREAS**, on January 13, 2009 the Department of Homeland Security
7 published the interim rules establishing the list of approved countries for the Guam-
8 CNMI Visa Waiver Program but deleted Russia and the People's Republic of China as
9 countries that posed national security concerns; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the CNMI had realized significant economic benefit from the
11 expenditure by visitors from both Russia and the People's Republic of China under
12 the CNMI Visa Entry Program, but the deletion of these countries from the list would
13 cause irreparable harm to the CNMI visitor industry and to its overall economy; and

14 **WHEREAS**, section 702(b) of the CNRA allows the Department of Homeland
15 Security to delay the implementation date for one hundred eighty (180) days upon
16 request from either the CNMI and/or Guam governor; and

1 **WHEREAS**, during the State of the Island Address delivered by Guam
2 Governor Felix P. Camacho on February 16, 2009, a call was made by the Governor
3 to support such a delay of the implementation date; and

4 **WHEREAS**, it is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to also support such a
5 delay and to ultimately seek the inclusion of Russia and the People’s Republic of
6 China on the list of approved countries for the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program;
7 now, therefore, be it

8 **RESOLVED**, that *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the people
9 of Guam, request that the Department of Homeland Security approve a one hundred
10 eighty (180) day extension of the June 1, 2009 implementation date for the revised
11 Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program; and, be it further

12 **RESOLVED**, that *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the people
13 of Guam, respectfully call upon the Department of Homeland Security to re-assess its
14 current position on the exclusion of Russia and the People’s Republic of China from
15 the list of approved countries for the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program; and, be it
16 further

17 **RESOLVED**, that *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the people
18 of Guam, seek the assistance of Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo to ensure that
19 the congressional intent embodied in P.L. 110-229 has been fully implemented with
20 the publishing of the interim rules, and if the rules are contrary to such intent, to bring
21 this matter to the immediate attention of the Honorable Janet Napolitano, Secretary,
22 Department of Homeland Security for corrective action; and be it further

23 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature
24 attest to, the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to:
25 the Honorable Janet Napolitano, Secretary, Department of Homeland Security; to the
26 Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam Delegate to Congress; to Mr. Perry Tenorio,
27 Managing Director, Marianas Visitor Authority; to Mr. Gerald S.A. Perez, General

- 1 Manager, Guam Visitors Bureau; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I*
- 2 *Maga'lahaen Guåhan.*

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA' TRENTA NA
LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN ON THE __TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2009.**

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.
Speaker

Tina Rose Muna Barnes
Senator and Secretary of the
Legislature