

MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
2009 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 61 (COR)

Introduced by:

Edward J.B. Calvo

Ray Tenorio

James V. Espaldon

2009 MAR 26 PM 2:07
elom

Relative to congratulating the Pilipino Amateur Basketball Association (PABL) on their *Thirty-Fifth* (35th) Anniversary and express *Un Dangkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'âse'* for the outstanding contributions the PABL has made in their continued help of young Filipino immigrants find a place in our Island Community.

BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA' TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN:

WHEREAS, the Pilipino Amateur Basketball Association was founded more than three (3) decades ago by Mr. Prospero "Popoy" Zamora that served as a tool that has helped and continues to help young Filipino immigrants find a place in the island's community; and

WHEREAS, the Philippine Independence Basketball Tournament was held in conjunction with the anniversary of Philippine Independence Week which celebrates the Republic of the Philippines' independence from Spain on June 12, 1898; and

WHREAS, originally called the Philippine Independence Basketball Tournament, the league grew from a Filipino-only basketball league to the islands top varsity league now open to everyone; and

WHEREAS, the Guam Bayanihan Sports Association has been established since 1972 as a non profit organization with its task is to be part of helping the Pilipino and local community to established its own varsity sport activities in Guam – Philippine Independence Basketball Tournament (PIBT) – with the only requirement being an all Pilipino basketball team; and

WHEREAS, the tournament began the same year and has become the prime time sport activities during the Philippine Independence celebration. The organization developed another ruling in 1975, after three (3) years of success, to add players that have Pilipino family history and require at least 30 % Pilipino blood because of players luck. The league is a thirty (3) year successful program under the management of the Pilipino Amateur Basketball League (PABL). The achievements of PABL have resulted in many varsity players coming out and joining the league, at times becoming more difficult to justify if the player is really a Pilipino. The Pilipino Amateur Basketball League is one of the training grounds of our islands very own Guam National Basketball Team to develop their talent for the Pacific competition and the PABL Tournament; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Prospero “Bobby” Zamora followed his father’s footsteps in 2003 to oversee the Pilipino Amateur Basketball League because of his interest to lead the organization and his awareness of the numerous ethnic talented basketball players in our Island. Bobby learned.

at the time, that team players must have at least 30% of Pilipino blood line to join the league; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Prospero “Bobby” Zamora took over the league upon his father’s retirement promising to continue his legacy. He continued to recruit young athletes to be part of the PABL Mission to serve the community of Guam. Bobby was able to make changes throughout the PABL’s history with the help of a new organizing body and began using the FIBA International rules used during the Olympic games allowing for year to year adjustment; and

WHEREAS, the PABL governing body changed it’s ruling to open the league to the community regardless of race in 2003 officially inviting different ethnic groups to forward and participate in the league now the biggest basketball event on Guam. Military groups -- Big Navy and the Air Force, the Guam National Basketball team, and other ethnic groups are now members of this annual event; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bobby Zamora and the PABL leadership promised the athletes they will no longer play on a concrete basketball court to avoid serious injury, to ensure that all basketball enthusiasts find ways to participate in the well known prime basketball league on the Island. Mr. Zamora attributes his success with PABL to the support of dedicated friends and their families working together towards the Island’s basketball

sport being no different from any other basketball league around the world; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bobby Zamora and his management team earned the distinction of Guam having the best training ground as evidenced with the Islands very own Guam Basketball Group that represent Guam during off-island tournaments such as the South Pacific Games, the Oceania FIBA Tournament, and numerous other basketball tournaments; and

WHEREAS, the Guam Basketball Sports Association (GBSA) extend the level of this basketball competition to a maximum level and promote the goodwill to the Island of Guam and help numerous athletic youth to join; and

WHEREAS, the GBSA added the Women's Pilipino Basketball League (WPABL) in 2005 to help the women of our island community continue their athletic activities even after their high school senior year. For the very first time Guam will have women's basketball for the community to help our youth keep away from the distraction of bad habits and influence from our streets, and to develop their skills through a basketball sporting event; and

WHEREAS, the 2009 Pilipino Basketball Association League will start with another big change, that will include the change of basketball court ruling to the Filipino International Basketball Association (FIBA) international rule. The Tournament will also have for the first time after

thirty-four (34) years of existing competitive basketball games, the people of Guam will watch ten (10) games to be televised live in the comforts of their own living room on channel Local 2 on Saturdays. The tournament helps our talented players come out and be involved this very exciting competition; and

WHEREAS, the annual tip off ceremony finds the Philippine Consulate General and local government representatives in attendance to help players recite the pledge of sportsmanship and to throw up the ceremonial ball to tip off the competition; and

WHEREAS, the Pilipino Basketball Association League's mission is to promote goodwill, friendship within our Island community, and to develop the young talent of Guam in the world of basketball serves as a source of pride for many in the island's Filipino community and has done much to help newcomers to the island feel at home; and

WHEREAS, the popularity of the league continues to grow the Pilipino Basketball Association League now run by Popoy Zamora's son, Bobby. The PABL and some of its long-standing teams are well established supported by island businesses offering sponsorship for teams or teams requesting assistance in finding players to fill their roster, and, now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the members of *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* congratulate the Guam Bayanihan Association in their Thirty-Fifth

(35th) celebration of the Pilipino Basketball Association League Tournament on Guam and further extend to a sincere *Un Dangkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'ãse'* to Mr. Bobby Zamora, President, Guam Basketball Sports Association/Pilipino Basketball Association League, and its members for their outstanding contributions for the betterment of our Island Community; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attests to, the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Mr. Prospero “Popoy” Zamora, Mr. Bobby Zamora, the Honorable Olivia V. Palala, Philippine Consul General of Guam and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE _____ DAY OF _____, 2009.

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed. D.
Speaker

TINA ROSE MUNA-BARNES
Senator and
Secretary of the Legislature