

**I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN  
RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	NOTES
14-35 (COR)	J "PEDO" Terlaje Tina Rose Muna Barnes Amanda Shelton Kelly G. Marsh (Taitano), Ph.D. Clynt Ridgell James Moylan	Relative to requesting Guam's Delegate to Congress Michael San Nicolas to introduce an Amendment to the Organic Act of Guam regarding protecting culturally significant practices on Guam	1/17/19 4:09 p.m.							

I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN  
2019 (FIRST) Regular Session

2019 JAN 17 PM 4:09  
*[Handwritten signature]*

Resolution No. *14* -35 (COR)

Introduced by:

J "PEDO" Terlaje *[Signature]*  
Tina Rose Muna Barnes *[Signature]*  
Amanda Shelton *[Signature]*  
Kelly G. Marsh (Taitano), Ph.D. *[Signature]*  
Clynt Ridgell *[Signature]*  
James Moylan *[Signature]*

**Relative to requesting Guam's Delegate to Congress Michael San Nicolas to introduce an Amendment to the Organic Act of Guam regarding protecting culturally significant practices on Guam.**

1           **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I**  
2 ***MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:***  
3           **WHEREAS,** Cockfighting on Guam dates back to the pre-colonial Spanish Era;  
4 and  
5           **WHEREAS,** The Loaisa Expedition in 1525 reported that "*there was no kind*  
6 *livestock whatsoever, not even chickens or (land-based) birds except some turtle doves*  
7 *that look very much like them. They keep the said doves and raise them in their houses*  
8 *where they keep them in some cages and train them to fight against one another and*  
9 *place bets on which ones will win.*" Proves that this is not only a cultural practice, but  
10 an ancestral one as well, and

1           **WHEREAS**, The Mayor’s Council of Guam, and the Association of Marianas  
2 Island Mayors have unilaterally passed a resolution to protect cockfighting rooted as an  
3 ancestral practice, and

4           **WHEREAS**, Cockfighting on Guam is a practice passed down from generations  
5 and is a means for our community to learn family values as well as come together; and

6           **WHEREAS**, United States Navy Lt. Commander P.J. Searles in 1850 provided  
7 an account of the existence of cockfighting as a part of Feast Day activities; and

8           **WHEREAS**, A United States Navy Fiscal Statement prior to the Organic Act, in  
9 the year 1913 documents that the Naval Government on Guam profited from a  
10 Cockfighting Privilege Tax ; and

11           **WHEREAS**, Guam is home to more than 2,500 cockfighters and significantly  
12 contributes to our local economy; and

13           **WHEREAS**, A rider provision in the Federal Farm Bill was passed without any  
14 input or consideration of those affected – THE PEOPLE OF GUAM; and

15           **WHEREAS**, When the Organic Act of Guam was written and ratified, and the  
16 People of Guam had the ability to make amendments to the Organic Act, Cockfighting  
17 was already an accepted cultural norm; and

18           **WHEREAS**, The provision in the Farm Bill is a violation of Guam’s right to Self  
19 Determination; and

20           **WHEREAS**, banning of cockfighting is one of many examples where a colonial  
21 regime suppresses the Culture of the Indigenous CHamoru People dating back to 1899;  
22 now, therefore be it

23           **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of I Mina’trentai Singko Na  
24 Liheslaturan Guåhan does hereby, on behalf of I Liheslaturan Guåhan and the people  
25 of Guam request that Guam’s Delegate to Congress Michael San Nicholas to

1 introduce an Amendment to the Organic Act of Guam regarding protecting culturally  
2 significant practices on Guam; and be it further;

3 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules  
4 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of  
5 the same be thereafter transmitted to Speaker Nancy Pelosi of the United States House  
6 of Representatives, Congressman Michael San Nicolas; and to the Honorable Lourdes  
7 Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF  
I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 17<sup>th</sup> DAY  
OF JANUARY 2019.**

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**TINA ROSE MUÑA-BARNES**  
Speaker

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**RÉGINE BISCOE LEE**  
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

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**AMANDA L. SHELTON**  
Legislative Secretary