

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE AUTHORS REPORT FILED	NOTES
14-37 (COR)	William A. Parkinson Joanne Brown Jesse A. Lujan Telo T. Taitague	Relative to requesting <i>I Maga'hågan Guåhan</i> to exercise her authority Public Law 110-229 to petition the United States Department of Homeland Security to expand the Guam Visa Waiver Program to include the country of the Philippines.	1/20/23 12:09 p.m.		3/30/23	1/23/23	Committee on Human Resources, Hagåtña Revitalization, Regional Affairs, Public Libraries, Telecommunications, Technology and Federal and Foreign Affairs	2/28/23 2:00 p.m.	3/14/23 9:26 a.m.	
						2/14/23	Re-referred: Author			

COPY



I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
Thirty-Seventh Guam Legislature

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero
I Maga'hågan Guåhan
Ufisinan I Maga'håga
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Dear *Maga'håga* Leon Guerrero:

Transmitted herewith is **Resolution No. 14-37 (COR)**, “Relative to requesting *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* to exercise her authority Public Law 110-229 to petition the United States Department of Homeland Security to expand the Guam Visa Waiver Program to include the country of the Philippines,” which was duly and regularly adopted by *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* on March 30, 2023.

Sincerely,

AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary

Enclosure (1)

RCVD AT CENTRAL FILES
MAR 31 '23 PM 3:32

Elaine Tajalle



I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2023 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 14-37 (COR)

As amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

William A. Parkinson
Joanne Brown
Jesse A. Lujan
Telo T. Taitague
Chris Barnett
Frank Blas, Jr.
Christopher M. Dueñas
Thomas J. Fisher
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Sabina Flores Perez
Roy A. B. Quinata
Joe S. San Agustin
Dwayne T. D. San Nicolas
Amanda L. Shelton
Therese M. Terlaje

Relative to requesting *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* to exercise her authority Public Law 110-229 to petition the United States Department of Homeland Security to expand the Guam Visa Waiver Program to include the country of the Philippines.

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

3 **WHEREAS, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* recognizes that *I Maga'hågan Guåhan***
4 **under Public Law 110-229, the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008, has the**
5 **authority to petition the US Department of Homeland Security to expand the Guam-**
6 **CNMI Visa Waiver Program to include the country of the Philippines; and**

1 **WHEREAS**, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further recognizes that the Philippines was
2 not initially included in the original approved countries due to various factors in the
3 Department of Homeland Security’s analysis at that time; and

4 **WHEREAS**, in the approximately fifteen (15) years since, many changes have
5 occurred within the Philippines that warrant reconsideration. The Philippines is now the
6 39th largest economy in the world, with a burgeoning middle class, and with a gross
7 domestic product of \$314 Billion according to recent figures from the World Bank; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the Philippines, over time has seen significant decreases in the visa
9 rejection rates, with the adjusted refusal rate for B-visas being 32.49% in 2020; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the World Bank also noted that in 2018, the middle class in the
11 Philippines had expanded to nearly 12 million people and the economically secure
12 population had risen to 44 million. Studies also show that 60% of Filipinos aged 15
13 and over have vacationed, with a growing demand for international vacations; and

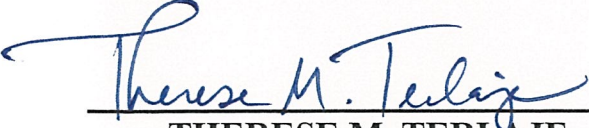
14 **WHEREAS**, the Guam economy has been trying to recover from the loss of
15 tourism experienced in the COVID-19 Pandemic which had the island’s tourism market
16 go from 1.6 million a year to nearly zero (0) during the start of the pandemic, with the
17 Guam Visitors Bureau recording 216,916 tourists in 2022; now therefore be it

18 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,
19 on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize and support the need for a Guam-CNMI
20 visa waiver for the Philippines to grow our base of tourism, help boost our economic
21 recovery and capture more of the growing tourism market from the Philippines and
22 support the Governor in petitioning the Department of Homeland Security to include
23 them in the Guam visa waiver program; and be it further

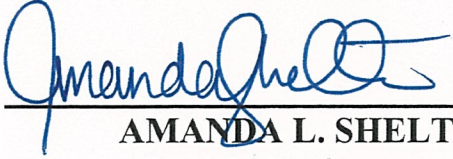
24 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the
25 adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Honorable
26 Alejandro Mayorkas, the Secretary of the United States Department of Homeland

- 1 Security; to the Honorable James C. Moylan, Guam Delegate to the US Congress; and
- 2 to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE DAY OF MONTH 2023.



THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker



AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2023 (FIRST) Regular Session
VOTING RECORD

Resolution No. 14-37 (COR) As amended on the Floor.	Speaker Antonio R. Unpingco Legislative Session Hall Guam Congress Building March 30, 2023					
NAME	Aye	Nay	Not Voting/ Abstained	Out During Roll Call	Absent	Excused
Senator Chris Barnett	✓					
Senator Frank Blas, Jr.	✓					
Senator Joanne Brown	✓					
Senator Christopher M. Dueñas	✓					
Senator Thomas J. Fisher	✓					
Senator Jesse A. Lujan	✓					
Vice Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes	✓					
Senator William A. Parkinson	✓					
Senator Sabina Flores Perez	✓					
Senator Roy A. B. Quinata	✓					
Senator Joe S. San Agustin	✓					
Senator Dwayne T. D. San Nicolas	✓					
Senator Amanda L. Shelton	✓					
Senator Telo T. Taitague	✓					
Speaker Therese M. Terlaje	✓					

TOTAL

15

0

Aye

Nay

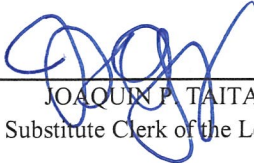
Not
Voting/
Abstained

Out
During
Roll Call

Absent

Excused

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:


 JOAQUIN P. TAITAGUE
 Substitute Clerk of the Legislature

I = Pass