

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

**Resolution No. 251-30 (LS)**

Introduced by:

E. J.B. Calvo  
F. F. Blas, Jr.  
J. V. Espaldon  
Ray Tenorio  
T. C. Ada  
F. B. Aguon, Jr.  
B. J.F. Cruz  
Judith P. Guthertz, DPA  
T. R. Muña Barnes  
Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.  
v. c. pangelinan  
M. J. Rector  
R. J. Respicio  
Telo Taitague  
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

**Relative to welcoming Mr. William “Willie” Tau Hataraka as Head Coach for the Guam Rugby Football Union, to commending him for his years of dedication, experience and commitment to the sport of Rugby, and to expressing *Un Dangkolo Na Si Yu’os Ma’åse’* to him for demonstrating his extraordinary and outstanding coaching aptitude in training the youth of our Island Community.**

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

3           **WHEREAS**, Mr. William "Willie" Tau Hetaraka is widely recognized as  
4 a coach selector at the highest level in New Zealand, and is regarded as a  
5 coach performing at "the very top of his field." Rugby is the national sport of  
6 New Zealand, and whose team is currently ranked second (2<sup>nd</sup>) in the world  
7 as a competitive National Team, having been coached by Coach William  
8 "Willie" Tau Hetaraka; and

9           **WHEREAS**, Mr. Willie Hetaraka coached a team in the New Zealand  
10 National Provincial Championships in 1995 and 1996, resulting in his  
11 appointment by the New Zealand Rugby Union, the governing body for  
12 rugby in New Zealand, to coach a Regional National team for matches in New  
13 Zealand and on tour to Australia. Mr. Hetaraka was subsequently appointed  
14 as the Head Coach of the New Zealand Maori Colts, an age grade national  
15 representative team, for matches over the next four (4) years; and

16           **WHEREAS**, Coach Hetaraka's appointment to coach these National  
17 teams in one of the best rugby playing nations is recognition of his  
18 extraordinary coaching ability. His ability to identify and nurture talent was  
19 further acknowledged with his appointment as the national Selector of the  
20 New Zealand Maori team from 2001 to 2003; and

1           **WHEREAS**, Coach Hetaraka, as a selector, required his oversight of the  
2 work of coaches throughout New Zealand, and to select the best players  
3 trained by those coaches to represent the New Zealand Maori team in matches  
4 throughout New Zealand and overseas, including matches against Tonga,  
5 Canada, Australia, and the United States; and

6           **WHEREAS**, in India, rugby was a minority sport, but the International  
7 Rugby Board was keen to introduce the game in this hugely populous  
8 country. Recognizing Coach Hetaraka's extraordinary coaching abilities, they  
9 solicited him to head the Coaching Project initiative in India, introducing  
10 rugby to the Indian Army, and to coach the Indian national teams; and

11           **WHEREAS**, India's National Rugby team improved during Coach  
12 Hetaraka's first year in 1994 as Head Coach, and after India had been defeated  
13 in their previous fifteen (15) matches, the team's world ranking improved by  
14 five (5) places, securing two (2) wins and a tie from five (5) matches. Coach  
15 Hetaraka continued this success over the three (3) years of the project; and

16           **WHEREAS**, Coach Willie Hetaraka served as Head Coach at other  
17 International Competitions, such as in Mumbai (2004 and 2005); Bangkok  
18 (2004 and 2006); Hong Kong (2004); Kuala Lumpur (2006); Kunming, China  
19 (2004); Lahore Pakistan (2005); and Kandy, Sri Lanka (2004 and 2006); and

20           **WHEREAS**, Coach Willie Hetaraka's time with the Guam teams  
21 facilitated local coaches and players to understand the commitment and effort  
22 needed to genuinely succeed in rugby at the highest level. He brings a no-

1 nonsense, professional attitude to everything about rugby – playing, training,  
2 off-field, and community activities; and

3         **WHEREAS**, the highlights of Coach Hetaraka’s time with Guam’s men  
4 and women’s rugby teams include, participation at the July 2008 Asian Five  
5 Nations International matches against Brunei (win), and the Philippines (loss);  
6 Guam’s Under 20 win at the October 2008 Asian Division 2 tournament in  
7 Manila; and Guam’s Under 20 Rugby Team won the November 2008 Division  
8 2 Asian Rugby Football Union Under 20 Championships, held in Manila,  
9 Philippines, versus the Philippines under the tutelage of Head Coach Willie  
10 Hetaraka; and

11         **WHEREAS**, the men’s team, playing as the Continental Jets during the  
12 January 2009 Darwins Sevens tournament, surprised many with their loss in  
13 the Plate Semi-final to the teams turning out to be the eventual Plate winners;  
14 and the Guam Women’s Sevens team, with Head Coach Willie Hetaraka,  
15 competed in the Hong Kong Rugby Football Union Invitational Women’s  
16 Seven in March 2009, and finished as Runners Up in the Plate (sixth place) at  
17 the April 2009 International Rugby Board Asian Rugby Football Union  
18 Women’s Sevens Championship in Pattaya, Thailand; and

19         **WHEREAS**, Coach Willie Hetaraka’s Guam team competed at the June  
20 2009 Asian Five Nations International matches, with a win against Indonesia  
21 and a loss against the Philippine team. In September 2009, the Guam  
22 Women’s Sevens team lost four (4) matches against the Asian champion,

1 China side in Shanghai, yet learned valuable lessons. This past October, the  
2 Guam Men's Sevens team traveled to Kota Kinabalu to compete in an Asian  
3 Sevens Series tournament, improving their twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) place record by  
4 finishing seventh (7<sup>th</sup>), and defeating the much-fancied Thailand side; and

5       **WHEREAS**, the popularity of rugby continues to grow on our Island  
6 community with the significant commitment of the Guam Rugby Football  
7 Union and its local sponsors – Budweiser, Ambyth Shipping, Continental  
8 Airlines, Shell Guam, Docomo Pacific, Watts Contractors, and ASC. Guam's  
9 Under 20 young men, and the Guam Sevens team, have made their own  
10 commitment to rugby and have responded to Coach Willie Hetaraka's  
11 coaching abilities; now, therefore, be it

12       **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on  
13 behalf of the people of Guam, welcome Mr. William "Willie" Tau Hetaraka as  
14 Head Coach for the Guam Rugby Football Union, does commend him for his  
15 years of dedication, experience and commitment to the sport of Rugby, and  
16 does express *Un Dangkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'* to him for demonstrating his  
17 extraordinary and outstanding coaching aptitude in training the youth of our  
18 Island Community; and be it further

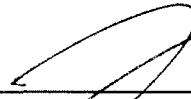
19       **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary  
20 attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter  
21 transmitted to Mr. William "Willie" Tau Hetaraka; and to the Honorable Felix  
22 P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTA NA  
LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 20TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2009.



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JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed. D.  
Speaker



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v. c. pangelinan  
Acting Legislative Secretary