


**I MINA'TRENTAI KUÁTTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN**  
**RESOLUTION STATUS**

| Resolution No. | Sponsor                  | Title  | Date Intro           | Date of Presentation | Date Adopted | Date Referred | Referred to | PUBLIC HEARING DATE | DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED | NOTES |
|----------------|--------------------------|--|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| 505-34 (COR)   | Michael F.Q. San Nicolas | Relative to congratulating the Palau Community Association of Guam and the Palauan Community in recognition and commemoration of the auspicious occasion of the Twenty-Fourth (24th) Anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Belau. | 9/20/18<br>4:13 p.m. | TBA                  |              |               |             |                     |                             |       |

***I MINA'TRENTAI KUÁTTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN***  
**2018 (SECOND) Regular Session**

Resolution No. 505-34(COP)

Introduced by:

Michael F.Q. San Nicolas 

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**Relative to congratulating the Palau Community Association of Guam and the Palauan Community in recognition and commemoration of the auspicious occasion of the Twenty-Fourth (24<sup>th</sup>) Anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Belau.**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY *I LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN*:**

**WHEREAS**, the Micronesian people of Palau and the people of Guam share a history spanning more than four (4) millenia; and

**WHEREAS**, Palauans first greeted British traders and government officials visiting in the 18<sup>th</sup> century followed by influence-expanding Spaniards in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Spain claimed rights over Palau and other Micronesian islands in 1885 after Pope Leo XIII, to avert war between the two countries, issued the Protocol of Rome granting sovereignty to Spain and to Germany the rights to do business and enter ports in the region. By 1899, financially exhausted with administering colonies in Micronesia, Spain sold the island groups except for Guam to Germany for \$4.2 million; and

**WHEREAS**, control of the Micronesian islands, Palau included, was then legally granted to Japan in 1920 as a mandate at the Paris Peace Conference by the League of Nations following World War I. After the historic battles of Peleliu and Angaur in September 1944 and the United States' subsequent defeat of Japan in World War II, which took the lives of more than 2,000 Americans and 10,000

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1 Japanese, the United States gained control of what was then called the Marshall,  
2 Caroline, and Mariana Islands through the auspices of the United Nations in 1947  
3 as part of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (TTPI), with Palau administered  
4 as one of the three island groups' six districts; and

5 **WHEREAS**, after forty-seven (47) years as part of the Trust Territory of the  
6 Pacific Islands, Palau's leaders opted for separation from the other island areas in a  
7 special referendum in 1978, and on July 9, 1980, the Palau constitution was  
8 ratified, and its first constitutional elections were held thereby creating the  
9 Republic of Palau in 1981; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Palau gained self-government by way of its Constitution and  
11 entered into the Compact of Free Association with the United States, which was  
12 approved in 1993 by the people of the Republic after eight referendums and an  
13 amendment to the nuclear-free clause of the Palau Constitution; and

14 **WHEREAS**, in May 1994 the United Nations Trusteeship Council issued a  
15 resolution requesting the Government of the United States, in consultation with the  
16 Government of Palau, to agree on a date on or about October 1, 1994 for the full  
17 entry into force of the Compact of Free Association, and in July 1994 the President  
18 of the United States, William J. Clinton, reaffirmed October 1, 1994, as the  
19 effective date of the Compact, provided that all legal challenges to the Compact  
20 had been resolved; and

21 **WHEREAS**, the Republic of Palau joined the United Nations as its 185<sup>th</sup>  
22 member and took its seat in the U.N. in December 1994; and

23 **WHEREAS**, the Republic of Palau is an island nation in the northwest  
24 Pacific Ocean, located east of the Philippines, and perched on the Kyushu-Palau



1 Ridge. The westernmost cluster of the Caroline Islands consists of 20 large islands  
2 and 566 smaller islands and is one of the youngest and least populated nations; and

3       **WHEREAS**, Koror or “Oreor,” the largest state in Palau, is where seventy  
4 percent (70%) of the republic’s population live and is the place that hosts the most  
5 annual festivities and special events for the island nation and served as the capital  
6 from independence, in 1994 to 2006, when the capital was moved to Ngerulmud in  
7 Melekeok; and

8       **WHEREAS**, the splendor of Palau’s tropical wonder, with emerald green  
9 islands stretching more than 400 spectacular miles across pristine azure waters, ins  
10 a Pacific jewel of limestone coral reefs rising majestically from the sea, nourished  
11 by ocean current and sculpted by nature and time, creating the stunning, world-  
12 famous Rock Islands of Palau, a marvel of nature; and

13       **WHEREAS**, Palau was named the number one Underwater Wonder of the  
14 World by Conservation, Education, Diving, Awareness and Marine-Research  
15 (CEDAM) International, an organization of divers, marine scientist and  
16 conservationists. Spectacular scuba diving locales, with coral reefs, blue holes,  
17 WWII wrecks, hidden caves and tunnels, and over 60 vertical drop-offs are found  
18 in Palau where three major ocean currents meet to create an environment of  
19 abundance and enormous variety of marine life; the waters surrounding the Rock  
20 Islands literally teem with over 1,500 varieties of reef and pelagic fish and more  
21 than four times the number of coral species found in the Caribbean; and

22       **WHEREAS**, this small nation, a world leaders in the global struggle to save  
23 our planet, stands tall among the nations setting new standards for environmental  
24 stewardship and nature conservancy which has contributed enormously towards the  
25 progress of the people of Palau. The traditional leadership, the National Congress,



1 and the Honorable President of the Republic, Thomas Remengesau, Jr., have  
2 worked together to move toward developing a thriving and prosperous tourism  
3 industry and a vibrant future based on cultural values and protection of its natural  
4 resources; and

5 **WHEREAS**, Palau’s wealth is not just found in its natural beauty but also  
6 its human resources, a well-educated and highly talented people, who have worked  
7 hard to maintain their cultural identity by working together to promote, protect,  
8 and perpetuate the very important resources of their traditions, their cultural  
9 integrity, and their history of a free and independent people; and

10 **WHEREAS**, soon after World War II, the first Palauans brought their  
11 culture of hard work and respect for family and traditions to Guam, after the lifting  
12 of the security naval clearance for Guam, to work and further their education; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Palauans on Guam continued their social and customary  
14 gatherings in Guam and built two community meeting houses or *abai* in the mid  
15 1970’s in the Harmon cliff line area. Organizing themselves as the Palauan  
16 Community Association of Guam (PCAG), Palauans held softball tournaments and  
17 myriad cultural and social activities at those *abai* through the early 1990s, when  
18 the land was returned to original landowners and they were forced to vacate their  
19 *abai*; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the PCAG serves as the non-profit umbrella organization for  
21 all Palauan clubs here on Guam representing the sixteen (16) states that comprise  
22 the Republic of Palau: Aimeliik, Airai, Angaur, Hatohobei, Kayangel, Koror,  
23 Melekeok, Ngaraard, Ngarchelong, Ngardmau, Ngatpang, Ngchesar,  
24 Ngeremlengui, Ngiwal, Peleliu, and Sonsorol; and after several years of keeping a  
25 low profile, and looking for property and means to build new *abais* throughout the





1 late 1990s and 200s, the PCAG refocused its efforts to revitalizing the organization  
2 and the Palauan community on island; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the PCAG continues to show its commitment to maintaining a  
4 clean and attractive environment on Guam by maintaining the Eagles field and the  
5 softball field in Mangilao, participating in Matson's *Adahi I Tano'* cleanup  
6 program, participating in the Roadway Adoption Program, and adopting several  
7 bus stops; and

8 **WHEREAS**, PCAG continued to actively participate in the various local  
9 activities utilizing a wonderful opportunity to showcase Palauan cultural  
10 performances and traditions and reinforce their community participation in Guam's  
11 largest community event when they entered a float in the 68<sup>th</sup> Liberation Day  
12 Parade festivities and won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the non-profit organization category and  
13 repeating the 2<sup>nd</sup> place win in the 73<sup>rd</sup> Liberation Day Parade; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the members of PCAG are proud to be strong supporters of  
15 our island the general island community by contributing to various educational,  
16 sports, and community charities over the past several years like hosting the annual  
17 Palau Softball League from March to June; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the members of the Palauan community have continued to  
19 enrich the proud cultural diversity we have on Guam and endow our island with  
20 their unique and collective strength; now therefore be it

21 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trentai Kuattro Na Liheslaturan Guahan* does  
22 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, respectfully congratulate the Palau  
23 Community Association of Guam and the Palauan Community in recognition and  
24 commemoration of the auspicious occasion of the Twenty-Fourth (24th)  
25 Anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Belau; and be it further



1           **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on  
2 Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that  
3 copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Honorable Thomas E.  
4 Remengesau, Jr., President of the Republic of Palau; the Honorable Hokkons  
5 Baules, President of the National Congress Senate; the Honorable Sabino  
6 Anastacio, Speaker of the House of Delegates of the Republic of Palau; Yutaka  
7 Gibbons, High Chief Ibedul of the Palau Council of Chiefs; the Honorable Rafael  
8 Ngirramang, High Chief Reklai of the Palau; Junior Spefungel, President of the  
9 Palau Community Association of Guam; the Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo,  
10 Guam's Delegate to the United States Congress; and the Honorable Eddie Baza  
11 Calvo, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE \_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.**

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**THERESE M. TERLAJE**  
Acting Speaker

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**REGINE B. LEE**  
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

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**REGINE B. LEE**  
Legislative Secretary

