

***I MINA'TRENTAI KUÅTTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN***  
**RESOLUTION STATUS**

<b>Resolution No.</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date Intro</b>	<b>Date of Presentation</b>	<b>Date Adopted</b>	<b>Date Referred</b>	<b>Referred to</b>	<b>PUBLIC HEARING DATE</b>	<b>DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
<b>140-34 (COR)</b>	Régine Biscoe Lee Benjamin J.F. Cruz Telena Cruz Nelson Therese M. Terlaje William M. Castro	Relative to observing and commemorating World Oceans Day, a global day of celebration that encourages reflection on the importance of the world's oceans, promotes education on marine ecosystems and calls for action to preserve and protect world oceans, and to commending the Micronesia Conservation Coalition for their dedication to protecting Pacific islands' ocean ecosystems and culture.	6/2/17 12:48p.m.	6/10/17 10:00 a.m.						


*IMINA'TRENTAI KUATTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*

2017 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 140-34(COR)

Introduced by:

Régine Biscoe Lee 

Benjamin J.F. Cruz 

Telena Cruz Nelson 

Therese M. Terlaje 

William M. Castro 

Relative to observing and commemorating World Oceans Day, a global day of celebration that encourages reflection on the importance of the world's oceans, promotes education on marine ecosystems and calls for action to preserve and protect world oceans, and to commending the Micronesian Conservation Coalition for their dedication to protecting Pacific islands' ocean ecosystems and culture.

2017 JUN -2 PM 12:48

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1 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I

2 *MINA'TRENTAI KUATTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:*

3 WHEREAS, World Oceans Day is global day of celebration to encourage  
4 individuals to think about what the ocean means to them, discover the wealth of  
5 diverse and beautiful ocean creatures and habitats, and to take action to become a  
6 caretaker and protector of the ocean environment; and

7

1           **WHEREAS**, the theme of World Oceans Day 2017 is “Our Oceans, Our  
2 Future,” with a conservation action focus encouraging solutions to plastic pollution  
3 and preventing marine litter in order to build a healthier ocean and a better future;  
4 and

5           **WHEREAS**, the Micronesian Conservation Coalition’s mission is to conserve  
6 island habitats and species throughout Micronesia by reinforcing community  
7 connections to the true value of these ecosystems, while respecting and preserving  
8 unique cultures and their natural resources; and

9           **WHEREAS**, Guam will celebrate for the first time World Oceans Day on June  
10 10, 2017; and

11           **WHEREAS**, Guam’s World Oceans Day event aims to bring together people  
12 from all over Guam and Micronesia for a day of culture, community and education;  
13 and

14           **WHEREAS**, the island of Guam has a unique relationship with the ocean,  
15 which provided resources to islanders and served as a foundation for our culture for  
16 generations; and

17           **WHEREAS**, the oceans face existential threats from pollution, overfishing,  
18 dumping of trash, proliferation of plastic and threats to animal and plant life due to  
19 global climate change; and

20           **WHEREAS**, worldwide mass coral bleaching events and infectious disease  
21 outbreaks due to increasing ocean temperatures are becoming more frequent; and

1       **WHEREAS**, carbon dioxide absorbed into the ocean from the atmosphere has  
2 reduced calcification rates in reef-building and reef-associated organisms; and

3       **WHEREAS**, Guam is host to hundreds of species of corals that face existential  
4 threats due to climate change and environmental damage; and

5       **WHEREAS**, the Great Pacific Garbage Patch is one of several vortices of  
6 marine waste – comprised mainly of plastic – circulating in our oceans; and

7       **WHEREAS**, there are more than 150 million tonnes (metric tons) of plastics in  
8 the ocean; and

9       **WHEREAS**, the ocean will contain 1 tonne (metric ton) of plastic for every 3  
10 tonnes (metric tons) of fish by 2025, and by 2050 there will be – by weight – more  
11 plastic in the oceans of the world than fish; and

12       **WHEREAS**, the annual damage of plastics to marine ecosystems is at least  
13 \$13 billion per year, and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) estimates that  
14 the cost of ocean plastics to the tourism, fishing and shipping industries was \$1.3  
15 billion in the Asia-Pacific region; and

16       **WHEREAS**, illegal dumped trash and plastic waste are a blight on our beaches  
17 and a threat to our marine ecosystems; and

18       **WHEREAS**, in 2015, volunteers for the International Coastal Cleanup,  
19 sponsored by the Ocean Conservancy, collected 21,167 pounds of trash on Guam’s  
20 beaches and coasts; and

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1           **WHEREAS**, Floating plastic debris entangles wildlife, is eaten by animals who  
2 subsequently starve to death, sinks to the ocean floor, or is broken into tiny pieces of  
3 microplastic that create a soup that blocks out sunlight needed for plankton and  
4 algae to grow; and

5           **WHEREAS**, Guam's community and people owe it to future generations to  
6 preserve and protect marine ecosystems that have served as a foundation of Pacific  
7 Islander culture for centuries; now, therefore, be it

8           **RESOLVED**, that the *I Mina'Trentai Kuåttro Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does  
9 hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people of Guam, observe and  
10 commemorate World Oceans Day, a global day of celebration that encourages  
11 reflection on the importance of the world's oceans, promotes education on marine  
12 ecosystems and calls for action to preserve and protect world oceans, and commend  
13 the Micronesian Conservation Coalition for their dedication to protecting Pacific  
14 islands' ocean ecosystems and culture.

15           **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on  
16 Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that  
17 copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Micronesian Conservation  
18 Coalition, Guam Visitors Bureau, Agana Shopping Center, Big Fish Creative and  
19 the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, *I Maga'lahren Guåhan*.

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**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES  
OF *I MINA'TRENTAI KUATTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN* ON THE  
DAY OF JUNE 10, 2017.**

**BENJAMIN J.F. CRUZ**  
**Speaker**

**RÉGINE BISCOE LEE**  
**Legislative Secretary**

**MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS**  
**Chairperson, Committee on Rules**