## 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
370-35 (LS)	Joe S. San Agustin	Relative to recognizing the month of September 2020 as "REALTOR Safety Month"; and commending the Guam Association of REALTORS for providing educational opportunities for Guam's REALTORS in order to expand their awareness about the well-being and protection of themselves and their clients, and for their dedication in promoting safety and professionalism within Guam's real estate industry during the COVID-19 pandemic.	9/2/20 8:00 a.m.	9/10/20 12:15 p.m.						

## I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2020 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. 370 -35 (LS)

Introduced by:

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Tina Rose Muña Barnes

Joe S. San Agustin

Relative to recognizing the month of September 2020 as "REALTOR Safety Month"; and commending the Guam Association of REALTORS for providing educational opportunities for Guam's REALTORS in order to expand their awareness about the well-being and protection of themselves and their clients, and for their dedication in promoting safety and professionalism within Guam's real estate industry during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:

WHEREAS, the Guam Association of REALTORS (GAR), formerly known as the Guam Real Estate Board, was founded in 1970, and held its first general membership meeting at Fjord's Smorgette with close to thirty (30) aspiring members;

WHEREAS, in November 1971, the Guam Association of REALTORS became a part of what would become today one of the largest and influential trade industries in the nation, the National Association of REALTORS (NAR), then known as the National Association of Real Estate Boards; and

WHEREAS, since its establishment to the present time, the Guam Association of REALTORS has grown and now has close to five hundred (500) active members and is a constant "Voice for Real Estate" on Guam; and

WHEREAS, REALTORS are committed to treating all parties to a real estate transaction honestly; and they subscribe to a strict code of ethics and are expected to maintain a higher level of knowledge of the process of buying and selling real estate; and an independent survey reports that eighty-four percent (84%) of homebuyers would use the same REALTOR again; and

WHEREAS, REALTORS have many resources to assist in searching for homes, especially those not actively advertised in the market, and will thoroughly investigate to find all available properties; and

WHEREAS, REALTORS assist in the selection process by providing objective information about each property, and they can provide the local community with information on utilities, zoning, schools, etc.; and

WHEREAS, REALTORS help their client to negotiate, including, but not limited to, price, financing, terms, date of possession, and often the inclusion or exclusion of repairs and furnishings or equipment; and they can also advise clients as to which investigations and inspections are recommended or required; and

WHEREAS, REALTORS provide due diligence during the evaluation of a property, which could include inspections for termites, dry rot, faulty infrastructures, roof condition, and septic tanks; and they can also assist with finding qualified responsible professionals to do most of the inspections and investigations, and provide written reports. Along with the title company or attorney, the REALTOR can help resolve issues that might cause problems at a later time; and

WHEREAS, REALTORS will often recommend repairs or cosmetic work that will significantly enhance the salability of a client's property; they market the property

- 1 to other real estate agents and the public; and they act as the marketing coordinator,
- 2 disbursing information about the property to other real estate agents through a Multiple
- 3 Listing Service or other cooperative marketing networks, open houses for agents, etc.;
- 4 and the REALTOR Code of Ethics requires REALTORS to utilize these cooperative
- 5 relationships when they benefit their clients; and
- WHEREAS, REALTORS can assist with closing the sale of a home, and are the
- 7 best persons to objectively help resolve issues and move the transaction to closing or
- 8 settlement; and
- 9 WHEREAS, the National Association of Realtors heavily promotes safety all
- 10 year-round through its various programs; and the month of September 2020 is dedicated
- to educating REALTORS about safety at home, at the office, at property showings, and
- at open houses; and even educate about internet security; and they recommend that
- 13 Safety Courses be granted as continuing education credits as it is an integral part of the
- 14 business; and
- WHEREAS, the focus is to help REALTORS to be educated about the core
- 16 components of safety through knowledge, awareness, and empowerment; and
- 17 reminding them of the unique risks they face every day in business, and that taking
- 18 precautionary measures to protect themselves from danger, understanding whether to
- 19 fight or escape when faced with menacing behavior, protecting themselves from
- 20 cybercrime and even surviving harsh weather conditions, can mean saving a life, their
- 21 own or their clients; and
- WHEREAS, the Guam Association of REALTORS believes that safety starts
- 23 with every REALTOR; and making it a priority is not an option, but rather a must for
- 24 every brokerage; and
- WHEREAS, in response to the safety risks posed by COVID-19 the Guam
- 26 Association of REALTORS has adopted several safety measures in June 2020, to

address the needs of the community during Pandemic Condition of Readiness 2 and 3;

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WHEREAS, these guidelines require REALTORS to conduct all activities and showings to the best extent possible through electronic and virtual means; while limiting the number of people during an in-person showing to a single agent and no more than two other individuals; and

WHEREAS, REALTORS must be familiar with CDC guidelines not only for their safety but for the safety of others, and require that all persons entering the property adhere to the CDC's social distancing recommendations; and

WHEREAS, REALTORS must obtain a Guam Association of REALTORS Coronavirus Property Entry Advisory and Declaration (GAR PEAD) from anyone seeking entry into a property, and restrict the use of 3rd parties for non-essential services provided that they do not agree to follow CDC guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the guidelines adopted by the Guam Association of REALTORS are informative and practical measures that ensure business continuity and delivery of first-class services that promote the welfare of their staff, while also reducing the risk of exposure to COVID-19; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that I *Mina'trentai Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize the month of September 2020 as "REALTOR Safety Month"; and commend the Guam Association of REALTORS for providing educational opportunities for Guam's REALTORS in order to expand their awareness about the well-being and protection of themselves and their clients, and for their dedication in promoting safety and professionalism within Guam's real estate industry during the COVID-19 pandemic; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Clare Delgado,

- 1 President of the Guam Association of REALTORS; and to the Honorable Lourdes A.
- 2 Leon Guerrero, I Maga'hågan Guåhan.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE DAY OF MONTH 2020.

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES Speaker

RÉGINE BISCOE LEE Chair, Committee on Rules

AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary