

I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2007 (FIRST) Regular Session

Executive Committee
Resolution No. 140

Introduced by:

R.J. Respicio 
J.P. Guthertz 
T.R. Muña Barnes 

November 10, 2007

Relative to designating the week of November 5th through the 11th, 2007 as "Shelter Appreciation Week" for Guam Animals In Need, Inc. (GAIN) and in recognition of GAIN's animal shelter employees and volunteers

1 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF I
2 *MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*:

3 WHEREAS, there are more than 173,000 people living in Guam, a
4 majority of whom are pet owners; and

5 WHEREAS, while there is no accurate accounting on the number of
6 pets or of stray animals in Guam, it is widely agreed that there are far too
7 many stray and unwanted animals roaming our island; and

8 WHEREAS, a lack of knowledge or responsible action on the part of
9 some pet owners has resulted in many animals running loose and
10 unsupervised, causing a threat to public health and safety; and

11 WHEREAS, unfortunately, many of Guam's pet owners have not had
12 the time or recognized the need to have their companion animals spayed or
13 neutered, leading to indiscriminate breeding of their pets, contributing to
14 Guam's severe pet overpopulation; and

15 WHEREAS, in addition, a lack of enforcement of existing animal
16 control laws, combined with old, poorly written laws, have allowed pet
17 owners to ignore a number of laws, including leash laws, that would
18 otherwise have protected many of Guam's animals; and

1 **WHEREAS**, much like police officers, emergency medical personnel
2 and other community assistance workers, employees of animal shelters
3 must respond whenever such community problems and crises arise; and

4 **WHEREAS**, our island’s animal shelter, Guam Animals In Need, Inc.,
5 usually referred to as “GAIN,” acts as a safe haven for homeless and
6 abused animals, providing them with comfort and care;

7 **WHEREAS**, GAIN helps both animals and residents in Guam in
8 many ways including: returning lost pets to their owners; enforcing animal
9 control laws; ensuring that adopted animals have their rabies shots and are
10 issued pet licenses; receiving injured animals from the public; providing
11 education for the public; and matching up families with new animal
12 companions; and

13 **WHEREAS**, GAIN’s assistance extends beyond Guam’s shores as
14 they host off-island organizations, such as a group of 25-40 students from
15 Japanese school Tohoku Aiken Senmon Gakuin (Technical School for
16 Groomers and Veterinary Technicians), accompanied by instructor Nagisa
17 Makino who teaches a veterinary technician course who are visiting the
18 GAIN shelter as part of their course, field trips to Guam having taken place
19 for the last several years; and

20 **WHEREAS**, GAIN will present the school group with an "Adopt A
21 Kennel" sign in their name to affirm the relationship between the school
22 and GAIN; and

23 **WHEREAS**, the work of GAIN and the important services provided
24 by the shelter’s staff and volunteers may be recognized abroad, but often
25 goes unnoticed and is frequently under-appreciated by the citizens of
26 Guam and should be acknowledged; now, therefore, be it

27 **RESOLVED**, that I Mina’bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan does
28 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, designate the week of November

1 5th to the 11th as "Shelter Appreciation Week" for Guam Animals In Need,
2 to coincide with "National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week" being held
3 on the same dates across the United States, and be it further

4 **RESOLVED**, that I Mina'bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan does
5 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, acknowledge and commend the
6 services provided to the animals and people in our community by the
7 employees and volunteers of Guam Animals in Need; and be it further

8 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the
9 Legislature attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be
10 thereafter transmitted to Ms. Marie Chenery, President of Guam Animals
11 In Need (GAIN), Inc.; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, I Maga'lahren
12 Guåhan.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA
LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THIS DAY OF NOVEMBER 2007.**