

***I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN***  
**2012 (SECOND) Regular Session**

**Resolution No. 358-31 (LS)**

As amended by the Author.

Introduced by:

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.  
T. R. Muña Barnes  
B. J.F. Cruz  
T. C. Ada  
V. Anthony Ada  
F. F. Blas, Jr.  
Chris M. Dueñas  
Judith P. Guthertz, DPA  
Sam Mabini, Ph.D.  
Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.  
v. c. pangelinan  
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.  
R. J. Respicio  
M. Silva Taijeron  
Aline A.Yamashita, Ph.D.

**Relative to urging the United States Congress and the President of the United States to continue their efforts in calling upon the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to ensure that the nation's youth will not be denied access to higher education because of their faith.**

- 1        **BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN***  
2 ***GUÁHAN*:**  
3        **WHEREAS**, the Bahá'í Faith was founded more than a century and a half ago,  
4 and follows the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh, whose name in Arabic means Glory to God;  
5 and

1       **WHEREAS**, the acceptance of the Bahá'u'lláh teachings carries with it the  
2 commitment to strive for individual spiritual maturity and to participate in collective  
3 efforts to build a prosperous society and contribute to the common weal; and

4       **WHEREAS**, there are around five million (5,000,000) Bahá'ís established in  
5 virtually every country and independent territory of the world; and from nearly every  
6 ethnic group, culture, profession, and social and economic background; and

7       **WHEREAS**, the unity of mankind, the elimination of prejudice, equality of the  
8 sexes, loyalty to government, and working toward universal peace are among the  
9 principles embodied in the Bahá'í Faith; and

10       **WHEREAS**, throughout the past century, the Bahá'ís of Iran have been  
11 persecuted solely on the basis of religious intolerance by Islamic leaders; and

12       **WHEREAS**, the persecution includes denial of higher education, confiscation  
13 and destruction of personal property and businesses, harassment and false  
14 imprisonment, torture and execution; and

15       **WHEREAS**, after systematic efforts by the Islamic Republic of Iran denied  
16 Bahá'í students enrollment in universities, in 1987, the Bahá'ís opened the Bahá'í  
17 Institute for Higher Education (BIHE) in homes scattered throughout Iran; and

18       **WHEREAS**, the 1993 document of the Islamic Republic of Iran entitled, “The  
19 Bahá'í Question”, states the official government policy to eradicate the Bahá'í  
20 community, and for government agencies to ensure that “progress and development”  
21 of the Bahá'ís “are blocked,” with explicit directives that Bahá'ís “must be expelled  
22 from universities”; and

23       **WHEREAS**, in May 2011, BIHE was declared illegal by Iran’s Ministry of  
24 Science, Research and Technology; and

25       **WHEREAS**, at the same time, thirty-six (36) of the BIHE professors were  
26 seized in their homes, charged with “crimes against humanity”, and “spreading

1 corruption on earth”, and in October 2011, seven (7) of the thirty-six (36) received  
2 four(4)- or five(5)-year prison sentences; now therefore, be it

3 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,  
4 on behalf of the people of Guam, urge the U.S. Congress and the President of the  
5 United States to continue their efforts in calling upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to  
6 ensure that the nation’s youth will not be denied access to higher education because of  
7 their faith; and be it further

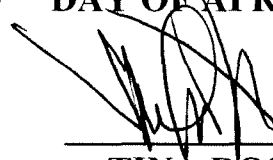
8 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to,  
9 the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the  
10 Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam Delegate to the United States Congress; to  
11 the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States of America; to the  
12 Honorable Hillary R. Clinton, Secretary of State; to the Honorable Ileana Ros-  
13 Lehtinen, Chairman, U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs; to the Honorable  
14 John F. Kerry, Chairman, U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; to Ms. Bani  
15 Dugal (New York) Principal Representative of the Bahá’í International Community to  
16 the United Nations; to Ms. Barbara Jamison, Secretary, National Spiritual Assembly  
17 of the Bahá’ís of the Mariana Islands; and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, *I*  
18 *Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE 27<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2012.**



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**JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.**  
Speaker



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**TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES**  
Legislative Secretary