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

Resolution No. 413-31 (COR)

As amended by the Author.

Introduced by:

Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr. Dennis Rodriguez, Jr.

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Relative to recognizing and commending the practitioners and participants who have contributed to the success of the Judiciary of Guam's Adult and Juvenile Drug Courts and the District Court of Guam's Drug Offender Re-Entry Program, which has resulted in the significant reduction in the use of illegal substances and in the criminal activities related to drug dependency; to extending *Un Dångkolo' Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'* to them for their tremendous service to the community; and to further joining them in the celebration of "Drug Court Month" during the month of May 2012.

1	BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I
2	MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:
3	WHEREAS, the local Drug Court programs were established ten (10) years
4	ago when the Juvenile Drug Court commenced on February 1, 2002, and the first
5	graduation took place on May 9, 2003; and
6	WHEREAS, an implementation and development grant for the Adult Drug
7	Court was received in 2002, with the first treatment session commencing on August
8	12, 2003, and the first graduation cycle on January 15, 2005; and
9	WHEREAS, the Federal Drug Offender Re-Entry Program (DORE)
10	Prugraman Hinalom Talo was established on August 21, 2008, welcoming ten (10)
11	participants during the first hearing held, and the first graduation was held on
12	September 16, 2009; and
13	WHEREAS, nationally, Drug Courts have proven to be a successful solution to
14	budgetary concerns that benefit all facets of society through the provision of necessary
15	services and activities, which has helped to further reduce and eliminate drug use and
16	dependency. Drug Courts offer drug-dependent individuals facing conviction or
17	convicted of criminal charges an opportunity to receive treatment and recovery for
18	their drug use, instead of jail time and recidivism; and
19	WHEREAS, local and federal Drug Courts are an essential component of the
20	national and local justice systems which save a tremendous amount of criminal justice
21	resources and help to return individuals to their communities as productive, tax paying
22	citizens; and
23	WHEREAS, local and federal Drug Courts serve as an effective tool in the
24	criminal justice system and help to avoid limited public funds from being spent on
25	costly, and sometimes ineffective services, which ultimately helps to reduce drug-

related crimes; and

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1	WHEREAS, the local and federal Drug Courts continue to save taxpayers from
2	having to spend thousands of dollars to imprison drug offenders, as the average
3	monthly cost of providing treatment via these therapeutic programs range from Two
4	Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$280.00) to Six Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$620.00). The
5	estimated monthly cost to imprison an offender currently ranges from Two Thousand
6	Four Hundred Dollars (\$2,400.00) to Two Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars
7	(\$2,900.00); and
8	WHEREAS, the results of hundreds of program evaluations and meta-analytic
9	studies have yielded definitive evidence that local and federal Drug Courts
10	significantly improve substance abuse treatment outcomes, substantially reduce drug
11	abuse and related crimes, and do so at a cost less than that of any other Court strategy;
12	and
13	WHEREAS, local and federal Drug Courts facilitate community-wide
14	partnerships, bringing together public safety and public health professionals in the
15	fight against the distribution and use of illegal substances; and
16	WHEREAS, throughout the nation, the Drug Court movement has grown from
17	the twelve (12) original Drug Courts in 1994 to over two thousand five hundred
18	(2,500) operational local and federal Drug Courts, further emphasizing the tremendous
19	successes of these Courts in their efforts to address drug use and dependency in
20	communities throughout the nation; and
21	
22	WHEREAS, May 1 through May 31, 2012 marks National Drug Court Month,
23	which celebrates the promise of recovery and restored hope to local and federal Drug
24	Court graduates, and their families; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Committee on Rules of I Mina'Trentai Unu Na

Liheslaturan Guåhan does hereby, on behalf of I Liheslaturan Guåhan and the people

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of Guam, recognize and commend the local and federal Adult and Juvenile Drug Courts of Guam, in acknowledgement of the significant contributions they have made in reducing the use of illegal substances, drug-related crimes and recidivism, while saving valuable resources; does extend a warmhearted Un Dångkolo' Na Si Yu'os Ma'ase' to the many local and federal Adult and Juvenile Drug Court practitioners and participants for their tremendous efforts toward contributing positively to our island community in the reduction of criminal activities associated with drug dependency and, most importantly, for restoring and strengthening families on Guam; and does further join them in the celebration of "Local and Federal Drug Court Month" in May 2012; and be it further **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules

certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Honorable F. Philip Carbullido, Chief Justice of Guam; to the Honorable Alberto C. Lamorena III, Presiding Judge, Superior Court of Guam; to the Honorable Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood, Chief Judge, District Court-of Guam; to the Honorable Joaquin V.E. Manibusan, Jr., Magistrate Judge, District Court of Guam; to the local and federal Adult Drug Court and Juvenile Drug Court Administrators; and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÂHAN ON THE 11TH DAY OF MAY 2012.

BENJAMIN J.F. CRUZ

Acting Speaker

My J. Nespicio RORY J. RESPICIO

Chairperson, Committee on Rules

RORY J. RESPICIO

Acting Legislative Secretary