

I MINA 'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2011 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 205 -31 (COR)

Introduced by:

R.J. RESPICIO 

2011 SEP 21 PM 4:15

Relative to recognizing and commending the individuals and organizations involved in the promotion and education outreach component of Bullying Prevention in Guam, most especially during “National Bullying Prevention Month.”

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF *I MINA' TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*:

WHEREAS, communities across the country have celebrated National Bullying Prevention Month, during the month of October, since it was first introduced in 2006 by the PACER Center, an organization dedicated to supporting the needs of children; and

WHEREAS, Guam seeks to educate and raise awareness of bullying prevention efforts being undertaken throughout the nation and in our community to ensure our youth do not become part of mainland statistics, provided by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, which say that 60% of boys who are identified as bullies will be convicted of a crime by the time they are 24 years old or be among the 40% of bullies who have three or more conviction by the same age, and;

WHEREAS, according to the 2009 Indicators of School Crime and Safety, one third of all students report having been bullied and four percent admit to being cyberbullied. Further, 20 percent of teens say they have been made fun of by a bully, 18 percent have had rumors or gossip spread about them, 11 percent were

1 physically bullied, from being shoved, tripped, or spit on, 6 percent were
2 threatened, 5 percent were excluded from activities they wanted to participate in, 4
3 percent were coerced into something they did not want to do, and 4 percent had
4 their personal belongings destroyed by bullies, and;

5 **WHEREAS**, it has been shown that community involvement is critical in
6 effectively reducing the occurrences of bullying and in encouraging more
7 acceptable behaviors from our children through the education and promotion of
8 positive behavioral alternatives to bullying, and;

9 **WHEREAS**, it has been recognized that each person in any community
10 plays one of three roles with regards to bullying, being either the bully, the bullied,
11 or the bystander who observes the act and further recognizing that the bystander
12 who does not become involved in discouraging bullying behavior enables the
13 behavior to continue and must be educated about the importance of their role in the
14 prevention of bullying, and;

15 **WHEREAS**, The Cyberbullying Research Center's 2009 statistics show that
16 between 20 - 25 percent of students have been victims of cyberbullying and that
17 these students are more likely to suffer from low self esteem and suicidal thoughts,
18 which is consistent with the rising occurrence of cyberbullying in Guam and the
19 rising number of suicides among young people who are similarly bullied, and;

20 **WHEREAS**, it is the intent of the Judiciary of Guam, the Guam Department
21 of Education and the community to address bullying in Guam and to instill the
22 necessary measures to ensure all Guam's children feel safe while attending school
23 and no longer live in fear of being ridiculed, physically or emotionally hurt, or of
24 having their belongings damaged or destroyed by bullies, and;

25 **WHEREAS**, members of the Judiciary of Guam, the Department of
26 Education, along with community partners and concerned citizens have joined

1 together to engage our youth in positive activities and provide educational outreach
2 aimed at reducing bullying in our communities; now, therefore, be it

3 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina' Trentai Unu Na*
4 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the
5 people of Guam, encourage the people of Guam to join in the effort to reduce
6 bullying and harassment in our schools and community by recognizing the month
7 of October 2011 as “National Bullying Prevention Month;” and be it further

8 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on
9 Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that
10 copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Chief Justice F. Philip Carbullido,
11 Judiciary of Guam; Office of the Governor, Office of the Lieutenant Governor,
12 Office of Speaker Judith Won Pat, Office of Senator Rory Respicio, Office of
13 Senator Aline Yamashita, Office of Senator Judith P. Guthertz, Office of Senator
14 Tina Rose Muña Barnes, I Famagu'on-ta, District Court of Guam, Office of the
15 Attorney General, United States Attorney's Office, Office of the First Lady,
16 Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Guam Bar Association, Guam
17 Department of Education, University of Guam (Mungga Ma Kasse), Guam
18 Community College, Department of Youth Affairs, Guam Police Department,
19 Sanctuary Incorporated of Guam, Inafa'Maolek, Parent Information Resource
20 Center (PIRC), Office of the Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Bishop
21 Baumgartner Catholic School, St. Anthony Catholic School, Father Duenas
22 Memorial School, San Vicente Catholic School, Guam Evangelical Christian
23 Academy, DISID, Harvest Christian Academy, St. Paul Christian School, St.
24 John's School, Guam Anti-Bullying Organization, Guam Girl Scouts, Guam
25 National Guard Counter Drug Task Force, and the Guam Youth Congress; and to
26 the Honorable Edward Baza Calvo, *I Maga'Låhen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES
OF I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THIS
____ DAY OF OCTOBER 2011.**

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.
Speaker

RORY J. RESPICIO
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary