

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

**Resolution No. 276-31(COR)**

Introduced by:

D.G. Rodriguez, Jr.

**Relative to commending and recognizing the West Care Pacific Islands organization and the Guam Alternative Lifestyle Association (GALA) on the occasion of the Annual Torchlight Ceremony in honor of World Aids Day on December 1, 2011.**

- 1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN***  
2 ***GUÅHAN*:**  
3 **WHEREAS,** World AIDS Day is held on the 1st December every year and is  
4 an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in the fight against HIV, show  
5 their support for people living with HIV and to commemorate people who  
6 have died from the disease; and  
7 **WHEREAS,** World AIDS Day was the first ever global health day and the first  
8 one was held in 1988; and  
9 **WHEREAS,** the global theme of this year's ceremony is "Getting to Zero: Zero  
10 AIDS-Related Deaths. Zero Discrimination. Zero New Infections." This year's  
11 commemoration is particularly significant because it marks 30 years since the  
12 first case of HIV/AIDS was confirmed; and

1       **WHEREAS**, there are about 225 HIV cases diagnosed on Guam since 1985  
2   and 50 people are currently living with HIV in Guam. Globally, an estimated  
3   33.3 million people have HIV. More than 25 million people between 1981 and  
4   2009 have died from the virus, making it one of the most destructive  
5   pandemics in history; and

6       **WHEREAS**, many scientific advances have been made in HIV treatment,  
7   there are laws to protect people living with HIV. But despite this, people do  
8   not know the facts about how to protect themselves and others from HIV, and  
9   stigma and discrimination remain a reality for many people living with HIV;  
10   and

11       **WHEREAS**, World AIDS Day is important as it reminds the public and the  
12   government that HIV has not gone away- there still a vital need to raise  
13   money, increase awareness, fight prejudice and improve education; and

14       **WHEREAS**, as part of Guam and the international community's efforts to  
15   observe December 1 as World Aids Day, West Care Pacific Island under the  
16   Guam HIV/AIDS Network Project with the help of Guam's Alternative  
17   Lifestyle Association (GALA) will be lighting torches at 6 pm at the historic  
18   Lujan House in Hagåtña;

19       **WHEREAS**, West Care Pacific Islands belong to West Care nationwide  
20   family of tax-exempt organizations that provides a wide spectrum of health  
21   and human services in both residential and outpatient environments to more  
22   than 30,000 youth, adults and families annually; and

1     **WHEREAS**, under the care of Ms. Kate Baltazar , West Care Pacific Islands  
2     also give services on substance abuse and addiction treatment, homeless and  
3     runaway shelters, domestic violence treatment and prevention, and mental  
4     health programs; and

5     **WHEREAS**, West Care also provides prevention education and supportive  
6     group counseling for girls ages twelve (12) to seventeen (17) through a  
7     program called *Project Isa-ta* ; and

8     **WHEREAS**, *Project Isa-ta* aims to reduce the risk of contracting HIV/AIDS  
9     and STDs among our young girls, as well as to increase self-esteem and  
10    positive body image, educate them on abuse and violence; now, therefore, be  
11    it

12    **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina' Trentai Unu na*  
13    *Liheslaturan Guåhan*, does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, commend  
14    and recognize the West Care Pacific Islands organization, the Guam  
15    HIV/AIDS Network (GUAHAN) Project and Guam's Alternative Lifestyle  
16    Association (GALA) on the occasion of the Annual Torchlight Ceremony in  
17    honor of World AIDS Day on December 1, 2011 at the historic Lujan House in  
18    Hagåtña; and be it further

19    **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on  
20    Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and  
21    that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to West Care Pacific Islands  
22    Executive Director Kate Baltazar, to GUAHAN Project and to GALA

- 1 Executive Officer Tim Dela Cruz and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, I
- 2 *Maga'lahaen Guåhan.*

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTAI UNU A NA  
LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE \_\_\_\_ DAY OF DECEMBER 2011.**

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**JUDITH T. WONPAT, Ed.D**  
**Speaker**

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**RORY J. RESPICIO**  
**Chairman, Committee on Rules**

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**TINA ROSE MUÑA-BARNES**  
**Legislative Secretary**