

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

Resolution No. 367-31 (COR)

Introduced by:

R.J. Respicio
Sam Mabini, Ph.D.
B.J.F. Cruz

2012 MAR 27 PM 3:04

RELATIVE TO RECOGNIZING APRIL 2012 AS "EARTH MONTH;" APRIL 16-22 AS "EARTH WEEK" WITH THE THEME, "GO GREEN! RECYCLE AND CONSERVE THE ENVIRONMENT;" AND OBSERVING APRIL 22 AS "EARTH DAY 2012;" AND TO COMMENDING THE STAFF AND MANAGEMENT OF THE GUAM ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (GUAM EPA) FOR THEIR DEDICATED WORK IN LEADING EFFORTS TOWARD SAFEGUARDING OUR ISLAND'S NATURAL RESOURCES.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF *I Mina'Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*:

WHEREAS, since the first Earth Day was celebrated forty-two (42) years ago, understanding and protecting our planet's climate and environment have become among our greatest challenges, because our natural resources will always be important to us, our economy, our health, and our safety, and a protected and safe island is critical to the well-being of our community and the success of future generations; and

WHEREAS, the ability of Guam's people to live healthy lives, in harmony with nature, as well as the state of our environment, are critical and necessary components for the success and health of our island's economy, and as our planet finds itself moving ever closer to great environmental danger, the people of Guam have begun to take the initiative and make progress toward that moment in history when a prosperous, clean-energy driven, and healthy economy for our future will become a reality; and

WHEREAS, the Guam Environmental Protection Agency (Guam EPA), in conjunction with the Guam Environmental Education Committee, and with commitments of assistance from many public, private, and non-profit organizations, strives daily to protect and conserve Guam's natural environment, including ensuring that our island's air, land, and water are safeguarded from degradation; and

WHEREAS, each Earth Month, Earth Week and Earth Day, Guam EPA takes the

1 opportunity to encourage corporations and governments to collaborate and help create an
2 island-wide green economy in Guam, that will complement and work in synergy with a
3 planet-wide green economy, and for this year, during the commemoration of the month of
4 April 2012 as Earth Month, the week of April 16-22, 2012 as Earth Week, and the
5 observation of Earth Day 2012, to be celebrated on Sunday, April 22, 2012, the focus will be
6 on the theme: "Go Green! Recycle and Conserve the Environment;" and

7 **WHEREAS**, the recognition and celebration of Earth Day can be an important
8 milestone in our progress toward achieving climate and energy efficiency, generating
9 renewable energy, and creating green jobs, as Guam joins the billions of people in one
10 hundred-ninety (190) countries taking action on this important day for the benefit of their
11 communities, and

12 **WHEREAS**, in order to raise environmental awareness during Earth Day 2012,
13 Guam will organize several events including the worldwide observation of "Earth Hour,"
14 during which homeowners and businesses are encouraged to shut off their electricity for an
15 hour to raise awareness of conservation of power; and

16 **WHEREAS**, other Earth Day/Earth Week events include a number of sponsors and
17 various activities in farming and the conservation of the environment, including:

- 18 a. Natural farming and easy composting offered by the University of Guam (UOG) and
19 the Guam Department of Agriculture (DOAg) to help homeowners save money by
20 growing their own vegetables and save money on trash disposal by composting
21 vegetable clippings, coffee grounds and other biodegradable products; and
- 22 b. The eco-friendly Easter Basket workshop sponsored by the National Park Services to
23 help students make sustainable baskets from local material; and
- 24 c. The "Hunting is my Nature Pig Derby and Pork in the Park Cook-off" presented by
25 the Guam Coastal Management Program, Bureau of Statistics and Plans and the
26 Guam DOAg to help reduce invasive pigs that create erosion and destroy trees and
27 promote hunting and eating local foods; and
- 28 d. The Fish and Vegetable cook-off sponsored by the Guam Community College (GCC)
29 and UOG to promote the production and consumption of locally-grown foods; and
- 30 e. The UOG and DOAg assistance to help residents use native trees to reduce their

cooling costs and enhance their properties; and

- f. The Shredding Paper for Nature drive sponsored by iRecycle, Coast 360 and the Farmers Co-op to help residents use resources like paper to promote local farming and composting process; and

WHEREAS, Earth Day/Earth Week activities that include water and environmental activities include:

- a. The “Get to Know Your Drinking Water,” Tumon Bay Aquifer Tour; and
- b. The “Natural Wonder of Beach Seeps,” sponsored by the Naval Base Guam Environmental Office to give residents an in-depth view of Guam’s drinking water; and
- c. The “Kids Freshwater Fishing Derby” sponsored by the Guam DOAg, to help promote fishing practices and visiting areas like the Masso Reservoir Nature Area; and
- d. The “Get to Know Nature” hikes offered by the National Park Services (NPS) to help residents see the Asan watershed first hand, and understand the importance of rivers and streams and how we can protect them; and

WHEREAS, Earth Day and Earth Week events that promote awareness include:

- a. The Island Sustainability conference sponsored by UOG to promote more sustainable living in our island community;
- b. The Right Tree for the Right Place workshop sponsored by the NPS;
- c. The Youthfest and Nature Expo sponsored by Guam EPA and Sanctuary that honors students participating in the environmental works and offers free family-friendly educational activities; and
- d. The Youth Environmental Conference sponsored by Underwater World to help high school students discuss and think critically about the environmental issues affecting Guam’s natural resources; and

WHEREAS, these events promote stewardship of the environment to the residents and the business community through awareness, teaching, and the practice of sustainability now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that *I Liheslaturan Guahan* does hereby, on behalf of the people on

Guam, recognize April 2012 as "Earth Month;" the week of April 16-22, 2012 as "Earth Week;" and Sunday, April 22, 2012 as "Earth Day," to be celebrated worldwide; and be it further

RESOLVED, that *I Liheslaturan Guahan* does hereby commend the Guam Environmental Protection Agency (Guam EPA), and all businesses, government entities, schools and individuals that continue to endeavor to bring awareness to the community about the importance of protecting our environment; and be it further

RESOLVED, that for Earth Day 2012, *I Liheslaturan Guahan* does hereby commemorate and give thanks to the following Guahan Earth Day 2012 partners: Guam Environmental Protection Agency; University of Guam (Centers for sustainability, WPCRI, Marine Lab, Extension, Sea Lab); Guam Department of Education (George Washington HS Marine Mania, Simon Sanchez HS Sharks MADE, JFK HS, Merizo Elementary); Bureau of Statistics and Plans Guam Coastal Management Program; Guam Department of Agriculture (Division of Aquatics and Wildlife, Forestry); Guam Community College; National Park Service; National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration; U.S. Naval Base, Guam; Guam Historic Preservation Trust; Guam Public Radio KPRG 89.3 FM; Island Beautification Task Force; Sanctuary Inc.; I*Recycle; Recycling Association of Guam; Payless Supermarkets; Coast 360; UnderWater World; Guam Waterworks Authority; Guam Power Authority; 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 Robert Perron, Chairman Guam Environmental Protection Agency Board of Directors 1. Eric M. Palacios, Acting Administrator, Guam Environment Protection Agency; and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, I Maga'lahren Guahan.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES
OF *I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE
__TH DAY OF APRIL, 2012.

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D
Speaker

RORY J. RESPICIO
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary

Clerks Office

From: Senator Rory J. Respicio [cor@guamlegislature.org]
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 2:58 PM
To: Guam Legislature Clerks
Subject: Resolution Intro: Earth Day

Hafa Adai, Clerks:

Please see attachment for introduction. Resolution presentation first week of April.

Thank you!

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Majority Leader Rory J. Respicio
Chairperson, Committee on Rules;
Federal, Foreign & Micronesian Affairs;
and Human & Natural Resources
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