

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

2012 MAY 10 AM 10:14
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Resolution No. 414-31(cor)

Introduced by:

Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. 

Relative to expressing the support of *I Liheslaturan Guahan* for the Department of Public Health and Social Services' celebration of Women's Health week with a selected theme entitled "*Kinemprendi gi Punton Salut Famalao'an gi ya Pasifiku*", which is translated to "Understanding Women's Health Challenges in the Pacific" and extending a warm *un dangkolo na si yu'us ma'ase* to the women of the island of Guam for the valuable role they play in our society.

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

3
4 **WHEREAS,** National Women's Health Week was being initiated in the
5 dawn of the new millennium by a coalition of public and private organizations
6 dedicated to raising awareness of women's health issues; and

7 **WHEREAS,** from that day forward Women's Health Week has occurred in
8 the spring with an annual celebration held the week following Mother's Day to
9 fully recognize the important roles women in our society play in the success of our
10 island community; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Women's Health Week is a celebration of women taking
2 responsibility for their own health through greater knowledge and understanding,
3 in doing so, they also serve our community by passing this knowledge to their
4 children and to the younger generations; and

5 **WHEREAS**, Guam continues to focus on prenatal smoking cessation as a
6 way to impact prematurity. In 2011, number of women who smoked during the
7 last three months of their pregnancy went from 256 to 229, an 8% decrease; and

8 **WHEREAS**, fifty percent (50.39%) of pregnant women who gave birth in
9 2011 met the WHO definition of adequate prenatal care (eight or more prenatal
10 visits). Sadly, this was a decrease of 19% from 2010 data; and

11 **WHEREAS**, in 2010, 49% of the participants who answered the Guam
12 Behavioral Risk Fact Surveillance System (BRFSS) were women. Approximately
13 80% of the women reported their general health as good and 75% of the women
14 had some form of health insurance; and

15 **WHEREAS**, a Pap smear identifies cervical and/or vaginal cells that are
16 cancerous or could be potentially pre-cancerous. According to the 2010 Guam
17 BRFSS, 67% of the women over the age of 18 had a Pap test within the past three
18 years; and

19 **WHEREAS**, a mammography is a specific type of imaging that uses a low-
20 dose x-ray system to examine breasts. It is used to aid in the early detection and
21 diagnosis of breast disease in women. According to the 2010 Guam BRFSS, 64%
22 of women between the ages of 40 to 49 years had a mammogram within the past
23 two years; and

1 **WHEREAS**, women of all backgrounds should be encouraged to greatly
2 reduce their risk of common diseases through preventive measures such as healthy
3 lifestyle, by engaging in regular physical activity, eating a nutritious diet, and
4 visiting a healthcare provider to receive regular check-ups, and preventive
5 screenings; and

6 **WHEREAS**, disparities exist in the prevalence of disease among women of
7 different backgrounds, including women with disabilities, and Asian and Pacific
8 Islander women; and

9 **WHEREAS**, as we celebrate the extraordinary progress in women's health,
10 we recognize that more needs to be done to safeguard the health of women for
11 generations to come through culturally and linguistically appropriate services.
12 Women's health remains a priority for families and communities, and our
13 commitment to keeping women healthy is stronger than ever; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Guam Women's Health Week begins some activities starting
15 on May 5, 2012, with a Women's Health Fair at the Micronesia Mall from 10am to
16 2pm, with displays focusing on Women's Health and a Chronic Health Screening
17 with our partners in the community, and so on May 13, 2012, Mother's Day, is the
18 official start of the National Women's Week", and to finalize the week with our
19 First-ever Women's Health Conference on May 19, 2012 and with the theme
20 "Understanding Women's Health Challenges in the Pacific" empowering women
21 to make their health a top priority; and now, therefore, be it

22 **RESOLVED**, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people of Guam, commend
23 the Department of Public Health and Social Services for recognizing the valuable
24 services and roles of the women of our island by recognizing Women's Health
25 Week as it is entitled, "*Kinemprendi gi Puntan Salut Famalao'an gi ya Pasifiku*",

1 and extend a warm *Un Dangkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'ase'* for their contributions to the
2 community of Guam; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, that Women's Health Week is made possible through the hard
4 work of Department of Public Health and Social Services, Division of Public
5 Health, Chief Public Health Office, Bureau of Family Health and Nursing
6 Services, Department of Public Health & Social Services Employee's Association,
7 Bureau of Community Health Services, Guam Office of Minority Health, Live
8 Healthy Guam, and WestCare for working together in recognizing the women of
9 our society; and be it further

10 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on
11 Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that
12 copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Margarita B. Gay, RN, MN,
13 Administrator, Bureau of Family Health & Nursing Services; Ms. Evangeline
14 Manibusan, RN, WHNP, Community Health Nursing Supervisor II; Ms. Diana
15 Santos, BSW, Social Worker III; Mr. Alex Silverio, Program Coordinator III,
16 Guam Office of Minority Health; Mr. Roy Candaso, Program Coordinator III,
17 Project Bisita; Mr. Frank Candaso, Community Program Aide II, Project Bisita;
18 Ms. Maggie Murphy Bell, Program Coordinator IV, Maternal and Child Health
19 Program; and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES
OF *I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE 19th
DAY OF MAY, 2012.**

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D

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Speaker

Chairman, Committee on Rules

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary