

I Mina' Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guáhan
Resolutions Log Sheet

| Resolution No. | Sponsor | Title | Date Intro | Date of Presentation | Date Referred | Committee / Ofc Referred | Date Adopted |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|--|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| 88-32 (LS) | Aline A. Yamashita, Ph.D. | Relative to celebrating and acknowledging those individuals who are affected by autism, and commending and acknowledging their families, for their unconditional love and dedication to bettering the lives of their children, grandchildren and family members; and to commending the Autism Community Together (ACT) for their efforts to promote autism awareness and support to families during the observance of the month of April 2013 as "Autism Awareness Month". | 3/28/13 9:16am | 04/13/13 | | | 3/28/2013 |

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
2013 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 88-32 (LS)

Introduced by:

Aline A. Yamashita, Ph.D.
T. C. Ada
V. Anthony Ada
Frank B. Aguon, Jr.
B. J.F. Cruz
Chris M. Dueñas
Michael T. Limtiaco
Brant T. McCreadie
Tommy Morrison
T. R. Muña. Barnes
Vicente (ben) C. Pangelinan
R. J. Respicio
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
Michael F. Q. San Nicolas
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Relative to celebrating and acknowledging those individuals who are affected by autism, and to commending and acknowledging their families for their unconditional love and dedication to bettering the lives of their children, grandchildren and family members; and to further commending the Autism Community Together (ACT) for its efforts to promote autism awareness, and for its support to families, during the observance of the month of April 2013 as “Autism Awareness Month”.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN***
2 ***GUÁHAN*:**

3 **WHEREAS,** autism is a complex developmental disability that typically
4 appears during the first three years of a child's life, and affects their ability to

1 communicate and interact with others; and there is no known single cause for autism,
2 but increased awareness and funding can help families today; and

3 **WHEREAS**, autism is defined by a certain set of behaviors and is a "spectrum
4 disorder" that affects individuals differently, to varying degrees; and autism is four
5 times more prevalent in boys than in girls, and knows no racial, ethnic, or social
6 boundaries. In 2009, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued their
7 autism prevalence report, and concluded that the prevalence of autism had risen to one
8 in every 88 births in the United States; and it is five times more common among boys
9 -- almost one in every 54 boys, compared to one in every 252 girls; and

10 **WHEREAS**, thirteen million American families are now living with the effects
11 of autism spectrum disorder, and the Autism Society currently estimates that the
12 lifetime cost of caring for a child with autism ranges from \$2.3 million dollars; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the United States faces almost \$126 billion dollars annually in
14 costs for autism; and together with appropriate education and intervention, are vital to
15 the future growth and development of individuals with autism; and

16 **WHEREAS**, through the increased awareness, and the services available to
17 individuals with autism, the lives of our friends and family members with autism can
18 be made easier, while those without autism can expand their understanding of the
19 needs and challenges that individuals with autism experience; and

20 **WHEREAS**, parents and family members, support groups, researchers, and
21 professionals have dedicated years of service in their ongoing efforts to advocate for
22 the rights, respect, dignity, humane treatment, and appropriate education of all persons
23 with autism; and in order to highlight the growing need for concern and awareness
24 about autism, the Autism Society has celebrated "National Autism Awareness Month"
25 since the 1970s in the United States, recognizing the month of April as a time of
26 special opportunity to educate the public about autism and issues within the autism

1 community; and

2 **WHEREAS**, *I Maga'lahi* (the Governor) signed a proclamation declaring April
3 2013 as *Autism Awareness Month*, when every resident of Guam is invited to
4 participate in activities that educate and promote awareness of autism spectrum
5 disorders that affect members of our community and their families; and

6 **WHEREAS**, Autism Community Together (ACT) was formed in January 2004,
7 and it has continued to spearhead an awareness effort in order to educate parents,
8 professionals, and the general public about autism and its effects; and various
9 activities are being coordinated throughout the month of April 2013 to further these
10 goals, including a fair at the *Agaña* Shopping Center located in the capital city of
11 *Hagåtña*, where approximately 40 vendors will participate to feature informational
12 displays to disseminate and spread awareness relative to education, employment,
13 career, and many related service agencies; a family gathering; and a private dinner
14 show at the Sandcastle dedicated to the families affected by autism; now therefore, be
15 it

16 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,
17 on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize, celebrate and acknowledge individuals
18 who are affected by autism, and commend and acknowledge their families for their
19 unconditional love and dedication to bettering the lives of their children,
20 grandchildren and family members; and does further commend the Autism
21 Community Together (ACT) for its efforts to promote autism awareness, and for its
22 support to families, during the observance of the month of April 2013 as “Autism
23 Awareness Month”; and be it further

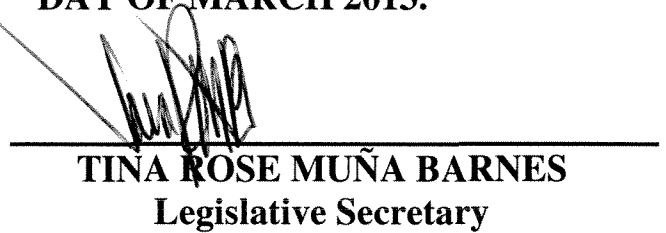
24 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to,
25 the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Ms.
26 Evelyn Claros, President, Autism Community Together; to Ms. Lourdes A. Mesa,

1 Vice-President, Autism Community Together; to Ms. Mary Cruz, Secretary, Autism
2 Community Together; to Ms. Roberta Perez, Treasurer, Autism Community Together;
3 to the co-founders of Autism Community Together, Ms. Rindraty Celes Limtiaco and
4 Mr. Travis Coffman; and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE 28TH DAY OF MARCH 2013.



BENJAMIN J.F. CRUZ
Acting Speaker



TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary