


I Mina' Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Resolutions Log Sheet

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Referred	Committee / Ofc Referred	Date Adopted
261-32 (COR)	Aline A. Yamashita, Ph.D.	Relative to requesting that Guam be considered a State by the United States Department of Labor for the purpose of participating in the federally-funded Unemployment Insurance Program for Ex-Servicemembers.	10/23/2013 3:04 p.m.				

**I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2013 (FIRST) REGULAR SESSION**

Resolution No. 261-32 (COR)

Introduced by:

Aline A. Yamashita, PhD 

Relative to requesting that Guam be considered a State by the United States Department of Labor for the purpose of participating in the federally-funded Unemployment Insurance Program for Ex-Servicemembers.

2013 OCT 23 PM 3:04 

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I MINA'**

2 **TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:**

3 **WHEREAS**, the Guam soldier, as part of the United States military
4 service, has bravely served and contributed to every war endeavor from
5 World War II to today's Operation Enduring Freedom as part of the
6 national effort to preserve the peace and the rights, and to protect the
7 liberties and the freedoms that we avail ourselves of today as citizens of the
8 great nation of the United States of America ; and

1 **WHEREAS**, while we are proud that throughout generations the
2 Guam soldier, sailor, marine and airman, national guardmember and
3 reservist has continually and repeatedly been recognized for outstanding
4 service during and in respective military duties and that nationally Guam
5 maintains the highest enlistment statistics per capita, we are also equally
6 humbled by the fact that we have the highest loss per capita of those who
7 paid the ultimate sacrifice in service of our great nation to ensure that all
8 United States citizens are afforded the rights, liberties, freedom and
9 opportunities that are bestowed upon us as citizens of this great country;
10 and

11 **WHEREAS**, to add to our island territory's pride in our legacy of
12 soldiers, airmen, sailors and marines who have served us both locally and
13 nationally as part of our country's active military service in past wars and
14 in times of conflict when our military servicemembers were deployed to
15 preserve peace and stability in order to ensure regional as well as national
16 security taking part of efforts in distant foreign counties, and

1 **WHEREAS**, the most recent Guam National Guard regiment to have
2 been sent to war in support of Operation Enduring Freedom is one of the
3 largest; totaling about six-hundred (600) citizen soldiers from the Guam
4 Army National Guard and the Guam Air National Guard, and of the total
5 it is disconcerting and shocking that nearly half of our servicemembers will
6 be unemployed upon returning home during the first few months of 2014
7 after diligently and loyally working to protect and maintain the peace,
8 rights, liberties, opportunities and freedoms afforded to all United States of
9 America citizens who live in Guam and throughout the fifty (50) states and
10 US territories and possessions; and

11 **WHEREAS**, out of the Guam population of about one hundred sixty
12 thousand (160,000 people) as per the 2010 US Census, our veterans account
13 for about more than approximately eight thousand (8,000) or,
14 according to figures provided in May 2013 by the Office of Veterans'
15 Affairs, possibly more than thirteen thousand (13,000), and it is plausible to
16 argue that this number will only increase when our proud national
17 guardmembers return at the beginning of next year in January 2014; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Guam’s unemployment rate has increased from 11.8
2 percent in March 2012 to 13.3 percent in March 2013—and coupled with the
3 national unemployment rates of 8.2 percent and 7.6 percent for the same
4 times, according to the U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics
5 – there is an undeniable need to address the social welfare of our people in
6 finding employment to assist them in making ends meet and supporting
7 the needs of their families as well as to continue to grow the island’s
8 economy; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the Honorable Eddie Baza Calvo, *I Maga Lahen Guahan*,
10 Governor of Guam, has in recognition of the high unemployment rate of
11 the island’s returning soldiers and airman, launched this year the
12 “Operation Keep Your Guard Up” employment initiative intended to help
13 deployed Guam servicemembers return home to a community with
14 opportunities ready to assist them in successfully finding gainful
15 employment; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Governor Calvo has publicly stated that "I made that
17 promise that while they are out there in harm's way protecting our lives

1 and our lifestyle; our ability to reach our full potential, that we would work
2 hard here in the community to make it a better island so when they do
3 come back, it'd be better off than when they left. That is our continued
4 commitment. Now we also have to focus on them;" and

5 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Labor, in recognition of
6 hardships that our loyal military veterans face when returning to the
7 homeland relative to employment, established a program to help our
8 veterans get back on their economic feet in the form of the "Unemployed
9 Compensation for Ex-Servicemembers" program; and

10 **WHEREAS**, according to the official website of the United States
11 Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration the
12 Unemployment Compensation for Ex-servicemembers (UCX) program
13 provides benefits for eligible ex-military personnel and former members of
14 the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
15 and U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) Commissioned Corps and the
16 program is administered by the States as agents of the Federal government;
17 and those who qualify include those who were on active duty with a

1 branch of the U.S. military, been separated under honorable conditions
2 with no payroll deduction from servicemembers' wages for unemployment
3 insurance protection and the benefits are paid for by the various branches
4 of the military, NOAA or USPHS; and

5 **WHEREAS**, all the contiguous fifty (50) states of the United States of
6 America, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia and
7 The United States Virgin Islands are identified as "States" for the purpose
8 of participating in the "Unemployed Compensation for Ex-
9 Servicemembers" program; which, by federal law, certain members of the
10 U.S. military receive Unemployment Compensation based on their active
11 duty service, receiving weekly income as they look for employment; now,
12 therefore, be it

13 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*, on behalf
14 of the people of Guam does hereby, request that Guam be considered a
15 State by the United States Department of Labor for the purpose of
16 participating in the federally-funded Unemployment Insurance Program
17 for Ex-Servicemembers; now therefore, be it

1 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee
2 on Rules certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attests to, the adoption
3 hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to The
4 Honorable Barack H. Obama, President of the United States of America;
5 The Honorable Carl Levin, Chairman, U.S. Senate Committee on Armed
6 Services; The Honorable Bernard “Bernie” Sanders, Chairman, U.S. Senate
7 Committee on Veterans’ Affairs; The Honorable Thomas “Tom” Harkin,
8 Chairman, U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions;
9 The Honorable Howard “Buck” McKeon, Chairman, U.S. House
10 Committee on Armed Services; The Honorable Jeff Miller, Chairman, U.S.
11 House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs; The Honorable John Kline,
12 Chairman, U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce; The
13 Honorable Thomas E. Perez, U.S. Secretary of Labor; The Honorable Eric K.
14 Shinseki, U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs; the Honorable Madeleine Z.
15 Bordallo, Guam Delegate to the U.S. Congress; Mr. Cel J.R. Aguiqui, Mr.
16 Larry C. Cruz and Mr. Frank D. Blas, Founders of the National
17 Organization for Chamorro Veterans in America; Mr. Bill Cundiff,

1 Chairman, Guam Veterans' Commission; Mr. Jay Rojas, liaison,
2 Washington D.C. Office of the Governor of Guam; and to The Honorable
3 Eddie Baza Calvo, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

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**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON
RULES OF *I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON
THE ___ DAY OF _____ 2013.**

JUDITH T. WON PAT, ED.D.
Speaker

RORY J. RESPICIO
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Secretary of the Legislature

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