

I Mina'Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guåhan Office of The Legislative Secretary Tina Rose Muña Barnes

2011 MAR 25 PM ,

2011 NUR 25 PN 4:

March 23, 2011

The Honorable Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D. Speaker I Mina' Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guåhan 155 Hesler Place Hagåtña, Guam 96910

VIA: The Honorable Rory J. Respicio Chairperson, Committee on Rules

RE: Report on Res No. 40-31 (COR)

Dear Speaker Won Pat:

Transmitted herewith for consideration by the Body is the Report on Res No. 40-31(COR) – "Relative to requesting Congresswoman Madeline Z. Bordallo to introduce legislation in the United States House of Representatives to amend the 'Tourism Promotion Act of 2009', insuring Guam's access to millions of tourism related dollars from the federal government" which was publicly heard on Thursday, March 17, 2011.

Sinceru yan magåhet,

Senator Tina Rose Muña Barnes



REPORT ON

RES NO. 40-31 (COR)

"Relative to requesting Congresswoman Madeline Z. Bordallo to introduce legislation in the United States House of Representatives to amend the 'Tourism Promotion Act of 2009', insuring Guam's access to millions of tourism related dollars from the federal government"



REPORT DIGEST

I. OVERVIEW

Resolution No. 40-31(COR) was introduced on March 2, 2011 by Senator Tina Rose Muña Barnes and Vice Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz, and was subsequently referred to Senator T.R. Muña Barnes as sponsor on March 2, 2011.

Senator Muña Barnes, as sponsor, convened a public hearing on Resolution No. 40-31(COR) on Thursday, March 17, 2011 at 9:00a.m. in *I Liheslatura*'s Public Hearing Room.

Public Notice Requirements

Notices were disseminated via e-mail to all senators and all main media broadcasting outlets on March 9, 2011(5-Day Notice), and again on March 15, 2011(48-Hour Notice).

Senators Present

Senator Tina Rose Muña Barnes Senator V. Anthony Ada Senator Christopher M. Duenas

II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY & DISCUSSION

The public hearing was Called-to-Order at 9:11 a.m.

Senator Tina Muña Barnes opened the floor to discuss Resolution No.40-31(COR), introduced by Senator Barnes and Vice Speaker B.J. Cruz.

Senator gave an overview for the listening audience that the "Travel Promotion Act of 2009" was signed into law in March of last year. She said that the intent of the measure was to enhance travel to and within the United States of America, in partnership with the federal government. She said that the measure also created "The Corporation for Travel Promotion" as a nonprofit corporation for travel, and that the intent mandated a \$10 fee per travel authorization.

Senator Muña Barnes said that this Act allowed the U.S. to establish a multi-million dollar promotion program which permits the U.S. to compete on the global tourism stage for billions of dollars.

Senator Muña Barnes said that Guam receives approximately 1.3 million tourists from throughout the world including Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, and other emerging markets. She emphasized that Guam is the westernmost soil of the United States of America and said that Guam is not included in this Act, and that without Guam's inclusion, we will not be able to access or directly benefit from the millions of dollars generated from tourism. Senator Muña Barnes said that it is imperative that our island be included in this tourism promotion program,



I Mina'Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guåhan Office of The Legislative Secretary Tina Rose Muña Barnes

and that it is absolutely necessary to work with the Congresswoman Bordallo to implore Congress to amend the existing law and ensure inclusion of Guam.

Senator Barnes opened the floor, and called upon Former First Lady Joann Camacho to testify.

Camacho represented the Guam Visitors Bureau as acting General Manager, and testified in favor of Resolution No. 40-31 (COR). She read written testimony of GVB, which is transmitted herein.

Camacho thanked the Senators for their time and for their good work. Senator Barnes thanked Camacho for her testimony. Senator Barnes proceeded with the public hearing by reading the response letter from Congresswoman Bordallo. This correspondence, along with Senator Barnes' letter to Congresswoman Bordallo, is transmitted herein.

Senator Barnes thanked Camacho for her time, and for working closely with the Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing, and Recreation. She reiterated that we will work with Congresswoman Bordallo to make the amendment include Guam. She further stated that this money infused in our economy will surely benefit Guam especially in these trying times.

Senator Barnes opened the floor for senatorial commentary.

Senator Chris Duenas thanked Madame Chair for this very appropriate legislation. He then told Camacho that in all the years that he's worked with her, he knows her as a very energetic woman, specifically her role in the beautification projects of Guam. He then asked if there were any new and innovative programs or if she was looking at enhancing what GVB already exists.

Camacho responded that GVB's mission is to increase the number of tourists to Guam. She said that she would like to work with Congresswoman Bordallo when she returns to Guam in determining a timeline in getting this resolved, and is hopeful that the amendment will push through. She also said that it is important to strategize in terms of sustaining GVB's business.

Senator Barnes excused Former First Lady Joann Camacho. She also welcomed others to submit testimonies in regards to Resolution No. 40-31, via e-mail, facsimile transmittal, or hand-delivery.

Senator Barnes announced for the record that the items on the agenda have been publicly heard, thanked her colleagues for joining her, and adjourned the hearing at 9:55 a.m.

III. FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Senator Tina Muña Barnes hereby reports out Resolution No. 40-31(COR), with the recommendation to pass.

I MINA' TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2011 (FIRST) REGULAR SESSION

Resolution No. <u>40-31</u> (COR)

Introduced By:

T.R. Muna Barnes & B.J. Cruzz

2011 MAR - 2 MM 9: 32 - Pr

Relative to requesting Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo to introduce legislation in the United States House of Representatives to amend the "Tourism Promotion Act of 2009", insuring Guam's access to millions of tourism related dollars from the federal government

1	BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA' TRENTAI UNU NA
2	LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:
3	WHEREAS, President Barack Obama signed the "Travel Promotion Act
4	of 2009" (The Act) into law on March 4 th 2010; and
5	WHEREAS, the Act created "The Corporation for Travel Promotion" as a
6	nonprofit corporation; and
7	WHEREAS, the corporation must provide useful information to foreign
8	tourists, business people, students, scholars, scientists, and others interested in
9	traveling to the United States; and
10	
11	WHEREAS, this information must include the distribution of material
12	provided by the Federal government concerning entry requirements, required

documentation, fees, processes, and information concerning declared public health
emergencies, to prospective travelers, travel agents, tour operators, meeting
planners, foreign governments, travel media and other international stakeholders;
and

17

WHEREAS, the corporation must identify, counter, and correct
misperceptions regarding United States entry policies around the world; and

WHEREAS, the corporation is tasked with maximizing the economic and diplomatic benefits of travel to the United States by promoting the United States of America to world travelers through the use of, but not limited to, all forms of advertising, outreach to trade shows, and other appropriate promotional activities; and

WHEREAS, the Act and its associated fee is intended to "support state, regional, and private sector initiatives to promote travel to and within the United States; and

WHEREAS, the island of Guam receives approximately 1.3 million tourists from throughout the world including Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, and others; and

WHEREAS, the Act requires that no later than September 30, 2009, that the Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish a fee for the use of the System and begin assessment and collection of that fee; and

33	WHEREAS, the initial fee shall be the sum of \$10.00 per travel
34	authorization; and
35	WHEREAS, the US territory of Guam is not a part of the several "states"
36	as defined by the Supreme Court of the United States of American and the Travel
37	Promotion Act of 2009; and
38	WHEREAS, Guam's exclusion may result in the loss of more than
39	\$10, 000,000 in tourism promotion dollars to Guam; and
40	WHEREAS, the people of Guam have throughout our history sacrificed
41	life, limb, and land in support of the American way of life; and
42	WHEREAS, Guam's tourism industry accounts for approximately 60% of
43	our island's economic base; and
44	WHEREAS, any additional fees assessed to Guam's visitors should be
45	used to enhance the experience of visitors to Guam; and
46	WHEREAS, the island of Guam is the westernmost soil of the American
47	Union; and fully deserving of full and fair treatment in federal programs that
48	enhance our visitor base, enrich the international view of the "American" brand,
49	and enrich our economy; and
50	WHEREAS, congressional action must be taken to include the island of
51	Guam within the "Travel Promotion Act of 2009"; now, therefore, be it

•

•

52	RESOLVED , that I Mina'Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guåhan does
53	hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, petition Congresswoman Madeleine Z.
54	Bordallo to initiate the process of including Guam within the "Travel Promotion
55	Act of 2009; and be it further
56	RESOLVED , that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary
57	attests to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter be
58	transmitted to the Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam's Delegate to the U.S.

59 Congress; and to the Honorable Eddie B. Calvo, *I Maga'lahen Guiihan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA 'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THIS 21ST DAY OF MARCH, 2011.

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D. Speaker

TINA ROSE MUNA BARNES Legislative Secretary



I Mina'TrentaiUnu Na LiheslaturanGuåhan Office of The Legislative Secretary Tina Rose Muña Barnes

Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet Thursday, March 17, 2011 • 9:00a.m. • Public Hearing Room

Res No. <u>40-31</u> (COR) – (T.R. Muña Barnes) – "Relative to requesting Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo to introduce legislation 'in the United States House of Representatives to amend the "Tourism Promotion Act of 2009", insuring Guam's access to millions of tourism related dollars from the federal government "

NAME	AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION (IF ANY)	SUPPORT? OPPOSE?	WRITTEN TESTIMONY	ORAL TESTIMONY	CONTACT NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
Joann Canacho	GVB	support		/		jcamache vilitguas
1		11				dra dra
				-		
			1			
	\		1.1.1.1.1.1.1			
	1					
		the second s				

Page 1 of 1

Chairperson, Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing and Recreation Vice Chairperson, Committee on Youth, Cultural Affairs, Procurement, General Government Operations and Public Broadcasting 155 Hesler Place Hagatña, Guam 96910 [Tel: 671-472-3455/6 Fax: 671-472-3400] www.tinamunabarnes.com



March 17, 2011

Senator Tuna Muna Barnes Chairwoman Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing & Recreation 31st Guam Legislature 155 Hesler Place Hagatna, Guam 96910

Re: Resolution NO. 40-31 (COR) To request Congresswoman Bordallo to introduce legislation to include Guam in the Travel Promotion Act 2009

Hafa Adai Senator Barnes,

The Bureau is aware and familiar with this act as passed by congress and signed into law by President Obama in March 2010.

We are concerned the Act does not clearly define the inclusion of Guam or the other territories as part of the beneficiaries. During the colloquy on the House floor, it was stated that exclusion of the territories from the mandate of the Corporation of Travel Promotion was not intentional. Therefore, we support the resolution to remove the ambiguity and include all the territories of the United States. Guam and the territories are a source of funding for this program and therefore should be included in any travel promotion for the U.S.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase,

Joann G. Camacho Acting/General Manager

cc: GVB Board of Directors Gerald Perez, General Manager





March 01, 2011

Madeleine Z. Bordallo Guam Delegate to Congress 2441 Rayburn HOB Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Bordallo,

Hafa Adai! As I am sure you are already aware, President Barack Obama signed "The Travel Promotion Act of 2009" ("The Act") into law in March of last year. The intent of this measure was to enhance travel to, and within, the United States of America.

In partnership with the federal government, the measure created the nonprofit "Corporation for Travel Promotion," mandated a \$10.00 fee per travel authorization granted, and implemented accountability measures within the Act's enabling statute.

The Act allowed the United States to establish a multi-million dollar promotion program to compete on the global stage for the billions of dollars and immeasurable goodwill that would come with additional overseas travelers.

Despite the fact that Guam receives approximately 1.3million tourists from throughout the world including Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong and other emerging markets, our island is not a part of the several "states" this measure was meant to impact.

Without Guam's inclusion in this act and a congressional amendment effectuating that change, we will not be able to access, or directly benefit from, the more than \$10million in fees possibly generated by Guam's visitors.

As Guam is the westernmost soil of the United States of America, and we are engaged in a continuing competition for fewer tourism dollars throughout our region of the world, I believe it is imperative that our island become an integrated part of our Congresswoman Madeline Z. Bordallo Page 2 February 14, 2011

nation's Travel Promotion Program. On behalf of the people, please amend existing federal law to include Guam in the Travel Promotion Act of 2009.

If I can assist you in any way regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me personally. Thank you for your continued service to our people.

Sinseru yan magåhet,

Senator 1 Barnes

cc: Speaker Majority Leader Minority Leader MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON READWESS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY PERSONNEL

TURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE Subcommittee on Fishfres, Wildlife, Oceans and Indular Affares Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources



Congress of the United States House of Representatives

March 2, 2011

The Honorable Tina Rose Muna-Barnes Chairwoman, Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing and Recreation I Mina'trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guahan 155 Hesler St., Suite 101 Hagatna, Guam 96910

Dear Chairwoman Muna-Barnes,

I write in response to your letter regarding the Travel Promotion and Tourism Act of 2009. This bill was signed into law by President Barack Obama on March 4, 2010, and would establish a Corporation for Travel Promotion to encourage foreign travel to the United States.

I share your concern regarding Guam benefitting from the travel promotion activities established by this bill, and I have addressed this during debate and after passage of this bill. On September 25, 2009, I along with my colleagues from the U.S. territories sent a letter to Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Majority Leader Steny Hoyer expressing our concerns with the Travel Promotion and Tourism Act of 2009 and its ability to address the unique needs of the U.S. territories. Specifically, we expressed concern regarding the intent of the Corporation for Travel Promotion's mission, "to ensure that international travel benefits all States and the District of Columbia."

Further, on October 7, 2009, during debate on S.1023, the Senate version of the Travel Promotion and Tourism Act of 2009 introduced by Senator Byron Dorgan of North Dakota, I shared my concerns with Congressman Bill Delahunt and Minority Whip Roy Blunt during a colloquy on the House floor. Congressman Delahunt stated that, "It is not the intent of this body for the territories to be excluded from the mandate of the Corporation of Travel Promotion or from the scope of duties prescribed by the bill for the offices within the Department of Commerce." Congressman Blunt reiterated this position by stating, "The territories should, without question, be made part of the corporation's and the Commerce Department's effort to promote international travel."

> 3-4-11 2: June

WASHINGTON, D.C. OFFICE: 2441 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515 (202) 225-1188 FAX: (202) 226-0341

> DISTRICT OFFICE: 120 FATHER DUENAS AVENUE SUITE 107 HAGATŇA, GUAM 96910 (671) 477-4272 FAX: (671) 477-2587

http://www.house.gov/bordallo

The Honorable Tina Rose Muna-Barnes March 2, 2011 Page Two of Two

Since the bill's passage, I have also sent a letter to Secretary Gary Locke of the U.S. Department of Commerce requesting that he continue to maintain the intent of the Travel Promotion and Tourism Act of 2009 and include the U.S. territories as the provisions of the bill are implemented.

I thank you for writing to me regarding this issue, and I look forward to working with you to include Guam in this tourism promotional program.

Sincerely,

Vaddine

MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO Member of Congress



COMMITTEE ON RULES

I Mina'trentai Unu na Liheslaturan Guåhan • The 31st Guam Legislature 155 Hesler Place, Hagātīna, Guam 96910 • www.guamlegislature.com E-mail: roryforguam@gmail.com • Tel: (671)472-7679 • Fax: (671)472-3547

Senator Rory J. Respicio Chairperson Majority Leader

March 2, 2011

To:

From:

Senator Judith P. Guthertz Vice Chairperson Asst. Majority Leader

> MAJORITY MEMBERS:

Speaker Judith T. Won Pat

Vice Speaker Benjamin J. F. Cruz

Senator Tina Rose Muña Barnes Legislative Secretary Majority Whip

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Asst. Majority Whip

> Senator Thomas C. Ada

Senator Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.

> Senator vicente c. pangelinan

> > MINORITY MEMBERS:

Senator Aline A. Yamashita Asst. MINORITY LEADER

Senator Christopher M. Duenas MEMORANDUM

Pat Santos Clerk of the Legislature Attorney Therese M. Terlaje

Legislative Legal Counsel

Vice Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz Acting Chairperson, Committee on Rul

Subject: Referral of Res No. 40-31 (COR)

As Acting Chairperson of the Committee on Rules, I am forwarding my referral of Res No. 40-31 (COR). Please ensure that the subject resolution is referred, in my name, to the respective sponsor, as shown on the attachment.

2011 MAR

2

P

ų

N

- De

I also request that the same be forwarded to all Senators of *I Mina'trentai* Unu na Liheslaturan Guåhan.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office at 472-7679.

Si Yu'os ma'åse!

(1) Attachments

I Mina'Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guåhan Resolutions Log Sheet March 2, 2011

Page 1 of 1

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Introduced	Date of Presentation	Date Vote Sheet Issued	Date Referred	Committee/ Office Referred	Date Adopted
40-31 (COR)	T. R. Muna Barnes, B. J. Cruz	Relative to requesting Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo to introduce legislation in the United States House of Representatives to amend the "Tourism Promotion Act of 2009", insuring Guam's access to millions of tourism related dollars from the federal government	3/02/11 9:32 a.m.			3/2/11	Sponsor	

•



Rhea Taitano <rhea@tinamunabarnes.com>

1st Notice of Public Hearing

Rhea Taitano <rhea@tinamunabarnes.com>

Wed, Mar 9, 2011 at 2:33 PM

To: Clerks <clerks@guamlegislature.org>, MIS <mis@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Adolpho Palacios <senabpalacios@gmail.com>, Senator Aline Yamashita <aline4families@gmail.com>, "Senator B.J. Cruz" <senadotbjcruz@gmail.com>, Senator Ben Pangelinan <senbenp@guam.net>, Senator Chris Duenas <duenasenator@gmail.com>, "Senator Dennis Rodriguez, Jr." <senatordrodriguez@gmail.com>, "Senator Frank Blas Jr." <frankblasir@gmail.com>. Senator Judi Guthertz <senatoriudiguthertz@gmail.com>. Senator Mana Silva Taijeron <senatormana@gmail.com>, Senator Rory Respicio <roryforguam@gmail.com>, Senator Sam Mabini <senatorsam@senatormabini.com>, Senator Tina Muña Barnes <senator@tinamunabarnes.com>, Senator Tom Ada <tom@senatorada.org>, Senator Tony Ada <senatortonyada@guamlegislature.org>, Speaker Judi Won Pat <speaker@judiwonpat.com>, Tom Unsiog <sgtarms@guamlegislature.org>, tterlaje@guam.net Bcc: bmkelman@guampdn.com, carlene@guahanmagazine.com, cmurphy1@guam.gannett.com, dtamondong@guampdn.com, editor2@directionsguam.com, editor@mvguam.com, gerry@mvguam.com, hottips@kuam.com, john@kuam.com, koreannews@guam.net, kprg@guam.net, kstonews@ite.net, life@guampdn.com, mabuhaynews@yahoo.com, news@k57.com, news@spbguam.com, publisher@glimpsesofguam.com, reporter1@glimpsesofguam.com, slimtiaco@guampdn.com, Bob Gaeth <bgaeth@k57.com>, "Carlo J.N. Branch" <carlo.branch@gmail.com>, Catriona Melyan <cmelyan@guampdn.com>, Clynt Ridgell <clynt@spbguam.com>, David Crisostomo <dcrisost@guampdn.com>, David Crisostomo <dcrisostomo@guampdn.com>, Duane George <dmgeorge@guampdn.com>, Ed Davis <ed@guamtech.com>, Elaine McDonald <elaine@tinamunabarnes.com>, Erin Thompson <egthompson@guampdn.com>, Gavin Santos <gavin@tinamunabarnes.com>, Gaynor Dumat-ol Daleno <gdumatol@guampdn.com>, Hit Radio 100 <officemanager@hitradio100.com>, Jane Chargualaf <jane@tinamunabarnes.com>, Janela Buhain <janela@mvguam.com>, Jason Salas <jason@kuam.com>, Josh Tyguiengco <ityguiengco@spbguam.com>, Lannie Walker <lannie@kuam.com>, Laura Matthews <Ilmatthews@guampdn.com>, Marianas Variety <admin@mvguam.com>, Marvic Cagurangan <mar vic cagurangan@yahoo.com>, Marvic Cagurangan <marvic@mvguam.com>, Michael Rudolph <michael@marianasmedia.com>, Mindy Aguon <mindy@kuam.com>, Nick Delgado <nick@kuam.com>, Office of the Governor <governor@guam.gov>, "Office of the Lt. Governor" <ltgov.tenorio@guam.gov>, Patti Arroyo <parroyo@k57.com>, Phillip Leon Guerrero <phillip.leonguerrero@guam.gov>, Ray Gibson <rgibson@k57.com>, Rhea Aquon Taitano <rhea@tinamunabarnes.com>, Richard Dohrumal <richard@tinamunabarnes.com>, Rick Nauta <marketing@hitradio100.com>, Rick Reyes <ricky@tinamunabarnes.com>, Rlene Steffy <rkelley@quamtech.com>, Romeo Carlos <romeogfx@yahoo.com>, Sabrina Salas Matanane <sabrina@kuam.com>, Senator Tina Rose Muna Barnes <senator@tinamunabarnes.com>, Shaun Bevan <smbevan@guampdn.com>, Stephanie Cepeda <stephanie@tinamunabarnes.com>, Telo Taitague <telo.taitague@guam.gov>, Therese Hart <therese@mvguam.com>, Travis Coffman <travis.coffman@gmail.com>, Troy Torres <troy.torres@guam.gov>, Zita Taitano <zita@mvguam.com>, "A. Norma Alfague" <normaaflague@hotmail.com>, Amanda Shelton <ashelton.senatorrodriguez@gmail.com>, Angela Leon Guerrero <leonguerrero.angela@gmail.com>, Anjelica Okada <aokada@guamlegislature.org>, Audrey Ward <audrey@judiwonpat.com>, "Berlene R. Taitano" <berlenerenae@hotmail.com>, Bill Phillips <phillipsguam@gmail.com>, Bruce Lloyd

struce.lloyd.media@gmail.com>, Carlos Pangelinan <carlos.pangelinan@senatorbjcruz.com>, Charisha Hualde <charisha.hualde@gmail.com>, Charles Ecret <cdecret@gmail.com>, Chris Budasi <chris.budasi@guamlegislature.org>, Chris Carillo <chris.carillo@senatorbjcruz.com>, Clerks <clerks@guamlegislature.org>, Clifton Herbert <cherbert.senatordrodriguez@gmail.com>, Coy Torres <coy@senatorada.org>, Cyrus Luhr <cyrus@senatorada.org>, Doc Wyttenbach-Santos <doc.wyttenbachsantos@gmail.com>, "Doreen T.C. Garcia" <doreen.garcia80@gmail.com>, Dorothy Cruz. <dot@guamlegislature.org>, Ed Leon Guerrero <edleonguerrero@gmail.com>, Ed Pocaigue <edpocaigue@judiwonpat.com>, Eduardo Tuason <eduardo.t@senatormabini.com>, "Edward G. Lee" <edwardglee671@yahoo.com>, Elaine Tajalle <etajalle@guamlegislature.org>, Elvy Mew <emew@guamlegislature.org>, Eugene Santos <santos.duenas@gmail.com>, Evelyn Claros <evelyn4families@gmail.com>, "Frank Aquon Jr." <aquon4guam@gmail.com>, Frank Torres

<fbtorres@judiwonpat.com>, "GarrettKealoa M. Duenas" <garrett.duenas@senatorbjcruz.com>, Herbie Perez <herbie@judiwonpat.com>, "James P. Castro" <jamespcastro@gmail.com>, Jason Tedtaotao <istedtaotao@gmail.com>, Jeffrey Manibusan <imanibusan.senatordrodriguez@gmail.com>, "Jennifer L. Dulla" <jennifer.lj.dulla@gmail.com>, Jermaine Alerta <alerta.jermaine@gmail.com>, Jimmy Camacho <jcamacho@senatorada.org>, Joseph Mesngon <jmesngon.senatordrodriguez@gmail.com>, "Julian C. Janssen" <julian.c.janssen@gmail.com>, Juliette Gillham <juliette@senatorada.org>, Kenny Leon Guerrero <kleonguerrero.senatordrodriguez@gmail.com>, Laurie Manibusan <laurielisla@gmail.com>, "Leslie E. Gatan" <lou4families@gmail.com>, "Louise H. Aquon-Ataliq" <louise atalig@yahoo.com>, Maria Nieves Materne <nieves@guamlegislature.org>, "Mark D.S. Aflague" <markaflague@gmail.com>, Mark Sayama <sayama01@yahoo.com>, Mary Fejeran <maryfejeran@gmail.com>, Mary Lou Wheeler <mlwheeler2000@yahoo.com>, Meia Torres <mtorres.senatordrodriguez@gmail.com>, Menchu Suarez <msuarez.senatordrodriguez@gmail.com>, Mike Carlson <mcarlson@ite.net>, Mike Lidia <mike.lidia@senatorbjcruz.com>, Myracle Mugol <myracle.m@senatormabini.com>, Napu Castro <tcastro@quam.net>, Nicole Santos <nsantos@senatorada.org>, Office of Finance & Budget <ofb@guamlegislature.org>, Office of Senator Sam Mabini <info@senatormabini.com>, Olivia Palacios <oliviampalacios@gmail.com>, Pat Santos <psantos@guamlegislature.org>, Peter Leon Guerrero <peterlg@gmail.com>, "Priscilla T. Cruz" <pjtcruz@yahoo.com>, Rennae Perez <rennae@guamlegislature.org>, Ron Taitague <rtaitague@guamlegislature.org>, Sergeant at Arms <sgtarms@guamlegislature.org>, Stephanie Mendiola <smendiola@quamlegislature.org>, Steve Dierking <steve@believeinguam.com>, Tanva Mendiola <tanya4families@gmail.com>, "Therese C. Santos" <chechsantos@gmail.com>, Tony Sanchez <guamnativesun@yahoo.com>, Val Gonzales <val.g@senatormabini.com>, Velma Komiyama </komiyama.senatordrodriguez@gmail.com>, Vicky Quenga </quenga@judiwonpat.com>, William Castro <wilcastro671@gmail.com>, Yong Pak <yong@guamlegislature.org>

Hafa Adai.

Attached is a memo from Senator Muña Barnes relative to the public hearing on the 17th of March.

Saina Ma'åse',

Rhea Aguon Taitano Research Analyst Office of Senator Tina Muña Barnes Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing and Recreation 155 Hesler Place Hagåtña, Guam 96910 (W) (671) 472-3455/6 (F) (671) 472-3400 Email: <u>raguontaitano@gmail.com</u>

1st Notice of Public Hearing, 3-17-2011.pdf 297K



I Mina'Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guåhan Office of The Legislative Secretary Tina Rose Muña Barnes

Chairperson, Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing and Recreation Vice Chairperson, Committee on Youth, Cultural Affairs, Procurement, General Government Operations and Public Broadcasting 155 Hesler Place Hagatña, Guam 96910 [Tel: 671-472-3455/6 Fax: 671-472-3400] www.tinamunabarnes.com

March 09, 2011

Memorandum

то:	All Members/All Senators
FROM:	Senator Tina Rose Muña Barnes Hus Chairperson
SUBJECT:	First Notice of Public Hearing Thursday, March 17, 2011

Hafa Adai!

Please be advised that the Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing and Recreation will be conducting a public hearing on Thursday, March 17, 2011, beginning at 9:00a.m., in the Legislature's Public Hearing Room. This hearing is scheduled to receive public testimony on the following:

- The executive appointment of **Romeo A. Angel** to serve as a member of the Guam Housing Corporation Board of Directors
- Resolution No. 40-31 (COR)- T.R. Muña Barnes Relative to requesting Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo to introduce legislation in the United States House of Representatives to amend the "Tourism Promotion Act of 2009", insuring Guam's access to millions of tourism related dollars from the federal government

Written testimonies may be submitted on the day of, prior to, or up to ten days after the public hearing to the Office of Senator Tina Rose Muña Barnes, 155 Hesler Place, Hagatña Guam 96910, via facsimile to 472-3400 or via email to tinamunabarnes@gmail.com. We comply with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you should require assistance or special accommodations, please contact our office at 472-3455/6 and speak with Rhea Taitano. I look forward to your attendance and participation.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse'!

CCE

Legal Counsel Sergeant-At-Arms/Protocol/AV Clerk of the Legislature MIS All media



Rhea Taitano <rhea@tinamunabarnes.com>

2nd Notice of Public Hearing

Rhea Taitano <rhea@tinamunabarnes.com>

Tue, Mar 15, 2011 at 9:17 AM

To: Clerks <clerks@guamlegislature.org>, MIS <mis@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Adolpho Palacios <senabpalacios@gmail.com>, Senator Adolpho Palacios <ABPalacios@gmail.com>, Senator Aline Yamashita <aline4families@gmail.com>, "Senator B.J. Cruz" <senadotbjcruz@gmail.com>, senadotbjcruz@aol.com, Senator Ben Pangelinan <senbenp@guam.net>, Senator Chris Duenas <duenasenator@gmail.com>, "Senator Dennis Rodriguez, Jr." <senatordrodriguez@gmail.com>, dgr.rodriguez@yahoo.com, "Senator Frank Blas Jr." <frankblasjr@gmail.com>, Senator Judi Guthertz <senatorjudiguthertz@gmail.com>, judiguthertz@pticom.com, Senator Mana Silva Taijeron <senatormana@gmail.com>, Senator Rory Respicio <roryforguam@gmail.com>, Senator Sam Mabini <senatorsam@senatormabini.com>, Senator Tina Muña Barnes <senator@tinamunabarnes.com>, Senator Tom Ada <tom@senatorada.org>, Senator Tony Ada <senatortonyada@guamlegislature.org>, vanthony@gmail.com, Speaker Judi Won Pat <speaker@judiwonpat.com>, Tom Unsiog <sgtarms@guamlegislature.org> Bcc: Mary Fejeran <maryfejeran@gmail.com>, "A. Norma Alfague" <normaaflague@hotmail.com>, Amanda Shelton <ashelton senatorrodriguez@gmail.com>, Angela Leon Guerrero <leonguerrero.angela@gmail.com>, Anjelica Okada <aokada@guamlegislature.org>, Audrey Ward <audrey@judiwonpat.com>, "Berlene R. Taitano" <berlenerenae@hotmail.com>, Bill Phillips <phillipsguam@gmail.com>, Bruce Lloyd
struce.lloyd.media@gmail.com>, "Carlo J.N. Branch" <carlo@tinamunabarnes.com>, Carlos Pangelinan <carlos.pangelinan@senatorbjcruz.com>, Charisha Hualde <charisha.hualde@gmail.com>, Charles Ecret <cdecret@gmail.com>, Chris Budasi <chris.budasi@guamlegislature.org>, Chris Carillo <chris.carillo@senatorbjcruz.com>, Clifton Herbert <cherbert.senatordrodriguez@gmail.com>, Coy Torres <coy@senatorada.org>, Cyrus Luhr <cyrus@senatorada.org>, Doc Wyttenbach-Santos <doc.wyttenbachsantos@gmail.com>, "Doreen T.C. Garcia" <doreen.garcia80@gmail.com>, Dorothy Cruz <dot@guamlegislature.org>, Ed Leon Guerrero <edleonguerrero@gmail.com>, Ed Pocaigue <edpocaigue@judiwonpat.com>, Eduardo Tuason <eduardo.t@senatormabini.com>, "Edward G. Lee" <edwardglee671@yahoo.com>, Elaine McDonald <elaine@tinamunabarnes.com>, Elaine Tajalle <etajalle@guamlegislature.org>, Elvy Mew <emew@guamlegislature.org>, Eugene Santos <santos.duenas@gmail.com>, Evelyn Claros <evelyn4families@gmail.com>, "Frank Aguon Jr." <aguon4guam@gmail.com>, Frank Torres <fbtorres@judiwonpat.com>, "GarrettKealoa M. Duenas" <garrett.duenas@senatorbjcruz.com>, Gavin Santos <gavin@tinamunabarnes.com>, Herbie Perez <herbie@judiwonpat.com>, "James P. Castro" <jamespcastro@gmail.com>, Jane Chargualaf <jane@tinamunabarnes.com>, Jason Tedtaotao <jstedtaotao@gmail.com>, Jeffrey Manibusan <jmanibusan.senatordrodriguez@gmail.com>, "Jennifer L. Dulla" <jennifer.lj.dulla@gmail.com>, Jermaine Alerta <alerta.jermaine@gmail.com>, Jimmy Camacho <jcamacho@senatorada.org>, Joseph Mesngon <jmesngon.senatordrodriguez@gmail.com>, "Julian C. Janssen" <julian.c.janssen@gmail.com>, Juliette Gillham <juliette@senatorada.org>, Kenny Leon Guerrero <kleonguerrero.senatordrodriguez@gmail.com>, Laurie Manibusan <laurielisla@gmail.com>, "Leslie E. Gatan" <leslie.g@senatormabini.com>, Lisa Cipollone <cipo@guamlegislature.org>, Lou Benavente <lou4families@gmail.com>, "Louise H. Aguon-Atalig" louise atalig@yahoo.com>, Maria Nieves Materne <nieves@guamlegislature.org>, "Mark D.S. Aflague" <markaflague@gmail.com>, Mark Sayama <sayama01@yahoo.com>, Mary Lou Wheeler <mlwheeler2000@yahoo.com>, Meia Torres <mtorres.senatordrodriguez@gmail.com>, Menchu Suarez <msuarez.senatordrodriguez@gmail.com>, Mike Carlson <mcarlson@ite.net>, Mike Lidia <mike.lidia@senatorbjcruz.com>, Myracle Mugol <myracle.m@senatormabini.com>, Napu Castro <tcastro@quam.net>, Nicole Santos <nsantos@senatorada.org>, Office of Finance & Budget <ofb@guamlegislature.org>, Office of Senator Sam Mabini <info@senatormabini.com>, Olivia Palacios <oliviampalacios@gmail.com>, Pat Santos <psantos@guamlegislature.org>, Peter Leon Guerrero <peterlg@gmail.com>, "Priscilla T. Cruz" <pitcruz@yahoo.com>, Rennae Meno <rennae@guamlegislature.org>, Rhea Aquon Taitano <rhea@tinamunabarnes.com>, Richard Dohrumal <richard@tinamunabarnes.com>, Rick Reyes <ricky@tinamunabarnes.com>, Ron Taitague <rtaitague@guamlegislature.org>, Stephanie Cepeda <stephanie@tinamunabarnes.com>, Stephanie Mendiola <smendiola@guamlegislature.org>, Steve Dierking <steve@believeinguam.com>, Tanya Mendiola <tanya4families@gmail.com>, "Therese C. Santos"

<chechsantos@gmail.com>, Tony Sanchez <guamnativesun@yahoo.com>, Val Gonzales <val.g@senatormabini.com>, Velma Komiyama <vkomiyama.senatordrodriguez@gmail.com>, Vicky Quenga <vquenga@judiwonpat.com>, William Castro <wilcastro671@gmail.com>, Yong Pak <yong@guamlegislature.org>, bmkelman@guampdn.com, carlene@guahanmagazine.com, cmurphy1@guam.gannett.com, dtamondong@guampdn.com, editor2@directionsguam.com, editor@mvguam.com, gerry@mvguam.com, hottips@kuam.com, john@kuam.com, koreannews@guam.net, kprg@guam.net, kstonews@ite.net, life@guampdn.com, mabuhaynews@yahoo.com, news@k57.com, news@spbguam.com, publisher@glimpsesofguam.com, reporter1@glimpsesofguam.com, slimtiaco@guampdn.com, Bob Gaeth

k57.com>, Catriona Melyan <cmelyan@guampdn.com>, Clynt Ridgell <clynt@spbguam.com>, David Crisostomo <dcrisost@guampdn.com>, David Crisostomo <dcrisostomo@guampdn.com>, Duane George <dmgeorge@guampdn.com>, Ed Davis <ed@guamtech.com>, Erin Thompson <egthompson@guampdn.com>, Gaynor Dumat-ol Daleno <gdumat-ol@guampdn.com>, Hit Radio 100 <officemanager@hitradio100.com>, Janela Buhain <janela@mvguam.com>, Jason Salas <jason@kuam.com>, Josh Tyquiengco <ityquiengco@spbguam.com>, Lannie Walker <lannie@kuam.com>, Laura Matthews <mar_vic_cagurangan@yahoo.com>, Marvic Cagurangan <marvic@mvguam.com>, Michael Rudolph <michael@marianasmedia.com>, Mindy Aguon <mindy@kuam.com>, Nick Delgado <nick@kuam.com>, Office of the Governor <governor@guam.gov>, "Office of the Lt. Governor" <ltgov.tenorio@guam.gov>, Patti Arroyo <parroyo@k57.com>, Phillip Leon Guerrero <phillip.leonguerrero@guam.gov>, Ray Gibson <rgibson@k57.com>, Rlene Steffy <rlene@rlenelive.com>, Robert Kelley <rkelley@guamtech.com>, Romeo Carlos <romeogfx@yahoo.com>, Sabrina Salas Matanane <sabrina@kuam.com>, Shaun Bevan <smbevan@guampdn.com>, Telo Taitague <telo.taitague@guam.gov>, Therese Hart <therese@mvguam.com>, Travis Coffman <travis.coffman@gmail.com>, Troy Torres <troy.torres@guam.gov>, Zita Taitano <zita@mvguam.com>

Hafa Adai.

Please see the attached memo from Senator Muña Barnes, relative to the public hearing on Thursday, March 17, 2011.

--

Saina Ma'åse',

Rhea Aguon Taitano Research Analyst Office of Senator Tina Muña Barnes Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing and Recreation 155 Hesler Place Hagåtña, Guam 96910 (W) (671) 472-3455/6 (F) (671) 472-3400 Email: raguontaitano@gmail.com

1 1	2nd notice 338K	of public	hearing,	3-17-2011.	pdf
2	338K				



March 15, 2011

Memorandum	
TO:	All Members/All Senators
FROM:	Senator Tina Rose Muña Barnes Hund Chairperson
SUBJECT:	Second Notice of Public Hearing Thursday, March 17, 2011

Hafa Adai!

Please be reminded that the Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing and Recreation will be conducting a public hearing on Thursday, March 17, 2011, beginning at 9:00a.m., in the Legislature's Public Hearing Room. This hearing is scheduled to receive public testimony on the following:

- The executive appointment of **Romeo A. Angel** to serve as a member of the Guam Housing Corporation Board of Directors
- Resolution No. 40-31 (COR)- T.R. Muña Barnes Relative to requesting Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo to introduce legislation in the United States House of Representatives to amend the "Tourism Promotion Act of 2009", insuring Guam's access to millions of tourism related dollars from the federal government

Written testimonies may be submitted on the day of, prior to, or up to ten days after the public hearing to the Office of Senator Tina Rose Muña Barnes, 155 Hesler Place, Hagatña Guam 96910, via facsimile to 472-3400 or via email to <u>senator@tinamunabarnes.com</u>. We comply with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you should require assistance or special accommodations, please contact our office at 472-3455/6 and speak with Rhea Taitano. I look forward to your attendance and participation.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse'!

CC:

Legal Counsel Sergeant-At-Arms/Protocol/AV Clerk of the Legislature MIS All media

Chairperson, Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing and Recreation Vice Chairperson, Committee on Youth, Cultural Affairs, Procurement, General Government Operations and Public Broadcasting 155 Hesler Place Hagatña, Guam 96910 [Tel: 671-472-3455/6 Fax: 671-472-3400] www.tinamunabarnes.com



I Mina'Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guåhan Office of The Legislative Secretary Tina Rose Muña Barnes

> PUBLIC HEARING Thursday, March 17, 2011

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Announcements
- III. Items for Public Consideration

9:00 AM

- A. Appointment: Romeo A. Angel, to serve as a member of the Guam Housing Corporation Board of Directors
- B. Resolution No. 40-31 (COR)- T.R. Muña Barnes Relative to requesting Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo to introduce legislation in the United States House of Representatives to amend the "Tourism Promotion Act of 2009", insuring Guam's access to millions of tourism related dollars from the federal government
- IV. Remarks
- V. Adjournment

Electronic copies of the aforementioned items can be found on the Guam Legislature's website at <u>www.guamlegislature.com</u>. Hard copies can be obtained by visiting the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature. Testimony should be addressed to Senator Tina Rose Muña Barnes, Chairperson, and may be submitted via hand-delivery to our office or our mailbox at the Main Legislature Building at 155 Hesler Place, Hagatña, Guam 96910, via e-mail to <u>senator@tinamunabarnes.com</u>, or via facsimile to (671) 472-3400. Individuals requiring special accommodations, auxiliary aids, or services shall contact and submit their request to Richard Dohrumal or Rhea Taitano at our office. For further information, please call 472-3455/6. I look forward to your attendance and participation. *Si Yu'os Ma'åse'*!

3/23/2011

Senator Muna- Barnes Intros Resolution to Include Guam in Tourism Protection Act

Last Updated on Monday, 07 March 2011 08:29 Written by News Release Monday, 07 March 2011 08:18

Guam News - Guam News

Like 5 people like this.

Guam - Senator Tina Muna-Barnes has introduced a resolution asking that Guam be included in the Tourism Protection Act.

"The Travel Promotion Act of 2009" created a nonprofit "Corporation for Travel Promotion."

The Act mandates a \$10.00 fee per travel authorization granted.

But as Senator Muna-Barnes points out in a letter to Guam Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo, Guam is not included in the "Corporation for Travel Promotion," even though we welcome 1.3 million tourists every year.

As a result, Senator Muna-Barnes poitns out that Guam can not access, or directly benefit from that \$10 dollar fee which could generate more than \$10 million dollars, if Guam were included.

Read Senator Muna-Barnes' letter to Bordallo

March 01, 2011

Madeleine Z. Bordallo Guam Delegate to Congress 2441 Rayburn HOB Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Bordallo,

Hafa Adai! As I am sure you are already aware, President Barack Obama signed "The Travel Promotion Act of 2009" ("The Act") into law in March of last year. The intent of this measure was to enhance travel to, and within, the United States of America.

In partnership with the federal government, the measure created the nonprofit "Corporation for Travel Promotion," mandated a \$10.00 fee per travel authorization granted, and implemented accountability measures within the Act's enabling statute.

The Act allowed the United States to establish a multi-million dollar promotion program to compete on the global stage for the billions of dollars and immeasurable goodwill that would come with additional overseas travelers.

Despite the fact that Guam receives approximately 1.3million tourists from throughout the world including Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong and other emerging markets, our island is not a part of the several "states" this measure was meant to impact.

Without Guam's inclusion in this act and a congressional amendment effectuating that change, we will not be able to access, or directly benefit from, the more than \$10million in fees possibly generated by Guam's visitors.

As Guam is the westernmost soil of the United States of America, and we are engaged in a continuing competition for fewer tourism dollars throughout our region of the world, I believe it is imperative that our island become an integrated part of our nation's Travel Promotion Program. On behalf of the people, please amend existing federal law to include Guam in the Travel Promotion Act of 2009.

If I can assist you in any way regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me personally. Thank you for your continued service to our people.



×27 6493.

0 tweets 3/23/2011 Sinseru yan magåhet, Senator Tina Rose Muña-Barnes cc: ^E Speaker Majority Leader Mindrity Leader E Read the Resolution:

I MINA' TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2011 (FIRST) REGULAR SESSION

Resolution No.

Introduced By: B.J. Cruz T.R. Muna Barnes

Relative to requesting Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo to introduce legislation in the United States House of Representatives to amend the "Tourism Promotion Act of 2009", insuring Guam's access to millions of tourism related dollars from the federal government

BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA' TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama signed the "Travel Promotion Act of 2009" (The Act) into law on March 4th 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Act created "The Corporation for Travel Promotion" as a nonprofit corporation; and

WHEREAS, the corporation must provide useful information to foreign tourists, business people, students, scholars, scientists, and others interested in travelling to the United States; and

WHEREAS, this information must include the distribution of material provided by the Federal government concerning entry requirements, required documentation, fees, processes, and information concerning declared public health emergencies, to prospective travelers, travel agents, tour operators, meeting planners, foreign governments, travel media and other international stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the corporation must identify, counter, and correct misperceptions regarding United States entry policies around the world; and

WHEREAS, the corporation is tasked with maximizing the economic and diplomatic benefits of travel to the United States by promoting the United States of America to world travelers through the use of, but not limited to, all forms of advertising, outreach to trade shows, and other appropriate promotional activities; and

WHEREAS, the Act and its associated fee is intended to "support state, regional, and private sector initiatives to promote travel to and within the United States; and

WHEREAS, the island of Guam receives approximately 1.3 million tourists from throughout the world including Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, and others; and

WHEREAS, the Act requires that no later than September 30, 2009, that the Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish a fee for the use of the System and begin assessment and collection of that fee; and

WHEREAS, the initial fee shall be the sum of \$10.00 per travel authorization; and

WHEREAS, the US territory of Guam is not a part of the several "states" as defined by the Supreme Court of the United States of American and the Travel Promotion Act of 2009; and

WHEREAS, Guam's exclusion may result in the loss of more than \$10,000,000 in tourism promotion dollars to Guam; and

WHEREAS, the people of Guam have throughout our history sacrificed life, limb, and land in support of the American way of life; and

WHEREAS, Guam's tourism industry accounts for approximately 60% of our island's economic base; and

www.pacificnewscenter.com/index.php?...

3/23/2011

Senator Muna- Barnes Intros Resolution...

WHEREAS, any additional fees assessed to Guam's visitors should be used to enhance the experience of visitors to Guam; and

WHEREAS, the island of Guam is the westernmost soil of the American Union; and fully deserving of full and fair treatment in federal programs that enhance our visitor base, enrich the international view of the "American" brand, and enrich our economy; and

WHEREAS, congressional action must be taken to include the island of Guam within the "Travel Promotion Act of 2009"; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that I Mina Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guáhan does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, petition Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo to initiate the process of including Guam within the "Travel Promotion Act of 2009; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attests to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter be transmitted to the Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam's Delegate to the U.S. Congress; and to the Honorable Eddie B. Calvo, I Maga'lahen Guiihan.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINATRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THIS 21ST DAY OF MARCH, 2011.

3/23/2011

Barnes Resolution Calls on Congresswoman to Fight for Guam's Share of Tourism Dollars

Last Updated on Thursday, 17 March 2011 19:50 Written by Betsy Brown Thursday, 17 March 2011 17:12

Guam News - Guam News

Like Be the first of your friends to like this.

Guam - The Guam Legislature is asking Congresswoman Madeline Bordallo to make sure Guam gets its fair share of funds generated from federal tourism fees.

A legislative hearing was held this morning on a resolution that asks Congresswoman Bordallo to introduce legislation in the U.S. House to amend the "Tourism Promotion Act of 2009" to allow Guam to access tourism related dollars from the Federal Government. The act mandates a \$10 fee on every foreign traveler to the United States.

With Guam attracting 1.3 Million tourists a year, senator Tina Muna Barnes said the island is missing out on millions of dollars.

"Guam is the Western-most soil of United States and we are in a competition for tourism dollar" Muna Barnes said. "We're imploring our Congresswoman to amend that Act of 2009."

Former First Lady and Deputy General Manager of the Guam Visitor's Bureau Joann Camacho emphasized the importance of including all territories in the travel promotion program.

"When we stay unified and on the same course it helps us," said Camacho. "I think what we need to do with congresswoman coming in the coming weeks is to a time line to get this resolved and pushed through."

www.pacificnewscenter.com/index.php?...

......