#### I Mina' Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guåhan Resolutions Log Sheet

Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Referred	Committee / Ofc Referred	Date Adopted
RELATIVE TO COMMENDING, CONGRATULATING AND RECOGNIZING NENA	8/30/2013	09/07/13		1/23/14	09/05/13
RAITUITA FOR INVESTING OVER FOURTY TWO YEARS OF DEDICATED	11:00 a.m.	6:30 p.m.		10:58 a.m.	
SERVICE, HARD WORK, ATTENTION TO DETAIL AND TEAM SPIRIT INTO					
GUAM'S TOURISM INDUSTRY.					



# The Office of SENATOR BRANT T. MCCREADIE



**3** 

l Mina'Trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Judith T. Won Pat, EdD Speaker, I Mina Trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guahan

155 Hesier Place Hagatna, GU 96910

January 21, 2014

VIA:

Rory J. Respicio Chairman, Committee on Rules

RE: Sponsor Report on Resolution 234-32 (COR), As Amended

Dear Speaker Won Pat:

Transmitted herewith is the Sponsor Report on Resolution 234-32 (COR) as Amended – "Relative to supporting Guam's application for membership in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)."

Votes are as follows:

7\_\_ TO DO PASS

TO NOT PASS

TO REPORT OUT ONLY

TO ABSTAIN

TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE

Regards.

Brant McCreadie

Sponsor

# SPONSOR REPORT

ON

Resolution 234-32 (COR)

introduced by Senator Brant T. McCreadie

"Relative to supporting Guam's application for membership in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)."



# The Office of SENATOR BRANT T. MCCREADIE



l Mina'Trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan

January 21, 2014

**MEMORANDUM** 

TO: All Senators

32<sup>nd</sup> Guam Legislature

FROM: Brant McCreadia

Sponsor, Resolution 234-32 (COR)

SUBJECT: Sponsor Report on Resolution 234-32 (COR)

Håfa adai! Transmitted herewith, for your consideration, is the Sponsor Report on Resolution 234-32 (COR) - "Relative to supporting Guam's application for membership in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)," sponsored by myself.

This report includes the following:

- Voting Sheet
- Committee Report Narrative/Digest
- Copy of Resolution 234-32 (COR) AS AMENDED
- Copy of Resolution 234-32 (COR) AS INTRODUCED
- Public Hearing Sign in sheet
- Copies of Submitted Testimony and Supporting Documents
- Copy of COR Referral of Resolution 234-32 (COR)
- · Copy of Public Hearing Agenda

Please take appropriate action on the attached voting sheet. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my office at 472-3462/3.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase.

#### Attachments



# The Office of SENATOR BRANT T. MCCREADIE



l Mina'Trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan

#### **VOTING SHEET**

Resolution 234-32 (COR) – introduced by Brant T. McCreadie - "Relative to supporting Guam's application for membership in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)."

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#### RESOLUTION REPORT DIGEST

#### 1. Overview

Resolution 234-32 (COR) was introduced on September 25, 2013 by Senator Brant McCreadie, and was subsequently referred back to the Sponsor on September 25, 2013.

Senator Brant McCreadie held a public hearing on Resolution 234-32 (COR) on October 14, 2013 at 5:30 pm.

**Public Notice Requirements** 

Public Hearing notices were disseminated via e-mail to all senators and all main media outlets on Monday, October 7, 2013 (5-Day Notice), and again on Thursday, October 10, 2013 (48-Hour Notice) pursuant to Open Government Law

Senators Present

Senator Brant McCreadie, Resolution No. 234-32 (COR) sponsor Senator V. Anthony Ada Senator Rory J. Respicio Senator Michael F.Q. San Nicolas Senator Thomas Morrison Senator Michael Limtiaco

#### II. Summary of Testimony/Discussion

Public hearing was convened at 5:31 PM.

Senator McCreadie opened by welcoming all in attendance. He advised the body that notices were sent out, as per the Open Government Law, on October 7 and October 10, 2013. He acknowledged that the panel will receive both oral and written testimony on Resolution 234-32 (COR), and proceeded to acknowledge his colleagues in attendance, and stated the rules of the public hearing. Senator McCreadie stated, that as sponsor, he would say some brief remarks. He called the individuals who signed in to testify to take a seat, acknowledged them and thanked them for their attendance.

Senator McCreadie then summarized that Resolution 234-32 if passed will show the legislature's support for Guam's application in Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE). He further states that in order to join WICHE, official support from the Guam Legislature is required. He states that WICHE is a 15 state commission that recently added Guam, the CNMI, the Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Marshall Islands and American Samoa. WICHE has a number of programs that have the potential to increase access to education at a reduced cost to our students at over 150 institutions and hundreds of programs. For example, a Guam undergraduate that manages to participate in the Western Undergraduate exchange program will be able to go to a WICHE school off island and pay no more than 150% of the resident tuition rate.

At this point, he acknowledged the attendance of Senator San Nicolas, and called on Mr. Vincent Leon Guerrero to present his testimony.

Mr. Vincent Leon Guerrero, Special advisor to Governor Calvo for education, provided written testimony, on behalf of Governor Calvo, in support of Resolution 234-32. As stated by Mr. Leon Guerrero, Governor Calvo has historically supported the University of Guam (UOG) and is a strong advocate for students to attend UOG and the good programs they have there. However, as good as UOG is, there are some programs that are currently unavailable and do not meet the diverse needs of our students. Mr. Leon Guerrero goes on to state that four of Governor Calvo's children have gone to UOG and two have graduated from UOG. He also states that two of Governor Calvo's children are pursuing degrees that are not available at UOG. WICHE presents opportunities for lower tuition costs for Guam students pursuing majors and degrees not offered at UOG, resulting in significant savings to parents and students, which will reduce debt and allow families to use the savings for other critical family needs. As such Governor Calvo supports WICHE participation for Guam's students who pursue degrees and programs that are not available on Guam.

**Senator McCreadie** thanked Mr. Leon Guerrero for his testimony. He acknowledged the presence of Senators Morrison and Limtiaco. He opened it up to questions for Mr. Leon Guerrero, and then called on Mr. Oscar Miyashita for his testimony.

Oscar Miyashita thanked the panel for allowing him to attend and stated that he is privileged to be here to testify in support of Resolution 234-32. He states he has testified at the Legislature many times, but this is something that he is very passionate about. He echoed Vince Leon Guerrero's points, but had some examples in his written testimony, which he noted was three pages long. He also cited his background in finance and as a part time college advisor before providing his testimony. He then proceeded to read his written testimony, which focused on the increased cost and financial burden of higher education, and that the cost of higher education has increased 10 times since he attended college. He stated that as a college counselor, when he asks students who would go off island for college if cost weren't a factor, all students raised their hand. He acknowledged that UOG has made great improvements and that many of the managers at his workplace come from UOG. However, he continues to encourage Guam students to pursue higher education off island in order for them to be competitive and to be exposed to a different perspective and culture. Becoming a member of WICHE will provide more opportunities for Guam students, especially in states traditionally "popular" for Guam students. He states that students who participate in the WICHE program can save thousands of dollars over the course of their education. He also acknowledges that the WICHE Professional Student Exchange Program will provide opportunities for students to obtain critical healthcare degrees at the resident tuition rate. He also states that college student debt is at an all time high, students have no choice but to take out considerable debt in the form of student loans and that traditional bankruptcy measures may not eliminate student loan debt. He also states that a college graduate earns more during their lifetime versus a non-college graduate. He closes by stating that is incumbent upon our leaders to provide these opportunities to students, and he applauds the efforts to join WICHE.

**Senator McCreadie** thanked Mr. Miyashita for his presentation. He asked if anyone had questions for Mr. Miyashita, then proceeded to call on former Senator Tony Lamorena to present his testimony.

Tony Lamorena presented oral testimony in favor of Resolution 234-32. He thanked the senators for the opportunity, and stated his name for the record. He stated that as community leaders we must provide opportunities for our people and that opportunity is key. When he graduated from high school, UOG gave students the opportunity to go to UOG for 15 dollars. There are opportunities that the government of Guam provided to students, such as merit scholarships that allowed young people to go off island and of course repaid by the students by coming home and working in exchange for the tuition. These opportunities for our people allowed them to go learn, get skills, and come back and serve the people of Guam as leaders. This provides opportunities for our people. He commends UOG and states that he attended UOG and eventually went off island to pursue a degree not offered at the University of Guam. He states he has a son that is graduating hopefully from UOG in December. His son was in the National Student Exchange, which allowed his son to spend a year off island and pay resident tuition. This is not new. We have participated in programs in the past. This will provide a great return to Guam as the people who get an education return home. Many degrees are not offered at UOG. This will let kids will go off, get those degrees and come back and support the island of Guam. He acknowledges that he spoke with Mr. Leon Guerrero, and degrees such as hospital administration, public health administration and others are not offered here and Guam is in dire need of. If we cannot offer those here, lets get them out there to get those degrees. We won't be just helping them, but we will be helping the entire island by the skills they bring back. He encouraged all members of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Guam Legislature to support the resolution.

**Senator McCreadie** thanked Mr. Lamorena for his testimony and proceeded to open discussion for the senators present.

**Senator Respicio** thanked Senator McCreadie and commended him for having the vision to introduce this initiative and reaching out to find opportunities. He also thanked the panel for their testimony. He also acknowledged that there are no apparent downsides to joining WICHE and that he is confident that the Legislature and Governor will be supportive of WICHE.

**Senator McCreadie** states that there are currently 15 members, and that we would be the collective 16<sup>th</sup> member. There is approximately \$130,000 in dues, and currently the CNMI is the only active member and is paying the full dues. As Guam and more of our island members join, we would share the cost. As interested parties join WICHE, Guam's cost would go down. If all six join, total cost to Guam would be around \$22,000. He echoes Senator Respicio that is about opportunity for our people.

Senator Respicio states that the benefits outweigh the costs and he offers his support of the resolution.

Senator Tony Ada thanked the Senator for the resolution and the panel for their testimony. He states that as he read Mr. Miyashita's testimony, he has contributed to the \$864 billion in college loans. He also stated that Mr. Lamorena said it best that this provides an opportunity for children to get degrees and careers that aren't offered here and to come back and contribute and who knows maybe become professors at UOG. He states it is a win-win for our people and especially our students. He also acknowledges that one of the concerns is that will it take away from UOG or GCC enrollment, but that he doesn't think the concern is that valid. He was in that position and has a son that wanted a career in engineering, which is not offered here. He had no choice but to pay out of state tuition and that it was really high in

cost. If a member of WICHE, it would decrease cost of education off island and he thanks Senator McCreadie for his efforts and looks forward to getting it on session floor immediately.

Senator San Nicolas states that he voted for all of Senator McCreadie's legislation thus far, and he may have to do it again. I think he has voted for all of mine too and we'll see if that keeps going. When he saw this resolution, he thought it was excellent. In terms of cost, he acknowledges that any costs associated with being a member of WICHE will be off set by the savings will be money spent on Guam because it won't be spent at a school off island with no economic return to Guam, which will act almost like economic stimulus measure because money that stays here will be spent here. He reiterates that it is an excellent resolution and that he supports it. He is curious to see what UOG and GCC's position is, but absent that he is in full support.

Senator Morrison thanked the senator and panel. He states he is a proud alumnus of UOG and would do the same thing if he had to do it again. He also commented that he was offered full athletic scholarships to off island schools, but he chose UOG. He commends the author for efforts to provide opportunities and choices for students who are seeking higher learning not offered on Guam. He looks forward to seeing these opportunities become available to our students to work with. He also acknowledged that this also presents an opportunity to open up Guam and for more students from off island to come to Guam to attend UOG.

Senator McCreadie acknowledged that we are privileged to have two UOG graduates there as senators and that they have produced some fine students. This is not about who is better and who is not. This is about the fact that some kids who graduate from high school and no matter what you do they want to go off island for college. This is a way to get them a price break and help them to explore and learn off island and hopefully get them to come back to Guam. Or perhaps they will not enjoy their experience off island and they will come home and go to UOG. Senator McCreadie expressed his thanks also expanded on the WICHE programs regarding specific graduate programs, such as occupational therapy as mentioned by Mr. Miyashita in his testimony. This is a program in WICHE that allow the government to pay for students and buy slots to attend various healthcare related programs, so we can help students get into these specialized programs and better themselves and Guam, as long as the students do their due diligence and meet the program requirements.

Mr. Leon Guerrero added that as a retired associate superintendent for special education, occupational therapy and physical therapy have been in short supply on Guam and across the nation. If this WICHE program were available when he was at DOE struggling to look for students and support them who were interested in those degrees, we would have a much higher capacity to accommodate students with disabilities at DOE.

**Senator McCreadie** thanked the panel for their testimony and the senators for attending. He stated that his office would continue to receive testimony on Resolution 234-32 (COR) via email and hand delivery. The hearing was adjourned at 6:03 pm.

#### III. Findings and Recommendation

Senator	Brant	McCreadie	does	hereby	report	out	Resolution	234-32	(COR)	with	the
recomm	endatio	n to									

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

Resolution No. 234-32 (cont.)

Introduced by:

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Brant T. McCreadie

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Relative to supporting Guam's application for membership in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE).

BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA'TRENTAL DOS NA LIHESLATURAN

GUÅHAN:

WHEREAS, the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) is a regional non-profit organization created by the Western Regional Education Compact adopted in the 1950s by western states to facilitate resource sharing among the higher education systems of the west; and

WHEREAS, WICHE operations commenced in 1953 and is governed by three Commissioners appointed by the governors from each state; and

WHEREAS, under the terms of the Compact, each state commits to support WICHE's basic operations through annual dues established by the full commission; and

WHEREAS, WICHE and its member states work to improve access to higher education and ensure student success through its various programs, regional initiatives and through research and policy work; and

WHEREAS, becoming a member of WICHE will greatly benefit Guam's undergraduate students by allowing them access to the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program, the largest regional tuition-reciprocity agreement in the nation, which provides a reduced tuition, at no more than 150% of the resident tuition

rate, at more than 150 participating two and four year public institutions instead of paying substantially more for non-resident tuition which is at least double or more the resident tuition rate; and

WHEREAS, becoming a member of WICHE will provide the opportunity for Guam's graduate students to enroll in approximately 250 participating graduate programs and pay the resident tuition rate; and

WHEREAS, Guam students can additionally benefit from WICHE's Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP) and Internet Course Exchange (ICE) program; and

WHEREAS, although Guam's institutions of higher learning have made great strides and improvements over the last several years, Guam's geographic location and smaller population limit access to higher education for our students; and

WHEREAS, Guam can additionally benefit from WICHE's various resources in workforce and policy development, technology, health and other areas; and

WHEREAS, WICHE has already included Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands as the collective sixteenth member of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, and it is now contingent on Guam to decide to actively participate in WICHE; and

WHEREAS, I Mina'Trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan supports and encourages WICHE to accept Guam's efforts to join the CNMI as the second territory to active participate in the Commission with the hopes that more will join; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** that *I Mina Trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby support the government of Guam's efforts to become active members of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education and further urges the government of

	JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D. TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES Speaker Logislative Segretary
	DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTAL DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÂHAN ON THE DAY OF 2013.
9	112 <sup>th</sup> Congress; and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, <i>I Maga'låhen Guåhan</i> .
3	of Education; the Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam's Representative in the
7	Guam Community College; Jon Fernandez, Superintendent of the Guam Department
6	Robert Underwood, President of the University of Guam; Mary Okada, President of
5	Longanecker, President of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education;
4	the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to David A.
3	RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to,
2	further
1	Guam to work with WICHE to cement Guam's status as a WICHE member; and be it

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

## Resolution No. 234-32 (COR)

As amended by the Sponsor

Introduced by:	Brant T. McCreadie
* *	ing Guam's application for membership in the Commission for Higher Education (WICHE).
BE IT RESOLVE	D BY I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN
GUÅHAN:	
WHEREAS, the	Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education
(WICHE) is a regional ne	on-profit organization created by the Western Regional
Education Compact adopte	ed in the 1950s by western states to facilitate resource
sharing among the higher e	ducation systems of the west; and
WHEREAS, WICH	E operations commenced in 1953 and is governed by three
Commissioners appointed b	by the governors from each state; and
WHEREAS, under	the terms of the Compact, each state commits to support
WICHE's basic operations	through annual dues established by the full commission;
and	
WHEREAS, WICH	E and its member states work to improve access to higher
education and ensure studer	nt success through its various programs, regional initiatives
and through research and po	olicy work; and
WHEREAS, becom	ing a member of WICHE will greatly benefit Guam's
undergraduate students by	allowing them access to the Western Undergraduate

Exchange (WUE) program, the largest regional tuition-reciprocity agreement in the

- 1 nation, which provides a reduced tuition, at no more than 150% of the resident tuition
- 2 rate, at more than 150 participating two and four year public institutions instead of
- 3 paying substantially more for non-resident tuition which is at least double or more the
- 4 resident tuition rate; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** becoming a member of WICHE will provide the opportunity for
- 6 Guam's graduate students to enroll in approximately 250 participating graduate
- 7 programs and pay the resident tuition rate; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Guam students can additionally benefit from WICHE's
- 9 Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP) and Internet Course Exchange (ICE)
- 10 program; and
- WHEREAS, although Guam's institutions of higher learning have made great
- strides and improvements over the last several years, Guam's geographic location and
- 13 smaller population limit access to higher education for our students; and
- WHEREAS, Guam can additionally benefit from WICHE's various resources
- in workforce and policy development, technology, health and other areas; and
- WHEREAS, WICHE has already included Guam, the Commonwealth of the
- 17 Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Palau, the Federated States of
- 18 Micronesia and the Marshall Islands as the collective sixteenth member of the
- 19 Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, and it is now contingent on
- 20 Guam to decide to actively participate in WICHE; and
- WHEREAS, Guam's participation in WICHE shall, to the greatest extent
- 22 practicable, extend solely to programs that are not currently offered at either the
- 23 University of Guam or Guam Community College; and
- 24 WHEREAS, within thirty (30) working days following passage of this
- 25 Resolution, concurrence and support from the University of Guam Board of Regents

	JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.  Speaker  TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES Legislative Secretary
	DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE DAY OF 2013.
18	112 <sup>th</sup> Congress; and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, <i>I Maga'låhen Guåhan</i> .
17	of Education; the Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam's Representative in the
16	Guam Community College; Jon Fernandez, Superintendent of the Guam Department
15	Robert Underwood, President of the University of Guam; Mary Okada, President of
14	Longanecker, President of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education;
13	the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to David A.
12	RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to,
11	further
10	Guam to work with WICHE to cement Guam's status as a WICHE member; and be it
9	Interstate Commission for Higher Education and further urges the government of
8	support the government of Guam's efforts to become active members of the Western
7	<b>RESOLVED</b> , that <i>I Mina'Trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan</i> does hereby
6	therefore, be it
5	to actively participate in the Commission with the hopes that more will join; now,
4	encourages WICHE to accept Guam's efforts to join the CNMI as the second territory
3	WHEREAS, I Mina'Trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan supports and
2	Guåhan; and
1	and the Guam Community College Board of Trustees shall be sent to I Liheslaturan



# I Mina'Trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan OFFICE OF SENATOR BRANT T. MCCREADIE

# October 14, 2013 - 5:30 PM

Resolution 234-32 (COR): Introduced by Brant T. McCreadie – RELATIVE TO SUPPORTING GUAM'S APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP WITH THE WESTERN INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

NAME (Please print)	AGENCY/ ORGANIZATION	CONTACT NUMBER	ORAL TESTIMONY	WRITTEN TESTIMONY	IN FAVOR	<i>NOT</i> IN FAVOR
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### N. Oscar Miyashita, CPA CCPS AIFA® Suite 100 Ernst and Young Building 231 Ypao Road Tamuning, Guam 96913

October 14, 2013

Honorable Senator Brant McCreadie The Thirty-Second Guam Legislature 155 Hesler Place Hagatna, Guam 96910

Subject: Guam's application for membership in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)

My name is Oscar Miyashita. I am a part time Career and College counselor at Father Duenas Memorial School (FDMS). I am also a Certified Public Accountant, Accredited Investment Fiduciary Analyst and Certified College Planning Specialist sanctioned by the National Institute of Certified College Planners (NICCP). I hereby fully support your resolution relative to Guam's application for membership in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE).

The major obstacle facing Guam's young high school students and their parents aspiring to further their education off island is the cost of college education. As we all know, the cost of attendance i.e. tuition, fees, books, transportation, room and board, has skyrocketed over the last 30 years or so. For example, the cost of attendance at the University of San Diego where I graduated in 1978 has increased by more than ten times from 1978 to now, while the salary level, in general, from 1978 to present has increased by less than 3 folds. So the parents and our kids really struggle when it comes to college education costs- and that is the painful reality. I see and listen to many parents asking for guidance germane to "how to pay for college education" on a regular basis.

Approximately, 50% or more of our students at FDMS matriculate at UOG. And when I asked these students who are planning to attend UOG next year as to how many of them would like to go off island for college education, if the costs were not the major factor, virtually all of them raised their hands. UOG has come a long way and they are continuing to improve in every aspect every day. And I truly applaud Dr. Underwood and his team members for the great job they are doing. Many of our managers and leadership at my life long career Firm- Ernst and Young have come from UOG.

However, I would continue to encourage Guam high school students to attend a college off island so they may experience and see the world from a different prospective and be exposed to different environment, diverse group of people from different culture and background, and encounter a different level of competition. Our world is getting smaller and smaller through technology and Guam's youth must be ready to compete in a global business and political environment in order for them to be truly successful.

With Guam becoming a member of WICHE, our Guam high school students will now have more options and a realistic opportunity to attend off island public college institutions.

Of the 150 participating educational institutions in 16 States within WICHE, there are 84 four-year college institutions. Of the 16 participating States, there are 57 four-year college institutions in what I consider as "popular States" for the Guam students; they are Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico. Utah and Washington.

The average WICHE participating college in-State tuition and fee costs for 2012 -2013 were \$7,465, while the average nonresident undergraduate tuition and fees at public four-year institutions in the WICHE participating schools were \$19,315, a difference of \$11,850 per year.

Through the membership in WICHE, our Guam students may pay 150% of the in-State costs or the average of \$11,197. So with this program, the average savings for the Guam students by attending these WICHE participating institutions will be \$32,472 (\$19,315 minus \$11,197 time 4 years), which is substantial.

Further, through the WICHE program, our students may participate in the Professional Student Exchange Program in 10 Healthcare Fields including Dentistry, Medicine, Occupational Therapy, Optometry, Osteopathic Medicine, Pharmacy, Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant, Podiatry and Veterinary Medicine. It is my understanding that through the WICHE program, our graduate students in this field may qualify for the in-state tuition fees. This is also an outstanding benefit of being a member of WICHE.

Now let me turn to the sad and scary statistics relative to the student loans and financial aid facts. There are two types of financial aid - need based and merit based aid. The high school students fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Financial Student Aid form) to have the U.S. Department of Education determine what is known as "EFC" or expected family contribution.

And depending on the EFC, students are advised of various Federal and Institutional need based financial aid from the colleges they apply. Unfortunately, these need-based aids are simply not enough, particularly grants and scholarships. Also, in order to qualify for merit based financial aid, students must maintain certain GPA and demonstrate certain scores in SAT or ACT. The truth of the fact is that many students have no choice but to opt for student loans and that is very scary.

Nearly 20 million Americans attend college each year (Chronicle of Higher Education). Of that 20 million, close to 12 million borrow annually to help cover costs. There is roughly somewhere between \$902 billion and \$1 trillion in total outstanding student loan debt in the US today (Federal Reserve Bank of New York reports \$902B while the Consumer Finance Protection Bureau reports \$1 trillion). Roughly \$864 billion is outstanding federal student loan while the remaining \$150 billion is in private student loans (Consumer Finance Protection Bureau).

About one-quarter of borrowers owe more than \$28,000, 10% of borrowers owe more than \$54,000, 3% owe more than \$100,000 and less than 1% or 176,000 people owe more than \$200,000 (Federal Reserve Bank of New York). In 2010 - 2011, about 57% of public four-year college students graduated with debt. They had borrowed an average of \$23,880. About two -third of those earning bachelor's degree from private nonprofit institutions had debt averaging \$29,990 (College Board). And those numbers as we speak are climbing.

I recently heard in CNBC, that the student loan delinquency rate now has surpassed the entire consumer credit card debt delinquency rate. Unfortunately, filing for a bankruptcy may not obliterate student loans. Thus many in financial sector now believe that delinquent student loans will be our next bubble bursting economic debacle.

And now let me turn to the brighter side. A college degree does increase an individual's potential for earnings. College graduates earned 50% more than did young adults who completed only high school, and 22 percent more than those with associate degrees. The median income for young adults with a bachelors' degree was \$45,000, and associate degree \$37,000 (National Center for Education Statistics)

Lastly, I strongly believe it is incumbent upon the Guam leadership to do all we can to provide an affordable off-island college education to the Guam highs school students. And becoming a member of WICHE is a huge step toward that goal. Accordingly, I fully support this resolution for Guam to join the WICHE family. I also would like to applaud Senator McCreadie and his staff for having the vision, foresight and commitment to help our Guam kids achieve their dream of furthering education in off island college institutions

Thank you so much for providing me with the opportunity to present my viewpoints.

Kind Regards.

N. Oscar Miyashita, CPA CCPS AIFA® Suite 100 Ernst and Young Building

231 Ypao Road

Tamuning, Guam 96913 Office: 1 671 648 5995 Mobile: 1 671 687 9595

Email: oscar.miyashita@gmail.com

EDDIE BAZA CALVO Governor



RAY TENORIO
Lieutenant Governor

Office of the Governor of Guam

October 14, 2013

Senator Brant T. McCreadie I Mina' Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guåhan 155 Hesler Street, Hagatna, GU 96910

Hafa Adai Senator McCreadie:

I am providing this testimony on behalf of Governor Eddie Baza Calvo, indicating support for Resolution 234-32 COR, Relative to supporting Guam's application for membership in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE).

Governor Calvo has historically supported the University of Guam (UOG) as the natural choice for residents of Guam who are pursuing majors and degrees offered at our local institution of higher education. He is a strong advocate for our local university, the University of Guam. However, as great as UOG is becoming, it currently does not offer degrees that represent the diverse educational needs of university-aged students on Guam.

Proof of Governor Calvo's support for UOG is the fact that four of his children attended UOG, with two graduating from UOG. So he is proud of OUR local university and the degrees offered to the residents of Guam. However, two of his children are pursuing degrees not offered at UOG. On behalf of other parents who have children pursuing degrees off-island, the Governor supports this resolution, reducing the cost for an off-island degree, so that students and their families can make use of the savings from lowered tuition costs for other critical family needs.

WICHE presents opportunities for lower fuition costs for Guam students pursuing majors and degrees that are not offered at UOG. This will result in a significant savings for parents who are footing the bill for their children's dreams to pursue a degree not available on Guam, and will result in a lower debt for those students who are taking out loans to pursue an education leading to the career of their choice.

Thus, Governor Calvo supports WICHE participation for students who are pursuing majors and degrees *not* offered at UOG.

Thank you for the opportunity to present the Governor's views on this resolution.

Vincent Leon Guerrero,

Special Assistant, Chief Education Advisor



# University of Guam Unibetsedåt Guahan

#### OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

UOG Station, Mangilao, Guam 96923 Telephone: (671) 735-2990 • Fax: (671) 734-2296

October 22, 2013

The Honorable Brant McCreadie Senator, 32<sup>nd</sup> Guam Legislature 167 E. Marine Corp Drive, Ste. 104 Dela Corte Bldg. Hagatna, Guam 96910

Dear Senator McCreadie,

I apologize for not being able to personally attend the hearing on Resolution 234-32, which supports Guam membership in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE). Unfortunately, the hearing was scheduled at a time that conflicted with the Presidential Lecture Series. This is a resolution that is problematic for the University's autonomy to pursue academic programs and requires us to pursue relationships with other universities. The fact that the resolution was drafted without consultation with Guam's postsecondary institutions is not conducive to the levels of autonomy that is required by accrediting agencies. WICHE presupposes a series of reciprocal relationships amongst universities and colleges that we must assess for their effect on our programs.

These reciprocal relationships should emerge from institutional contacts and priorities. The people of Guam expend enormous resources to help provide higher educational opportunities on island. This is appropriate and defensible because 70% of students who graduate from UOG work in Guam and the region. Approximately two-thirds of all students who leave Guam to attend college off-island do not return. People make choices and they should be free to make those choice. But we should do what we can to reduce a "brain drain," rather than encourage it. If there are programs which we cannot afford or provide, then Guam's postsecondary institutions should make arrangements with other institutions on a program to program basis.

In order to augment our offerings and be responsive to career options that support the island's needs, UOG has pursued partnered initiatives with other institutions of higher education offisland. We partnered with:

- University of Hawaii (UH) Hilo to allow students to feed into their Pharmacy School;
- UH Manoa, University of Iowa, and Mapua Institute of Technology to feed students from our Pre-Engineering program Into the Bachelor of Science in Engineering degree; and
- UH Manoa to offer the graduate Social Work degree program.

Through the UOG Center for Excellence in Developmental Disability Education, Research and Service (CEDDERS), UOG was able to facilitate needed training and education for our local and regional communities.

- In 1997, funding was obtained to facilitate a cohort of graduates with a Master's degree
  in Speech Pathology which was accomplished through a partnership with San Francisco
  State University.
- Through a contract with DOE, an Educational Aide program was funded, which focused on developing a career ladder for these paraprofessionals through a partnership with GCC.
- In 1999, federal funding was secured for a Bachelor's level Communication Disorders training program in collaboration with San Jose State University.

#### More recent activities include:

- a Master's degree in Special Education program offered in the Federated States of Micronesia in 2000:
- a federally funded Master's degree program with ASHA certification in collaboration with San Jose State University in 2004;
- a federally funded Master's degree program in Visual Impairment and Orientation and Mobility in partnership with University of Massachusetts, Boston in 2010; and
- a subcontract from UH Medical School to support a yearly cohort of Leadership in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities graduate certificate trainees in 2011.

Targeted arrangements like these (by UOG) provide Guam residents an opportunity to pursue degree programs not offered by UOG; this more effectively addresses the gap without resulting in a complete leakage of local government funds to subsidize an initiative such as WICHE membership that lacks targeted planning efforts that meet the broader needs of our island's intellectual infrastructure.

The resolution bypasses these arrangements and suggests a level of academic planning which legislatures should avoid. At a minimum, they should begin those conversations with the institutions that are affected. I respectfully request that you withdraw any consideration of the resolution until GCC, UOG and our respective Boards have had time to consider this proposal.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Underwood

Rolt A Underword

President

cc: Honorable Judith T. Won Pat, Speaker, 32<sup>nd</sup> Guam Legislature Chair, Committee on Education, Public Library & Women's Affairs

# **COMMITTEE ON RULES**

I Mina'trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Gnähan • The 32nd Guam Legislature 155 Hesler Place, Hagàtha, Guam 96910 • www.guamlegislature.com E-mail: norsforguum@gmail.com • Tel: (671)472-7679 • Fax: (671)472-3547

Senator Rory J. Respicio CHAIRPERSON MAIORITY LEADER

September 25, 2013

Senator Thomas C. Ada VICE CHAIRPERSON ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

Senator Vicente (Ben) C. Pangelinan Member

Speaker Judith T.P. Won Pat, Ed.D. Member

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Member

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> Senator Frank Blas Aguon, Jr. Member

Senator Michael F.Q. San Nicolas Member

Senator
V. Anthony Ada
Member
MINORITY LEADER

Senator Aline Yamashita Member

#### MEMORANDUM

To: Rennae Meno

Clerk of the Legislature

Attorney Therese M. Terlaje Legislative Legal Counsel

From: Senator Rory J. Respicio

Majority Leader & Rules Chair

Subject: Referral of Resolution No. 234-32 (COR)

As Chairperson of the Committee on Rules, I am forwarding my referral of Resolution No. 234-32 (COR). Please ensure that the subject resolution is referred, in my name, to the respective sponsor, as shown on the attachment.

I also request that the same be forwarded to all Senators of I Mina trental Dos na Liheslaturan Gudhan.

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

Si Yu'os ma'asel

(1) Attachments

### l Mina' Trental Dos Na Liheslaturan Guåhan Resolutions Log Sheet

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### Senator Brant McCreadie <senatorbrantmccreadie@gmail.com>

## FIRST NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - October 14, 2013

2 messages

Senator Brant McCreadie <senatorbrantmccreadie@gmail.com> To: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

Mon, Oct 7, 2013 at 11:01 AM

TO:

ALL SENATORS

FROM

Senator Brant T. McCreadie.

SUBJECT: FIRST NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING-October 14, 2013

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

The Office of Senator Brant T. McCreadie has scheduled a public hearing for Monday, October 14, 2013 at 5:30 pm.

Location: Guam Legislature Public Hearing room

The item(s) on the agenda are as follows:

5:30 p.m.

Resolution No. 234-32 (COR) - RELATIVE TO SUPPORTING GUAM'S APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE WESTERN INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION (WICHE), Introduced by B.T. McCreadie.

I look forward to your presence and participation.

Office of Senator Brant McCreadle

l Mina Trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guáhan 472-3462/3

senatorbrantmccreadie@gmail.com

Adam Bearce <adam@guamlegislature.org>

Mon. Oct 7, 2013 at 11:11 AM

To: Senator Brant McCreadie <senatorbrantmccreadie@gmail.com>, Yong Pak <yong@guamlegislature.org>

Thanks. This is now posted.

(Quoted text hidden)



#### Senator Brant McCreadie <senatorbrantmccreadie@gmail.com>

## Second Notice of Public Hearing

2 messages

Senator Brant McCreadle < senatorbrantmccreadle@gmail.com>

Thu, Oct 10, 2013 at 12:00 PM

To: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

Cc: Brant McCreadie <brantforguam@gmail.com>

10:

**ALL SENATORS** 

FROM:

Senator Brant T. McCreadie.

SUBJECT:

SECOND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING-October 14, 2013

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

The Office of Senator Brant T. McCreadie has scheduled a public hearing for Monday, October 14, 2013 at 5:30 pm.

Location: Guam Legislature Public Hearing room

The item(s) on the agenda are as follows:

5:30 p.m.

Resolution No. 234-32 (COR) - RELATIVE TO SUPPORTING GUAM'S APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE WESTERN INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION (WICHE). Introduced by B.T. McCreadie.

I look forward to your presence and participation.

Office of Senator Brant McCreadie

I Mina Trentai Dos na Lihestaturen Guåhan 472-3462/3

senatorbrantmccreadie@gmail.com

Adam Bearce <adam@guemlegislature.org>

Thu, Oct 10, 2013 at 12:01 PM

To: Senator Brant McCreadie <senatorbrantmccreadie@gmail.com>, Yong Pak <yong@guamlegislature.org>

Thanks, confirmed posted.

[Quoted text hidden]

# Listserv: <a href="mailto:phnotice@guamlegislature.org">phnotice@guamlegislature.org</a> As of October 1, 2013

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# Listserv: phnotice@guamtegislature.org As of October 1, 2013

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slimtiaco@guampdn.com
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thebigshow@guamcell.net
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# I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2013 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 234-35 (con)

Introduced by:

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Brant T. McCreadie

Relative to supporting Guam's application for membership in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE).

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

WHEREAS, the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) is a regional non-profit organization created by the Western Regional Education Compact adopted in the 1950s by western states to facilitate resource sharing among the higher education systems of the west; and

WHEREAS, WICHE operations commenced in 1953 and is governed by three Commissioners appointed by the governors from each state; and

WHEREAS, under the terms of the Compact, each state commits to support WICHE's basic operations through annual dues established by the full commission; and

WHEREAS, WICHE and its member states work to improve access to higher education and ensure student success through its various programs, regional initiatives and through research and policy work; and

WHEREAS, becoming a member of WICHE will greatly benefit Guam's undergraduate students by allowing them access to the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program, the largest regional tuition-reciprocity agreement in the nation, which provides a reduced tuition, at no more than 150% of the resident tuition

- 1 rate, at more than 150 participating two and four year public institutions instead of
- 2 paying substantially more for non-resident tuition which is at least double or more the
- 3 resident tuition rate; and
- 4 WHEREAS, becoming a member of WICHE will provide the opportunity for
- 5 Guam's graduate students to enroll in approximately 250 participating graduate
- 6 programs and pay the resident tuition rate; and
- 7 WHEREAS. Guam students can additionally benefit from WICHE's
- 8 Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP) and Internet Course Exchange (ICE)
- 9 program; and
- 10 WHEREAS, although Guam's institutions of higher learning have made great
- 11 strides and improvements over the last several years, Guam's geographic location and
- smaller population limit access to higher education for our students; and
- WHEREAS, Guam can additionally benefit from WICHE's various resources
- 14 in workforce and policy development, technology, health and other areas; and
- 15 WHEREAS, WICHE has already included Guam, the Commonwealth of the
- 16 Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Palau, the Federated States of
- 17 Micronesia and the Marshall Islands as the collective sixteenth member of the
- 18 Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, and it is now contingent on
- 19 Guam to decide to actively participate in WICHE; and
- 20 WHEREAS, I Mina Trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan supports and
- 21 encourages WICHE to accept Guam's efforts to join the CNMI as the second territory
- 22 to active participate in the Commission with the hopes that more will join; now,
- 23 therefore, be it
- 24 **RESOLVED**, that I Mina Trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan does hereby
- 25 support the government of Guam's efforts to become active members of the Western
- 26 Interstate Commission for Higher Education and further urges the government of

Guam to work with WICHE to cement Guam's status as a WICHE member; and be it -2 further 3 RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to David A. 4 5 Longanecker, President of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education; Robert Underwood, President of the University of Guam; Mary Okada, President of 6 1 Guam Community College: Jon Fernandez, Superintendent of the Guam Department of Education; the Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam's Representative in the 8 112th Congress; and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, I Maga 'låhen Guåhan. DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINATRENTAL DOS NA

LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN ON THE DAY OF 2013.

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.

Speaker

Legislative Secretary

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES

# The Office of SENATOR BRANT T. MCCREADIE



# l Mina'Trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan

### Public Hearing

October 14, 2013 - 5:30 PM

### Agenda

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

**Resolution 234-32 (COR)** – B.T. McCreadie: "Relative to supporting Guam's application for membership in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)."

- IV. Announcement
- V. Adjournment

I Mina'trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan • The 32nd Guam Legislature 155 Hesler Place, Hagåtña, Guam 96910 • www.guamlegislature.com

E-mail: roryforguam@gmail.com • Tel: (671)472-7679 • Fax: (671)472-3547

Senator Rory J. Respicio CHAIRPERSON MAIORITY LEADER

September 25, 2013

**MEMORANDUM** 

Senator Thomas C. Ada VICE CHAIRPERSON ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

To: Rennae Meno

Senator Vicente (Ben) C. Pangelinan Member

Clerk of the Legislature

Speaker Judith T.P. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Attorney Therese M. Terlaje Legislative Legal Counsel

Member

Senator Rory J. Respicio From:

Majority Leader & Rules Chair

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.

Subject: Referral of Resolution No. 234-32 (COR)

Vice-Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz

Member

Member

As Chairperson of the Committee on Rules, I am forwarding my referral of Resolution No. 234-32 (COR). Please ensure that the subject resolution is referred, in my name, to the respective sponsor, as shown on the attachment.

Legislative Secretary Tina Rose Muña Barnes Member

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

Senator

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

Frank Blas Aguon, Jr. Member

Senator

Michael F.Q. San Nicolas

Member

Si Yu'os ma'åse!

Senator V. Anthony Ada Member MINORITY LEADER (1) Attachments

Senator

Aline Yamashita

Member

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

25 A

Resolution No. 234-31 (con)

Introduced by:

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Brant T. McCreadie

Relative to supporting Guam's application for membership in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE).

BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA'TRENTAL DOS NA LIHESLATURAN

GUÅHAN:

WHEREAS, the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) is a regional non-profit organization created by the Western Regional Education Compact adopted in the 1950s by western states to facilitate resource sharing among the higher education systems of the west; and

WHEREAS, WICHE operations commenced in 1953 and is governed by three Commissioners appointed by the governors from each state; and

WHEREAS, under the terms of the Compact, each state commits to support WICHE's basic operations through annual dues established by the full commission; and

WHEREAS, WICHE and its member states work to improve access to higher education and ensure student success through its various programs, regional initiatives and through research and policy work; and

WHEREAS, becoming a member of WICHE will greatly benefit Guam's undergraduate students by allowing them access to the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program, the largest regional tuition-reciprocity agreement in the nation, which provides a reduced tuition, at no more than 150% of the resident tuition

- 1 rate, at more than 150 participating two and four year public institutions instead of
- 2 paying substantially more for non-resident tuition which is at least double or more the
- 3 resident tuition rate; and
- 4 WHEREAS, becoming a member of WICHE will provide the opportunity for
- 5 Guam's graduate students to enroll in approximately 250 participating graduate
- 6 programs and pay the resident tuition rate; and
- WHEREAS, Guam students can additionally benefit from WICHE's
- 8 Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP) and Internet Course Exchange (ICE)
- 9 program; and
- WHEREAS, although Guam's institutions of higher learning have made great
- strides and improvements over the last several years, Guam's geographic location and
- smaller population limit access to higher education for our students; and
- WHEREAS, Guam can additionally benefit from WICHE's various resources
- in workforce and policy development, technology, health and other areas; and
- WHEREAS, WICHE has already included Guam, the Commonwealth of the
- 16 Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Palau, the Federated States of
- 17 Micronesia and the Marshall Islands as the collective sixteenth member of the
- 18 Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, and it is now contingent on
- 19 Guam to decide to actively participate in WICHE; and
- WHEREAS, I Mina'Trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan supports and
- 21 encourages WICHE to accept Guam's efforts to join the CNMI as the second territory
- 22 to active participate in the Commission with the hopes that more will join; now,
- 23 therefore, be it
- 24 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby
- support the government of Guam's efforts to become active members of the Western
- 26 Interstate Commission for Higher Education and further urges the government of

	JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.  Speaker  TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES Legislative Secretary
	DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTAL DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÂHAN ON THE DAY OF 2013.
9	112 <sup>th</sup> Congress; and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, <i>I Maga'låhen Guåhan</i> .
3	of Education; the Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam's Representative in the
7	Guam Community College; Jon Fernandez, Superintendent of the Guam Department
6	Robert Underwood, President of the University of Guam; Mary Okada, President of
5	Longanecker, President of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education;
4	the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to David A.
3	RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to,
2	further
1	Guam to work with WICHE to cement Guam's status as a WICHE member; and be it