

I MINA'BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
2005 (FIRST) Regular Session

Executive Committee
Resolution No. 2

Introduced by:

J. T. Won Pat
A. R. Unpingco
Edward J.B. Calvo
F. B. Aguon, Jr.
J. M.S. Brown
B. J.F. Cruz
Mike Cruz
Mark Forbes
L. F. Kasperbauer
R. Klitzkie
L. A. Leon Guerrero
J. A. Lujan
A. B. Palacios
R. J. Respicio
Ray Tenorio

Relative to declaring January 17, 2005, as the day commemorating the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and that he be remembered as a man for the ages.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF I**
2 ***MINA'BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN:***

3 **WHEREAS, Monday, January 17, 2005, marks the 19th National**
4 **Celebration of the National Holiday for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his**
5 **fight for civil and human rights; and**

6 **WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was born in Atlanta, Georgia,**

1 on January 15, 1929; and

2 **WHEREAS**, throughout his life, he worked to ensure that all people
3 were given the opportunity to follow their dreams, regardless of their race or
4 station in life; and

5 **WHEREAS**, several days after Rosa Park’s arrest for refusing to comply
6 with segregation on buses in Montgomery, Alabama, on December 5, 1955,
7 Dr. King was elected president of the Montgomery Improvement Association
8 and the Montgomery Bus Boycott began; and

9 **WHEREAS**, during the boycott, Dr. King gained national prominence as
10 an exceptional leader with extraordinary oratorical skills and personal
11 courage; and

12 **WHEREAS**, on December 20, 1956, the United States Supreme Court
13 declared Alabama’s segregation laws unconstitutional and Montgomery buses
14 were desegregated; and

15 **WHEREAS**, in 1957, Dr. King and other southern African-American
16 ministers founded the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and elected
17 Dr. King as their president; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Dr. King led the 1957 Prayer Pilgrimage for Freedom in
19 Washington, D.C., and subsequently published his first book, “Stride Toward
20 Freedom: The Montgomery Story”; and

21 **WHEREAS**, in 1959, Dr. King toured India, where he learned more
22 about Gandhian strategies of nonviolence and developed his own theories
23 about achieving social change through nonviolent resistance; and

24 **WHEREAS**, during mass demonstrations in 1963 organized by Dr. King

1 and his staff in Birmingham, Alabama, images of brutality inflicted on
2 African-American demonstrators by police using police dogs and fire hoses
3 shocked the world; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Dr. King’s historic “I have a dream” speech, which he
5 delivered in 1963, is considered an oratorical masterpiece and exemplifies his
6 charismatic leadership and eloquence; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Dr. King was determined to adhere to a peaceful approach
8 in seeking justice, and he never gave up his ideals or goals when faced with
9 adversity; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Dr. King won the Nobel Peace Prize on December 10, 1964
11 for his diligent efforts to racially integrate the nation through peaceful means;
12 and

13 **WHEREAS**, in 1965, Dr. King led the march from Selma, Alabama to
14 Montgomery, and President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the first Voting Rights
15 Act; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Dr. King, in the last months of his life, began organizing a
17 Poor People’s Campaign to, among other things, assemble “a multiracial army
18 of the poor that would descend on Washington--engaging in nonviolent civil
19 disobedience at the Capitol, if need be--until Congress enacted a poor people’s
20 bill of rights”; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Representative John Conyers (D-Michigan) submitted the
22 first legislation for a national Dr. King Holiday, which was signed into law by
23 President Ronald Wilson Reagan, on November 2, 1983; and

24 **WHEREAS**, January 20, 1986, marked the first observance of Dr. Martin

1 Luther King, Jr. Day; and

2 **WHEREAS**, the Guam Martin Luther King, Jr. Human Rights
3 Commission and the African American Heritage Committee,
4 ComNavMarianas, in partnership with Soka Gakkai International – USA are
5 working together to develop programs and activities for achieving global
6 peace; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Soka Gakkai International – USA in collaboration with the
8 Guam Martin Luther King, Jr. Human Rights Commission will partake in the
9 celebration, of the life and works of Dr. King; and


10 **WHEREAS**, the month of January 2005, the people of Guam will have
11 the opportunity to view the traveling exhibition from Atlanta, Georgia,
12 entitled “Gandhi, King and Ikeda: A Legacy of Building Peace”, sponsored by
13 Soka Gakkai International – USA, featuring Mohandas K. Gandhi, Dr. Martin
14 Luther King, Jr. and Daisaku Ikeda, as three global peacemakers, who
15 espoused human rights, equality, social justice and respect for all people; and


16 **WHEREAS**, the people of Guam find Dr. King’s teachings and
17 principles as a source of inspiration; now, therefore, be it

18 **RESOLVED**, that the Executive Committee of *I Mina’Bente Ocho Na*
19 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the
20 people of Guam, declare that Monday, January 17, 2005, the day
21 commemorating the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and that he be
22 remembered as a man for the ages, he lived a life and espoused a philosophy
23 that will always remind us the struggle for human rights may never be
24 finished, but that the struggle itself ennoble the warriors of justice; and be it
25 further

1 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairman of the Executive
2 Committee certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the adoption
3 hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Ms. Claudette
4 McGhee, Executive Director of Guam's Martin Luther King, Jr. Human Rights
5 Commission; to Mr. Abraham Amison, President of Guam's Martin Luther
6 King, Jr. Human Rights Commission; to the African American Heritage
7 Committee, ComNavMarianas; to Soka Gakkai International – USA; to the
8 Indian Community of Guam; to the Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo,
9 Member of Congress, U.S. House of Representatives; and to the Honorable
10 Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF I MINA'BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 12TH
DAY OF JANUARY 2005.**


MARK FORBES
Speaker and
Chairman, Executive Committee


JOANNE M.S. BROWN
Vice Speaker and
Acting Secretary of the Legislature