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

Executive Committee Resolution No. 58
As amended by the Author.

Introduced by:

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

Relative to expressing the condolences of *I Mina'Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* on the passing of General Louis H. Wilson, Jr., U.S. Marine Corps, Retired; and to request that *I Maga'lahen Guåhan* declare July 25, 2005 as a Day of Mourning.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF I

- 2 MINA'BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:
- 3 WHEREAS, Louis H. Wilson, Jr. enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in
- 4 May 1941 and was commissioned a second lieutenant in November of that
- 5 year; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Wilson went overseas with the 9th Marines in February 1943, making stops at Guadalcanal, Efate and Bougainville, and was later promoted to Captain in April 1943; and

WHEREAS, on July 25-26, 1944, Captain Louis H. Wilson, Jr. was ordered to take that portion of *Fonte* Hill, an area between Agana Heights and what is now Nimitz Hill, within his zone of action. Captain Wilson initiated his attack in mid-afternoon, pushed up the rugged, open terrain against terrific machinegun and rifle fire for three hundred (300) yards and successfully captured the objective; and

WHEREAS, promptly assuming command of other disorganized units and motorized equipment, in addition to his own company and one (1) reinforcing platoon, he organized his night defenses in the face of continuous hostile fire and, although wounded three (3) times during this five (5) hour period, completed his disposition of men and guns before retiring to the company command post for medical attention; and

WHEREAS, shortly thereafter, when the enemy launched the first of a series of savage counterattacks lasting all night, he voluntarily rejoined his besieged units and repeatedly exposed himself to the merciless hail of shrapnel and bullets, dashing fifty (50) yards into the open on one occasion to rescue a wounded Marine lying helpless beyond the frontlines; and

WHEREAS, fighting fiercely in hand-to-hand encounters, he led his men in a furiously waged battle for approximately ten (10) hours, tenaciously holding his line and repelling the fanatically renewed counter trusts until he succeeded in crushing the last efforts of the hard-pressed Japanese early the following morning; and

WHEREAS, then organizing a seventeen (17) man patrol, he immediately advanced upon a strategic slope essential to the security of his position and, boldly defying intense mortar, machinegun, and rifle fire which struck down thirteen (13) of his men, drove relentlessly forward with the remnants of his patrol to sieve the vital ground; and

WHEREAS, by his indomitable leadership, daring combat tactics, and valor in the face of overwhelming odds, Captain Wilson succeeded in capturing and holding the strategic high ground in his regimental sector, thereby contributing essentially to the success of his regimental mission and to the annihilation of three hundred fifty (350) Japanese troops; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the heroism and leadership he exhibited during the defense of *Fonte* Hill on July 25-26, 1944, he earned the nation's highest honor for heroism in combat, the Congressional Medal of Honor; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the leadership then Captain Wilson showed while defending *Fonte* Hill, the island's liberation from the occupying forces of Japan was accelerated, and people were freed from the camps at *Manenggon* and other areas of Guam; and

WHEREAS, this period in General Wilson's life was a defining moment that had an enormous impact upon his career in the Marine Corps, setting the stage for promotion up the ranks until his appointment as the 26^{th} Commandant of the Marine Corps on July 1, 1975; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Executive Committee of *I Mina'Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people of Guam, express its deepest condolences on the passing of General Louis H. Wilson, Jr., U.S. Marine Corps, Retired; and be it further

RESOLVED, that an appropriate expression of these condolences be conveyed to his wife, Jane, and we made known to all who knew and admired him; and be it further

RESOLVED, that *I Mina'Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* hereby requests that *I Maga'lahen Guåhan* declare July 25, 2005 as an official day of mourning, with all flags lowered to half staff, to memorialize the anniversary of when General Wilson earned his Congressional Medal of Honor during the liberation of Guam; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker and the Chairman of the Executive Committee certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Mrs. Jane Wilson; to the Honorable Ben Blaz, former Guam Delegate to Congress; to General Michael W. Hagee, Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps; to the Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Member, U.S. House of Representatives; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF I MINA'BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 27^{TH} DAY OF JUNE 2005.

MARK FORBES

Speaker and

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Chairman, Executive Committee

ANTONIO R. UNPINGCO Senator and Acting Secretary of the Legislature

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