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

Executive Committee Resolution No. 69

Introduced by:

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A. B. Palacios R. J. Respicio A. R. Unpingco J. T. Won Pat

Relative to commending and congratulating the Board of Directors, administration and volunteers on the occasion of the Third Anniversary and opening of the new 'Island Girl Power!' Clubhouse facility.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF I MINA'BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:

WHEREAS, 'Island Girl Power!' is a division of the *Ayuda* Foundation, a non-profit organization funded by contributions and community donations supported locally by the Guam Department of Public Health, the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, the University of Guam Gender Studies Research Association, and the Guam Community College Career

- 1 Development and Service Learning Program, Inafa Maolek, Big Brothers Big
- 2 Sisters, Rainbows for Children, Juvenile Court Services, and many public
- 3 schools; and
- 4 WHEREAS, the 'Island Girl Power!' program is dedicated to helping
- 5 girls, ages seven to fourteen (7-14), maintain their self-esteem and make
- 6 positive lifestyle choices; and
- WHEREAS, the objective of 'Island Girl Power!' is to decrease the
- 8 occurrence of teen pregnancy, suicide, and substance abuse; and
- 9 **WHEREAS**, 'Island Girl Power!' currently has three hundred fifty (350)
- 10 members; approximately one hundred fifty (150) high school and adult
- volunteers donate supplies and provide classes such as cooking, self-defense,
- 12 art, and peer counseling; and
- 13 WHEREAS, 'Island Girl Power!' has relocated their main clubhouse
- 14 facility to the village of Dededo; and
- WHEREAS, 'Island Girl Power!' is celebrating their 3rd year of providing
- 16 guidance and support to our island's female youth; and
- 17 **WHEREAS**, 'Island Girl Power!' is the power that girls have to be the
- 18 best that they can be confident, fulfilled, and feeling good about themselves;
- 19 is helping girls make the most of their lives and encouraging girls to pursue
- 20 their own interests and talents; is telling all girls that they are worthy of
- 21 success, that opportunities do exist, and that expressing themselves is okay; is
- being healthy physically and mentally, and is girls growing into strong and
- 23 competent women; and
- WHEREAS, the transition from childhood to adolescence in girls occurs
- 25 between the ages of seven through fourteen (7-14), it is often the time when

- 1 girls start to lose the 'Island Girl Power!' they had in childhood and during
- 2 this transitional time, girls begin to respond differently to what others say and
- 3 it is often the first time that girls are exposed to drug use and other risky
- 4 behavior; and
- 5 **WHEREAS**, girls in their early teens are often encouraged to place more
- 6 emphasis on their personalities, social skills, looks and abilities to please
- 7 others rather than develop their own interests and aspirations; and
- 8 WHEREAS, some girls who earlier experienced adult and peer approval
- 9 for demonstrating athletic abilities before puberty are often discouraged from
- 10 participating in many sports once their bodies show signs of maturing; and
- 11 WHEREAS, administrators and volunteers of 'Island Girl Power!'
- 12 believe that each girl has the ability to create positive change in her life and by
- 13 making the girls wiser to the world around them, girls will make smarter
- 14 choices in life; and
- WHEREAS, by accepting all girls, regardless of income or status, 'Island
- 16 Girl Power!' believes they will help bridge the gap between the haves and the
- 17 have nots and can help girls understand the importance of community service
- 18 by showing them the example of exceptional people who volunteer to create a
- 19 place just for them; and
- WHEREAS, the goal of 'Island Girl Power!' is not only to curb the most
- 21 serious challenges facing girls today such as the incidence of teenage
- 22 pregnancy, substance abuse and suicide; and
- 23 WHEREAS, other 'Island Girl Power!' goals include encouraging girls
- 24 by volunteering to instruct a class of their design, giving an uplifting speech

1 in support of girls at public event, spending a couple of hours a month at the

2 clubhouse being a positive role model, helping girls understand that alcohol,

3 tobacco, and drugs are unhealthy, dangerous, and illegal, actively supporting

4 girls goals by providing many opportunities as possible for them to

5 participate in sports, the arts, and other positive activities of interest to them,

6 and to be there for the girls when they are in need; 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, commend and congratulate the dedicated administrators and volunteers of 'Island Girl Power!' on the occasion of their Third Anniversary; and be it further

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, offer *un Dångkolo' na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'* to the administrators and volunteers of 'Island Girl Power!' for their integrity, high caliber of professionalism and determination to create a place for the girls of our Island as they take their place and settle in at their new Dededo location; 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 Ms. Juanita Blas, Program Director, 'Island Girl Power!'; to the *Ayuda* Foundation; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF I MINABENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 11^{TH} DAY OF AUGUST 2005.

MARK FORBES

Speaker and

Chairman, Executive Committee

EDWARD J.B. CALVO

Senator and

Secretary of the Legislature