## I MINA'BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2006 (SECOND) Regular Session

Executive Committee Resolution No. <u>186</u>	
Introduced by:	J. T. Won Pat
Relative to recognizing Natasha Christine Leon Guerrero Perez for her bravery and courage for fighting for a healthier environment for everyone on Guam and to honor her legacy, the "Natasha Protection Act of 2006" which banned smoking in restaurants and bars	
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF I MINA'	
BENTE OCHO N A LIHESLATU	IRAN GUÅHAN:
WHEREAS, Natasha Chri	stine Leon Guerrero Perez, affectionately
known as "Tash" was born on October 21, 1990 on Guam; and	
WHEREAS, Tash's mothe	r is Genevieve M. Leon Guerrero and her
grandparents are Vicente and Mariquita Leon Guerrero; and	
WHEREAS, Tash was affli	icted with Osteosarcoma in 2002; and
WHEREAS, over a period	of 4 years, Tash endured eight major
surgeries, two years of chemotherapy, physical therapy and it was because of	
her deep devotion to God that g	ave her the strength to endure; and

WHEREAS, the disease started in her left leg then metastasize to Tash's

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lungs; and

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WHEREAS, due to Tash's lung compromised state, dining out at 2 restaurants was a challenge for her that even to be in a non-smoking section 3 was not enough because the crossover of smoke from the smoking section 4 posed a great problem for her; and 5 WHEREAS, when Tash, at her lung compromised state would smell 6 cigarette smoke, this would render her coughing and thus would make it 7 difficult for her to breathe; and 8 9 **WHEREAS**, while receiving treatment in the state of New York, the no smoking law was passed and implemented which provided a pleasurable and 10 healthy experience for Tash while dining out with family and friends; and 11 WHEREAS, Tash and her Mom returned to Guam in March 2004 and 12 within a few months of frustrated dining experiences sought the support of 13 Sen. Lou Leon Guerrero to introduce a no smoking policy for Guam; and 14 WHEREAS, with the support of Sen. Leon Guerrero's esteemed 15 colleague, Sen. JudithWon Pat, who was second co-sponsor continued the task 16 of lobbying for the bill which we are now proud to call the "Natasha 17 Protection Act of 2006" also known as the "Natasha Act"; and 18 WHEREAS, Tash was not the only one who would benefit from the 19 implementation of the Natasha Act as there are many children, adults, and the 20 elderly who suffer from bronchitis, asthma and other related breathing conditions that make it difficult for them to breathe when smoke is in the air, 22

- especially enclosed areas such as restaurants and bars; and
- 2 **WHEREAS,** Tash was a honor student at the Academy of Our Lady of
- 3 Guam with the Class of 2008; and
- 4 **WHEREAS**, Tash ranked the top ten in her class and a dedicated
- 5 student setting the example of always doing one's best; and
- 6 **WHEREAS**, Tash was active at Our Lady of Assumption Church in Piti;
- 7 and
- 8 WHEREAS, because of Tash, Healing Ministry has been established in
- 9 the Piti parish and the statue of Our Lady of Good Health is in place in her
- 10 honor; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Tash enjoyed reading, watching movies, and being with her
- 12 friends; and;
- 13 WHEREAS, Tash's favorite restaurants were Firefly, Lonestar,
- 14 Capriocciosa and the Sagano Restaurant at the Onward Hotel because they
- were smoke free even before the law was passed and she could experience a
- 16 pleasurable dining experience without compromising her health; and
- 17 **WHEREAS**, although Tash was only a teenager, she was wise to have
- strong convictions and the strength to voice her opinion for what she believed
- 19 was right; and
- 20 **WHEREAS**, Tash passed away on June 9, 2006 at the age of 15 and her
- 21 memory will forever be in our hearts and prayers; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Committee of *I*

- 1 Mina'Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan does hereby, on behalf of I
- 2 Liheslaturan Guåhan and the people of Guam, recognize Natasha Christine
- 3 Leon Guerrero Perez and honor her for her courage and bravery by ensuring a
- 4 healthier environment for everyone on Guam through the "Natasha
- 5 Protection Act of 2006"; and be it further
- 6 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairman of the Executive
- 7 Committee certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the adoption
- 8 hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Genevieve M.
- 9 Leon Guerrero, the Academy of our Lady of Guam, and to the Honorable
- 10 Felix P. Camacho, Maga'lahen Guåhan.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF I MINA'BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF AUGUST 2006.

MARK FORBES
Speaker and
Chairman, Executive Committee

EDWARD J.B. CALVO
Senator and
Secretary of the Legislature