

MINA' BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
2006 (SECOND) Regular Session

Executive Committee
Resolution No. 187

Introduced by:

Ray Tenorio
L. F. Kasperbauer
M. Cruz

Relative to congratulating 'Island Girl Power!' on the occasion of its 4th Anniversary celebration and commending the Board of Directors, administration, and volunteers who continue to devote themselves to offer a place especially made for young girls.

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

WHEREAS, 'Island Girl Power!' was founded in the Spring of 2002 by the *Ayuda* Foundation, a non-profit organization funded by community donations and contributions; and

WHEREAS, the 'Island Girl Power!' program is dedicated to helping girls, ages seven to fourteen (7-14), maintain their self-esteem and make positive lifestyle choices; and

WHEREAS, the 'Island Girl Power!' objective is to decrease the numbers of teen pregnancy, suicide, substance and sexual abuse by offering positive alternatives such as educational courses and activities, and a positive lifestyle; and

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WHEREAS, 'Island Girl Power!' currently has three hundred fifty (350) members; approximately one hundred fifty (150) high school students and adult volunteers that donate supplies and their time to teach an array of classes; and

WHEREAS, 'Island Girl Power!' offers community-based programs at the clubhouse, such as cooking, Capoeira martial arts and self-defense classes, art, jump rope, hip-hop and Island-style dances and chants that are educational activities at low to no cost in an environment that is neutral and unthreatening to parents and children; and

WHEREAS, 'Island Girl Power!' is celebrating their 4th year of providing guidance and support to our island's female youth; and

WHEREAS, the 'Island Girl Power!' motto 'Empower, Encourage, & Inspire' signifies the power within each girl, the support system she can be, and the driving force to help other girls pursue their own interest and talents; and

WHEREAS, the transition from childhood to adolescence in girls occurs between the ages of seven to fourteen (7-14), it is often the time when girls start to lose the 'Island Girl Power!' they had and during the transitional phase girls begin to respond differently to what others say and often the first time that they are exposed to drugs and other risks; and

WHEREAS, girls in their early teens are often encouraged to situate themselves to certain standards to please others rather than develop their own dreams and goals; and

WHEREAS, administrators and volunteers of 'Island Girl Power!'

believe that each girl they come in contact with at the clubhouse has the ability to make wiser decisions that will result in smarter choices in life; and

WHEREAS, by accepting all girls, regardless of income or status, 'Island Girl Power!' believes they can help the girls understand the importance of community service by setting examples from outstanding individuals who volunteer their services to create a place just for them; and

WHEREAS, the 'Island Girl Power!' encourages girls to volunteer and instruct a class of their design, give inspirational speeches in support of girls during a public event, spend a couple of hours a month at the clubhouse to be a positive role model for others, rally girls to recognize that alcohol, tobacco, and drug abuse are unhealthy, dangerous, and illegal, and to not be afraid to show the world what each girl has to offer; and now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that *I Mina' Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, congratulate 'Island Girl Power!' on the occasion of its 4th Anniversary celebration; and be it further

RESOLVED, that *I Mina' Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby on behalf of the people of Guam further commend 'Island Girl Power!' Board of Directors, administration and volunteers who devote themselves to offer a place especially made for young girls; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attests to, the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Ms. Juanita Blaz, Program Director, 'Island Girl Power!'; Ms. Carlotta Leon Guerrero, Executive Director, *Ayuda* Foundation; and to the Honorable 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 ____ DAY OF AUGUST 2006.

MARK FORBES
Speaker and
Executive Committee Chairman

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