

I MINA 'BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2005 (First) REGULAR SESSION

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Executive Committee Resolution No. 58 (EC)
As Amended by the Author

Introduced by:

A.R. Unpingco
L.F. Kasperbauer
R. Klitzkie

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 DECLARES JULY 25, 2005 AS A DAY OF
MOURNING.

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

3 WHEREAS, Louis H. Wilson enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in May
4 1941 and was commissioned a second lieutenant in November of that year;
5 and

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

9 WHEREAS, on July 25-26, 1944 then-Captain Louis H. Wilson was
10 ordered to take that portion of Fonte Hill, an area between Agana Heights and
11 what is now Nimitz Hill, within his zone of action, Capt. Wilson initiated his
12 attack in mid-afternoon, pushed up the rugged, open terrain against terrific

1 machinegun and rifle fire for 300 yards and successfully captured the
2 objective; and

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

9 **WHEREAS**, shortly thereafter, when the enemy launched the first of a
10 series of savage counterattacks lasting all night, he voluntarily rejoined his
11 besieged units and repeatedly exposed himself to the merciless hail of
12 shrapnel and bullets, dashing fifty (50) yards into the open on one (1) occasion
13 to rescue a wounded marine lying helpless beyond the frontlines; and

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

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

1 **WHEREAS**, by his indomitable leadership, daring combat tactics, and
2 valor in the face of overwhelming odds, then-Capt. Wilson succeeded in
3 capturing and holding the strategic high ground in his regimental sector,
4 thereby contributing essentially to the success of his regimental mission and
5 to the annihilation of three hundred fifty (350) Japanese troops; and

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

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

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

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

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

1 **RESOLVED**, that the Executive Committee of *I Mina 'Bente Ocho na*
2 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* hereby requests that *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan* declare July 25,
3 2005 as an official day of mourning, with all flags lowered to half staff, to
4 memorialize the anniversary of the date when General Wilson earned his
5 Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions during the liberation of Guam;
6 and be it further

7 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and Chairman of the Executive
8 Committee certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the adoption
9 hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Mrs. Jane
10 Wilson; to the Honorable Ben Blaz, former Guam Delegate to Congress; to
11 General Michael W. Hagee, Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps; to the
12 Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Member, U.S. House of Representatives;
13 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 _____, 2005.**

MARK FORBES
Speaker and Chairman
Executive Committee

ANTONIO R. UNPINGCO
Senator and Acting Secretary of the
Legislature