I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2008 (SECOND) Regular Session

Executive Committee Resolution No. 172

Introduced by:

Ray Tenorio Frank F. Blas, Jr. <u>Edward J.B. Calvo</u> B. J.F. Cruz James V. Espaldon Mark Forbes Judith Paulette Guthertz, DPA Frank T. Ishizaki J. A. Lujan Tina Rose Muña Barnes A. B. Palacios, Sr. v. c. pangelinan R. J. Respicio Dr. David L.G. Shimizu J. T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Relative to commending and congratulating the Management and Staff of the Department of Youth Affairs on the Celebration of its Thirtieth (30th) Anniversary.

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

WHEREAS, the Department of Youth Affairs, established thirty (30) years ago through the Youth Affairs Act of 1978, has been carrying out its mission of improving the quality of life of our youth on Guam by implementing programs, activities and services that promote youth development, discourage juvenile delinquency and strengthen the family unit;
 and

WHEREAS, since its inception, the staff and management both past and present have worked tremendously hard for a combined three (3) decades to enhance the lives of our island's youth by teaching responsibility and accountability, promoting leadership, as well as balancing punishment, protection, rehabilitation and treatment for at-risk and troubled youth; and

8 WHEREAS, Department of Youth Affairs, Director Chris Duenas has 9 taken the torch from his predecessors, carried on the mission set forth by its 10 enabling legislation, Public Law 14-110, and has infused the department with a burst of positive energy, instilling in its counselors, correctional personnel, 11 12 activities coordinators and even its young clients a sense of pride and 13 ownership in the Department's goals and objectives, ensuring that qualified 14 staff is hired and trained well, facilities and equipment are properly maintained and relationships in the community are developed and nurtured, 15 16 including acquiring support from public and private organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Department's goals are diligently sought after every year including reducing the number of youth entering the Family Court annually by ten percent (10%), reducing the number of youth entering the DYA Correctional Facility by fifteen percent (15%) a year and reducing the recidivism rate of youth remanded to DYA's Correctional Facility by ten percent (10%) a year; and

WHEREAS, DYA's motto, "Striving for a Better Tomorrow...Getting
Things Done!" is not just a slogan, but a mantra by which the Department's

leadership and staff operate, offering Guam's young men and women a
 myriad of programs and services to include physical and sports activities,
 community projects, aftercare programs, counseling and other programs that
 help nurture, rehabilitate, teach and promote our youth; now, therefore, be it

5 **RESOLVED**, that the Executive Committee of *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na* 6 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the 7 people of Guam, congratulate Director, Chris Duenas and his hard working 8 staff and managers of the Department of Youth Affairs for carrying on the 9 mission in its Thirtieth (30th) Year; 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 Mr. Chris
Duenas, DYA Director; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 31st DAY OF MARCH 2008.

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D. Speaker and Chairwoman, Executive Committee

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES Senator\and Secretary of the Legislature