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

Executive Committee Resolution No. 176

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 recognizing April 2008 as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" and with the theme, "Promoting Healthy Families in Your Community" and commending the employees of the Child Protective Services Division and the Bureau of Social Services Administration of the Department of Public Health and Social Services and the volunteers of private organizations that provide services to children.

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

3 **WHEREAS**, we acknowledge that child abuse and child neglect are 4 problems on our island, but we emphasize the importance of protecting the lives and dignity of our precious children within a secure and nurturing
 environment; and

3 WHEREAS, it is estimated that three million (3,000,000) child welfare 4 reports involving approximately five million five hundred thousand 5 (5,500,000) children are made annually across the nation, of which one 6 thousand one hundred eighty-seven (1,187) were made here on Guam in 2007; 7 and

8 WHEREAS, while most parents are aware of their primary 9 responsibility to provide for their children's well-being, some cannot do so 10 without support from family and community programs; and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that parents and caretakers who have the necessary resources and support systems are more likely to provide a safe and healthy environment for their children; and

14 **WHEREAS**, if we as a community encourage parents to use available programs such as: Parenting Education, Child Care Opportunities, Early and 15 16 Regular Child and Family Screening and Treatment, Support for New Parents, 17 Programs for Abused Children, Family Support Services, Life Skills Training 18 for Children and Young Adults, Public Information and Education, 19 Understanding and Meeting their Child's Emotional, Physical and Developmental Needs, we will help prevent child abuse and start the healing 20 21 process for those who have already fallen victim; and

22 WHEREAS, the Child Protective Services Division and the Bureau of 23 Social Services Administration of the Department of Public Health and Social 24 Services encourage private organizations and government agencies to

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promote education, intervention, and the prevention of abuse and neglect of
 children; and

WHEREAS, Guam should increase its awareness and participation to
prevent child abuse and neglect, thereby strengthening our community; now,
therefore, be it

6 **RESOLVED**, that the Executive Committee of *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na* 7 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the 8 people of Guam, recognize the month of April 2008 as "Child Abuse 9 Prevention Month" with the theme, "Promoting Healthy Families in Your 10 Community"; and be it further

11 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does 12 hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people of Guam, commend 13 the employees of the Child Protective Services Division and the Bureau of 14 Social Services Administration of the Department of Public Health and Social 15 Services and the volunteers of private organizations that provide services to 16 children; and be it further

17 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Executive 18 Committee certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the adoption 19 hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Child 20 Protective Services Division of the Department of Public Health and Social 21 Services; to the Bureau of Social Services Administration of the Department of 22 Public Health and Social Services; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I* 23 *Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

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DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 11TH DAY OF APRIL 2008.

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D. Speaker and Chairperson, Executive Committee TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES Senator and Secretary of the Legislature