

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

**Executive Committee**  
**Resolution No. 183**

Introduced by:

James V. Espaldon  
Edward J.B. Calvo  
Frank F. Blas, Jr.  
B. J.F. Cruz  
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  
Ray Tenorio  
J. T. Won Pat, Ed.D

**Relative to commemorating the “Fiftieth (50<sup>th</sup>) Jubilee Anniversary” of the Dedication of the Cathedral-Basilica of *Dulce Nombre de Maria* in *Hagåtña*, Guam.**

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

3        **WHEREAS, Archbishop Anthony S. Apuron, Metropolitan Archbishop**  
4        **and Chief Pastor of the *Dulce Nombre de Maria* Cathedral–Basilica of *Hagåtña*,**  
5        **Guam, proclaimed a year of jubilee aptly called “Jubilee Year of Grace, Joy**  
6        **and Gratitude” from April 20, 2007 to April 20, 2008, to commemorate the**

1 “Fiftieth (50<sup>th</sup>) Anniversary” of the Dedication of the Cathedral-Basilica of  
2 *Dulce Nombre de Maria* in Hagåtña, Guam; and

3       **WHEREAS**, the *Dulce Nombre de Maria* Cathedral-Basilica, the principal  
4 church of Guam and the Marianas, was first built in the island on a piece of  
5 property donated by *Chief Quipua* to Father Diego Luis de San Vitores, S.J. in  
6 1668, starting as a small edifice made of wood and upon its construction  
7 dedicated as a church on February 2, 1669, under the title “*El Dulcissimo*  
8 *Nombre de Maria*, the Most Sweet Name of Mary”; and

9       **WHEREAS**, the principal church was destroyed by a typhoon in  
10 October 1671, an earthquake in December 1909 and heavy bombing during  
11 the war in July 1944. Construction for a provisional Cathedral was completed  
12 in March 1945; and

13       **WHEREAS**, in 1911, the church was blessed with the special title,  
14 “Cathedral” during the consecration of its first bishop, Capuchin *Francisco y*  
15 *Mateo*. The title, “Cathedral” signifies that the church houses the cathedra of  
16 the bishop, the chair which represents his teaching authority over his  
17 congregation on Guam; and

18       **WHEREAS**, during the episcopacy of Capuchin Bishop William  
19 Baumgartner, the current Cathedral was completed and dedicated on April  
20 20, 1958; and

21       **WHEREAS**, the *Dulce Nombre de Maria* Cathedral was given a second  
22 title of Basilica in 1985, by Pope John Paul II, representing that the church is a  
23 chapel of the Holy Father, as witnessed by his visit to Guam in February 1981.

1 The *Dulce Nombre de Maria* Cathedral-Basilica is one of only a few churches in  
2 the world to have the special distinction of being a Cathedral-Basilica; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the *Dulce Nombre de Maria* Cathedral-Basilica has expanded  
4 to meet the growing needs of the community, first with the building of the  
5 Blessed Sacrament Chapel, which was dedicated in December 1994, and  
6 more recently, the Chapel of Saint Therese was dedicated in late 2007, to serve  
7 as a unique place of worship for the island’s faithful; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the ongoing construction of the National Museum of the  
9 *Dulce Nombre de Maria* Cathedral-Basilica, will complement the existing  
10 grounds of the church and will serve as a treasure chest of the rich and  
11 important history of the Catholic church in Guam, since the arrival of Pale San  
12 Vitores to the momentous occasion we celebrate today, a period that spans  
13 three hundred thirty-nine (339) years; and

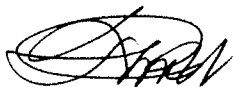
14 **WHEREAS**, the *Dulce Nombre de Maria* Cathedral-Basilica has served as  
15 a special place in Guam, throughout its existence, and holds a special place in  
16 the hearts of Guam’s people who have celebrated special moments in their  
17 lives within this great edifice; now, therefore, be it

18 **RESOLVED**, that the Executive Committee of *I Mina’Bente Nuebi Na*  
19 *Lihselaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Lihselaturan Guåhan* and the  
20 people of Guam, commemorates the “Fiftieth (50<sup>th</sup>) Jubilee” celebration of the  
21 dedication of the Cathedral-Basilica of *Dulce Nombre de Maria* and commends  
22 the Archdiocese of *Hagåtña* on this special occasion; and be it further

23 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Executive  
24 Committee certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the adoption

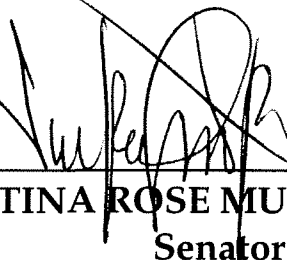
1 hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to His Excellency  
2 Anthony Sablan Apuron, Archbishop of *Hagåtña* and Pastor of the *Dulce*  
3 *Nombre de Maria* Cathedral-Basilica; to the Very Reverend Monsignor James  
4 L.G. Benavente, Rector of the *Dulce Nombre de Maria* Cathedral-Basilica; and to  
5 the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF *I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE 18<sup>TH</sup>  
DAY OF APRIL 2008.**



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



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**TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES**  
Senator and  
Secretary of the Legislature