

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

Executive Committee
Resolution No. 192

Introduced by:

Ray Tenorio
Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Edward J.B. Calvo
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 May 4 to May 10, 2008, as “National Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week” and Thursday, May 8, 2008, as “National Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day”, and to supporting the efforts of *I Famagu’on-ta* and the Child-Adolescent Services Division of the Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse by wearing the Green Ribbon signifying new life, new growth, and new beginnings.

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

3 **WHEREAS**, addressing the complex emotional and behavioral mental
4 health needs of children, youth, and families is fundamental to the future of
5 our island and the need for comprehensive, coordinated mental health
6 services for our community – especially our children - calls for our leaders,
7 policy makers, child-serving agencies and the whole community to work
8 together; and

9 **WHEREAS**, children and youth with mental health challenges and their
10 families, deserve access to services and support that is family driven, youth
11 guided and culturally appropriate; and

12 **WHEREAS**, mental health is essential to overall health and well being
13 and serious emotional and mental health disorders in children and youth are
14 real and treatable; and

15 **WHEREAS**, early diagnosis and appropriate treatment of mental health
16 disorders among children and adolescents provide them better opportunities
17 to lead full and productive lives, but it is important that children and
18 adolescents, along with their families and the community, learn about the
19 warning signs of mental health disorders and where to obtain necessary
20 assistance and treatment; and

21 **WHEREAS**, for the past four (4) years, over six hundred (600) children
22 and youth have been referred to the Child-Adolescent Services Division for
23 mental health service, five hundred twenty six (526) of these referrals were for

1 *I Famagu'on-ta*, a Child Mental Health Initiative for children and youth
2 suffering from severe mental health conditions and in need of multiple mental
3 health and related services; and

4 **WHEREAS**, *I Famagu'on-ta*, Guam's System of Care, through its unique
5 strength and solution-based, culturally competent, child-centered, and family-
6 driven wraparound approach to serving children and adolescents, is
7 effectively caring for the mental health needs of children, youth and families
8 in our community; and

9 **WHEREAS**, in celebrating National Children's Mental Health
10 Awareness Week -also Green Ribbon Week- it is fitting to increase public
11 awareness among all people living on Guam of this issue and diminish the
12 stigma associated with mental illness; and

13 **WHEREAS**, as we support Project *I Famagu'on-ta* and the remarkable
14 efforts of the Child-Adolescent Services Division of the Department of Mental
15 Health & Substance Abuse, *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*
16 encourages its members, support staff and their families, and all of the people
17 of Guam to wear a green ribbon to promote awareness of this issue and to
18 signify new life, new growth, and new beginnings; now, therefore, be it

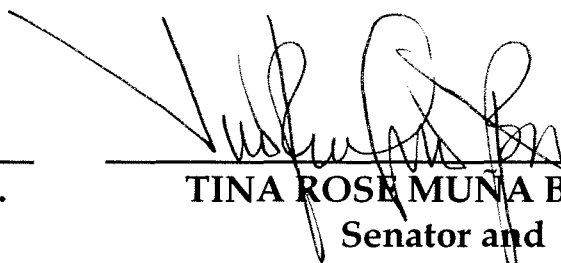
19 **RESOLVED**, that the Executive Committee of *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na*
20 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the
21 people of Guam, recognize the week of May 4 to May 10, 2008, as "National
22 Children's Mental Health Awareness Week", and Thursday, May 8, 2008, as
23 "National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day"; and be it further

1 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Executive
2 Committee certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the adoption
3 hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Ms. Annie
4 Unpingco, Administrator, Child-Adolescent Services Division, Department of
5 Mental Health and Substance Abuse; to Ms. Rowena Torres, Event
6 Coordinator, *I Famagu'on-ta*, Guam's System of Care; to Dr. Andrea M.
7 Leitheiser, Acting Director, Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse;
8 and to 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 6TH
DAY OF MAY 2008.**



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



TINA ROSE MUNA BARNES
Senator and
Secretary of the Legislature