

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

**Executive Committee**  
**Resolution No. 261**

Introduced by:

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

**Relative to recognizing Saturday, November 15, 2008, as  
"National Adoption Day" on Guam, and urging everyone in  
Guam to join in a national effort to raise awareness about the  
importance of adoption.**

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

3           **WHEREAS**, the people of Guam recognize the importance of providing  
4 permanent, safe and loving families for all children, including finding safe  
5 and loving families through adoption; and

6           **WHEREAS**, nearly one hundred thirty thousand (130,000) children are  
7 currently in our country's foster care system waiting to be adopted, including  
8 one hundred ninety-six (196) children in the foster care system of Guam; and

9           **WHEREAS**, in Guam, there are seventeen (17) licensed family foster  
10 homes and three group homes, and there are four (4) foster children in off-  
11 island placements or in residential treatment; and

12           **WHEREAS**, children in the foster care system need the nurturing  
13 stability that placement with a loving family in a permanent adoptive home  
14 can bring; and

15           **WHEREAS**, these children, who range in age from one (1) to seventeen  
16 (17) years of age, are anxiously awaiting acceptance and to become the newest  
17 member of a loving family; and

18           **WHEREAS**, children in foster care in Guam are provided with some  
19 form of Permanency Placement through Adoption, Guardianship or Long  
20 Term Foster Care; and

1           **WHEREAS**, nearly sixty (60) adoption cases are filed and completed in  
2 the Superior Court of Guam annually, providing homes for many needful  
3 children; and

4           **WHEREAS**, other children in the foster care system are actively going  
5 through the system for eventual direction in their cases which, for some, could  
6 also include reunification with their families; and

7           **WHEREAS**, in Guam, most of our children end up in Permanency  
8 Placements with relatives, to remain in Long Term Foster Care status, with  
9 their biological parents usually remaining in close and supervised contact at  
10 the discretion of caregivers; and

11           **WHEREAS**, to help these children find permanent, nurturing families,  
12 the courts of Guam will open their doors on National Adoption Day,  
13 Saturday, November 15, to finalize the adoptions of local children and join  
14 other organizations to celebrate all adoptions; and

15           **WHEREAS**, this effort in Guam, along with similar celebrations in all 50  
16 states, the District of Columbia, and United States insular areas, will offer  
17 children the chance to live with stable and loving families and encourage  
18 other dedicated individuals to make a powerful difference in the lives of  
19 children through adoption; now, therefore, be it

20           **RESOLVED**, that the Executive Committee of *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na*  
21 *Liheslaturan Guåhan*, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people of

1 Guam, does hereby recognize Saturday, November 15, 2008, as “National  
2 Adoption Day” on Guam; and be it further

3 **RESOLVED**, that the Executive Committee of *I Mina’Bente Nuebi Na*  
4 *Lihselaturan Guåhan*, on behalf of *I Lihselaturan Guåhan* and the people of  
5 Guam, urges everyone island wide to join in a national effort to raise  
6 awareness about the importance of adoption; and be it further

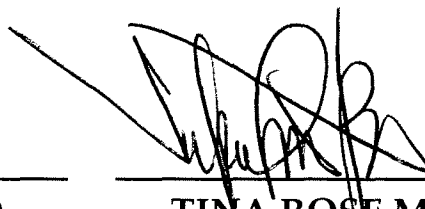
7 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Executive  
8 Committee certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the adoption  
9 hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Honorable  
10 Robert J. Torres, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Guam; to the Honorable  
11 Alberto C. Lamorena III, Presiding Judge, Superior Court of Guam; and to the  
12 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 14<sup>TH</sup>  
DAY OF NOVEMBER 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**