I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2007 (FIRST) Regular Session

Executive Committee Resolution No. 58

Introduced by:

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

Relative to commending Special Olympics Guam for providing Olympic-style sports competition for individuals with special needs and to extend *un dångkolo na si Yu'os ma'åse'* to the athletes and volunteers who continue to support Special Olympics.

1 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF I

- 2 MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:
- 3 WHEREAS, on July 21, 1968, the Chicago Park District and the Joseph P.

4 Kennedy, Jr. Foundation sponsored the First International Special Olympics

5 Games held in Chicago's Soldier Field, hosting one thousand (1,000) athletes

with special needs from twenty-six (26) states and Canada competing in track
 and field, floor hockey and aquatics; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo and Mrs. Delfina
Baza were instrumental in the establishment of Special Olympics Guam in
1976, and in 1977, Guam's first Special Olympics games were held at John F.
Kennedy High School, Gene Ramsey Field, with one hundred fifty (150)
athletes participating in various sports; and

8 WHEREAS, the mission of Special Olympics Guam is to provide year-9 round sports training and competition in Olympic sports for individuals with 10 special needs, giving them an opportunity to develop physical fitness, 11 demonstrate courage, experience joy and share gifts, skills and friendship 12 with other Special Olympic athletes and the community; and

WHEREAS, Special Olympics Guam helps children and adults with mental retardation and physical, learning and emotional disabilities achieve dignity and increased self-esteem by allowing them to develop and demonstrate their skills and by increasing the public's awareness of their capabilities and needs; and

18 WHEREAS, Special Olympics Guam has served Guam for the past 19 thirty-one (31) years and stages three (3) yearly competitive events with a 20 Track and Field event, the largest, during the month of March, an aquatics 21 event in June, and a bowling competition during October; and

22 WHEREAS, our Special Olympics athletes receive medical services 23 through clinics conducted at Special Olympics competitions, while health care 24 professionals learn about the health needs of Special Olympics athletes and 25 obtain satisfaction from assisting an underserved population; and WHEREAS, Special Olympics Guam athletes participated in the
Hawaiian State Games in 1978, in the Fifth (5th) International Summer Special
Olympics Games held at the State University of New York in 1977, and in
1980, Guam became the first "foreign" team to participate in the Hong Kong
State Games; and

6 WHEREAS, Special Olympics Guam continues to participate in the 7 International Summer Special Olympics Games held in Minneapolis and St. 8 Paul, Minnesota, one of the largest special sporting events in the world, 9 consisting of six thousand (6,000) athletes from more than one hundred (100) 10 countries; and

11 WHEREAS, the island's private, government and business 12 organizations have supported Special Olympics Guam for many years by 13 providing more games and the opportunity to establish a more just 14 community; and

15 WHEREAS, in 2002, the First Annual Law Enforcement Torch Run was 16 held on Guam to foster closer relations for our special needs athletes, whose 17 high spirits will help them prevail over the obstacles in their lives; now, 18 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, commend Special Olympics Guam, its athletes, and its 22 volunteers for providing Olympic-style sports throughout the years; and be it 23 further

RESOLVED, that the Executive Committee of I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na
 Liheslaturan Guåhan does hereby, on behalf of I Liheslaturan Guåhan and the

people of Guam, extend *un dångkolo na si Yu'os ma'åse'* to the private,
 government and business entities that continue to support and encourage this
 rewarding event; 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 Special
Olympics Guam; to Master Sergeant Raven S.J. Rossetti, USAF Representative;
to the Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Member of Congress, U. S. House of
Representative; 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 23RD DAY OF MARCH 2007.

WRIO RAY FEA FORBES Speaker and Senator and Chairman, Executive Committee Secretary of the Legislature