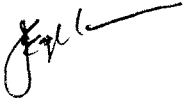


MINA BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN  
2007 (First) Regular Session

Resolution No. 115 (EC)

Introduced by:

James V. Espaldon 

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**Relative to recognizing the leadership, dedication and service of Mr. Manuel "Manny" Duenas, as president of the Guam Fishermen's Cooperative Association and Council Member of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council.**

1            **Be it Resolved by I Mina Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan:**

2            **WHEREAS**, Mr. Manuel Duenas has served as a board member and  
3 President of the Guam Fishermen's Cooperative Association ("Co-op") since  
4 1996, providing much needed leadership for the 30-year old community-owned  
5 organization; and

10/25/07

6            **WHEREAS**, through the leadership inspired by Mr. Duenas and the Co-  
7 op Board, the organization has recorded over a decade of financial success, even  
8 in times of overall economic recession, and has been transformed into a  
9 recognized model for cooperatives throughout the Pacific; and

10           **WHEREAS**, Mr. Duenas's and fellow Board Members leadership, the Co-  
11 op provides numerous community benefits at no cost, including: purchasing  
12 from local businesses whenever possible,

13           --fish donations to charities and village fiestas,

14           --provision of fuel and ice after major typhoons,

15           -equipment donation to government agencies and assistance in vessel  
16 search and rescue

17           **WHEREAS**, Mr. Duenas with the cooperation of its Board of Directors  
18 and membership, has established Co-op procedures, systems and incentives to  
19 ensure safe, wholesome and high quality fish products, to encourage responsible

1 fishing and cooperation of fishermen in providing information needed for  
2 government management; and

3         **WHEREAS**, Mr. Duenas, fellow Board and Co-Op Members revived the  
4 annual Guam Marianas International Fishing Derby in 1996, now celebrating its  
5 twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) year of existence; as well they established the annual “Gupot Y  
6 Peskadot” or Fishermen’s Festival in 1999 to promote family involvement and  
7 awareness of local fisheries; and

8         **WHEREAS**, as Co-op President, Mr. Duenas and his fellow Board  
9 Members secured a partnership with the United States Coast Guard, District 14,  
10 Sector Guam, both active and auxiliary, to promote boating safety amongst  
11 Guam’s fishing community, including the annual recognition of Safe Boating  
12 Week; and

13         **WHEREAS**, Mr. Duenas and fellow Board Members successfully sought  
14 federal funds to acquire and rebuild the 60-foot Galaide for access to offshore  
15 fish resources and training and to perform architectural and engineering design  
16 for a new and expanded Co-op building; and

17         **WHEREAS**, Mr. Duenas and fellow Board Members provide Co-op  
18 resources to assist in marine education for youth, including the annual 4-H and  
19 University of Guam summer fisheries camp; and

20         **WHEREAS**, Mr. Duenas is strongly committed to the perpetuation of  
21 fisheries and fish consumption by the people of Guam and continually  
22 demonstrates this commitment through service on the Western Pacific Fishery  
23 Management Council and other organizations; and

24         **WHEREAS**, Mr. Duenas has motivated indigenous fishermen in Hawaii,  
25 Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, as well as in Guam, to protect and  
26 perpetuate their traditional fishing cultures, practices and protein sources; and

27         **WHEREAS**, Manny Duenas firmly believes that government managers  
28 and fishermen do not have to be divided by an attitude of “them versus us,” if

1 fishermen and their resource knowledge are properly considered before  
2 regulations are made; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Duenas’s leadership and dedication to fisheries and  
4 fishermen of Guam and the Western Pacific was recognized upon his  
5 appointment to the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council by the US  
6 Secretary of Commerce; and

7 **WHEREAS**, as a Council Member, Mr. Duenas ensured that Guam’s  
8 fisheries needs and interests are considered at the local, regional, national and  
9 international levels of fisheries management and that traditional fishing cultures,  
10 practices and protein sources of indigenous Chamorro and other Pacific islanders  
11 are protected and perpetuated; and

12 **WHEREAS**, As a Council Member, Mr. Duenas worked with other  
13 Council Members to successfully promote enhanced recognition of indigenous  
14 Pacific Islanders fishery rights and heritage in the reauthorized Magnuson-  
15 Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, including a mandate to  
16 consider traditional knowledge as well as Western science in the management of  
17 fisheries as well as enhanced fisheries-related educational and training  
18 opportunities for indigenous Pacific Islanders; now, therefore be it

19 **RESOLVED**, that I Mina Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan does  
20 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam commend and congratulate Mr. Manual  
21 “Manny” Duenas for his leadership, participation and diligent efforts in the  
22 management of fisheries within Guam’s local waters and in the exclusive  
23 economic zone around the territories of American Samoa, Guam, Hawaii, the  
24 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and US Pacific island  
25 possessions, an area of nearly 1.5 million square miles through his work as the  
26 president of the Guam Fishermen’s Cooperative Association and Council  
27 Member of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council and  
28 overall good citizen; and be it further

1           **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker Certify and the Secretary of the Legislature  
2 attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter  
3 transmitted to Mr. Manuel "Manny" Duenas, to the Honorable Madeleine Z.  
4 Bordallo, Guam's Delegate to the United States Congress; and to the Honorable  
5 Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga Lahen Guåhan*;

6 Duly and regularly adopted on the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

7 \_\_\_\_\_

8           Mark Forbes

9           Speaker

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                  Ray Tenorio

                  Senator and Secretary of the Legislature