


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

*Exec. Comm.*  
**Resolution No. 192**

2008 MAY - 5 PM 3: 58

Introduced by:

Ray Tenorio 

**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 support 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 I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN**  
2 **GUÁHAN:**

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 children- calls for our leaders, policy  
7 makers, child-serving agencies and the whole community to work together;  
8 and

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

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

15        **WHEREAS**, early diagnosis and appropriate treatment of mental health  
16 disorders among children and adolescents provide them better opportunities

1 to lead full and productive lives, but it is important that children and  
2 adolescents, along with their families and the community learn about the  
3 warning signs of mental health disorders and where to obtain necessary  
4 assistance and treatment; and

5 **WHEREAS**, for the past 4 years, over 600 children and youth have been  
6 referred to the Child-Adolescent Services Division for mental health service,  
7 526 of this are for *I Famagu'on-ta*, a Child Mental Health Initiative for children  
8 and youth suffering from severe mental health conditions and are in need of  
9 multiple mental health and related services; and

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

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

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

25 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does  
26 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize the week of May 4, to May  
27 10, 2008, as "National Children's Mental Health Awareness Week," and

1 Thursday, May 8, 2008, as “National Children’s Mental Health Awareness  
2 Day;” and be it further

3       **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the  
4 Legislature attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be  
5 thereafter transmitted to Ms. Annie Unpingco, Administrator, Child-  
6 Adolescent Services Division, Department of Mental Health & Substance  
7 Abuse; to Ms. Rowena Torres, Event Coordinator, *I Famagu’on-ta*, Guam’s  
8 System of Care; to Dr. Andrea M. Leitheiser, Acting Director, Department of  
9 Mental Health & Substance Abuse; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I*  
10 *Maga’lahen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA’BENTE NUEBI NA  
LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 8<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY 2008.**

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**Speaker**

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**Senator and  
Secretary of the Legislature**