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I MINA 'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GULAHAN 2008 (Second) REGULAR SESSION

ELec. Com 196 Resolution No. \_\_(EC)

Introduced by:

J.V. Espaldon

Dr. David L.G

RELATIVE TO RECOGNIZING AND COMMEMORATING THE WEEK OF MAY 10-18, 2008 AS "NATIONAL TOURISM WEEK", AND EXTENDING CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GUAM VISITORS BUREAU AND ITS INDUSTRY PARTNERS FOR THEIR CONTINUED EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN AND INCREASE THE REVENUES REALIZED FROM THE TOURISM INDUSTRY, AND TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE BENEFITS OF TOURISM FOR OUR ISLAND.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF I MINA 'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:

WHEREAS, tourism continues to be one of Guam's two (2) main drivers of economic activity, accounting for more than \$1.35 billion worth of receipts representing sixty percent (60%) of Guam's total receipts; and

WHEREAS, the various businesses that make up Guam's tourism industry account for almost 20,000 tourism-related jobs, or thirty-five percent (35%) of total island employment; and

WHEREAS, as the industry has grown over the years, it has made it possible for Guam's residents and visitors alike to enjoy world-class attractions, to shop at a number of retail outlets offering a wide range of goods for sale, and to patronize well-known food and beverage operations; and

WHEREAS, as tourism has grown over the years, its importance to Guam's well-being has also grown, and when it suffers Guam's economy also suffers, highlighting the need for Guam's entire community to commit to tourism being sustained and assisted and, by doing so, having a tangible stake in its success; and

WHEREAS, the lead government entity for the marketing and development of Guam's tourism industry is the Guam Visitors Bureau, which has attempted to bring awareness to the public of the benefits Guam derives from the industry through both in-house communication programs as

well as underwriting external communication activities aimed primarily at Guam's school-aged children; and

WHEREAS, the tourism industry partners that play a vital role in its development, and who are in the forefront of communicating the benefits of the tourism industry, include the Guam Hotel & Restaurant Association, the Tourism Education Council, the Japan-Guam Travel Association, and the Guam Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, the intent of "National Tourism Week" is to highlight the benefits the industry provides to Guam and its people, to allow both young and old to experience different aspects of the tourism industry, to showcase certain accomplishments, and to celebrate the efforts of the industry's management and employees as they do their part to make a Guam visit a worthy experience; and

**RESOLVED,** that the Executive Committee of *I Mina 'Bente Nuebi na Liheslaturan Guåhan*, on behalf of the people of Guam, does hereby recognize and commemorate the week of May 10-18, 2008 as "National Tourism Week"; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Executive Committee of *I Mina 'Bente Nuebi na Liheslaturan Guåhan*, on behalf of the people of Guam, extends its congratulations to the Guam Visitors Bureau and its industry partners on their continued efforts to maintain and increase the revenues realized from the tourism industry, and to raise awareness of the benefits of tourism to Guam; 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 Mr. Gerald S.A. Perez, General Manager, Guam Visitors Bureau; to Ms. Mary Torre, President, Guam Hotel & Restaurant Association; to Ms. Jacqueline Marati, President, Tourism Education Council; to Mr. Masayuki Nonomura, President, Japan-Guam Travel Association; to Ms. Reina Leddy, President, Guam Chamber of Commerce; 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 \_\_TH DAY OF MAY 2008.