

I MINA'BENTE NUEBI LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2008 (SECOND) Regular Session

2008 OCT 23 PM 1:40

Executive Committee
Res. No. 250

Introduced by:

J V. Espaldon 

Relative to Congratulating the Palauan Community and the Koror Club of Guam on the auspicious occasion of the Silver Anniversary of the Establishment of the Koror State Constitution, Republic of Palau (Belau)

BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*:

Whereas, the people of Palau, along with the people of Guam have long shared an ancient history spanning more than four millennia, first greeted British traders and prominent visitors in the 18th century; and

Whereas, in 1783, the English Vessel Antelope, under the command of Captain Henry Wilson, was shipwrecked on a reef off of Palau's Ulong Island, one of the Rock Islands of Koror and with the help of the Koror High Chief Ibedul, Captain Wilson and his crew were welcomed to stay and rebuild their ship which took approximately three (3) months, once repairs were completed, Chief Ibedul sent his son, Prince Lebuu, back with the sailors to be educated in England; although Lebuu died of smallpox shortly after arriving in London, his presence there touched many Britons and piqued their interest in Palau; and

Whereas, following this significant contact between Palauans and Westerners more foreign explorers sailed through Palauan waters and the islands were open to further European contact; and

1 **Whereas**, Germany acquired the Palauan Islands at the beginning of the 20th
2 century and handed them over to Japan, and after the defeat of Japan in World War II
3 with the costly and historic Battle of Peleliu, which took place from September 15 -
4 November 25, and took the lives of more than 2,000 Americans and 10,000 Japanese
5 soldiers, the United States gained control over what were then called the Marshall,
6 Caroline, and Marianas Islands; the islands became part of the United Nations' Trust
7 Territory of the Pacific Islands with Palau administered as on of the three island groups'
8 six districts; and

9 **Whereas**, after three decades as part of the UN Trust Territory of the Pacific
10 under US administration, this westernmost cluster of the Caroline Islands opted for
11 independence in 1978 rather than join the Federated States of Micronesia; and

12 **Whereas**, on July 9, 1980, the Palau constitution was ratified, and its first
13 constitutional elections were held and the Island nation became known as the Republic
14 of Belau (Palau) in 1981; and

15 **Whereas**, on October 21, 1983, the Koror State Constitutional Government was
16 established as one of the Republic's sixteen (16) Island States; and

17 **Whereas**, Koror or "Oreor", the largest city in Palau, is where seventy (70)
18 percent of the republic's population lives and is the city that hosts most annual
19 festivities and special events for the island nation and was the site of the capital from
20 Independence , in 1994 to 2006, when Melekeok became the new capital; and

21 **Whereas**, the State of Koror has three bridges that connects Malakal Island,
22 Ngerkebesang Island and Babeldaob, and remains Palau's economic hub and
23 commercial center – the country's main city that hosts the location of most national
24 government offices, hospital, high schools, college, churches, hotels, ports and various
25 business establishments; and

1 **Whereas**, a vast array of Palauans who had lived in Koror brought their culture
2 of hard work and respects for family and traditions to Guam, their home away from
3 home; and

4 **Whereas**, on October 25th, 2008 the Palauan community will celebrate the 25th
5 Koror State Constitution Day, a day that commemorates the establishment of their
6 statehood, which was chartered on October 21, 1983; and

7 **Whereas**, this occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Koror State Constitution
8 provides a wonderful opportunity to recognize and celebrate the rich cultures of the
9 Palauan community who have enhanced our Island community; and

10 **Whereas**, the members of the Koror Club are proud to be a strong supporter of
11 the Palauan Community Association of Guam and the general island community by
12 contributing to various educational, sports and community charities over the past
13 several years; and

14 **Whereas**, the members of the Palauan community have continued to enrich our
15 proud tradition of diversity and endow our island of Guam with their unique and
16 collective strength; now, therefore, be it

17 **Resolved**, that the Executive Committee of *I Mina Bente Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*,
18 does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people of Guam commend the
19 Koror Club of Guam and the people of the Republic of Palau (Belau) on the occasion of
20 their 25th Koror State Constitution Day celebrations and further extend a sincere Un
21 Dangkulo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse to all our fellow Palauans on Guam for the positive
22 contributions that they have made for the betterment of our island community; and, be
23 it further

24 **Resolved**, that the Speaker certify to and the Secretary of the Legislature attest
25 the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be transmitted to the Honorable
26 Tommy Remengesau, Jr., President of the Republic of Palau; the Honorable Yoshitaka

1 Adachi, Governor of Koror State; the Honorable Jeff Kenty, Palau Consul General to
2 Guam; the Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam Delegate to the United States
3 Congress; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, I Maga'lahaen Guåhan.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA' NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN*
GUÅHAN ON THE ____ DAY OF OCTOBER 2008.**

JUDITH T. WON PAT
Speaker

TINA ROSE MUNA BARNES
Secretary of the Legislature