

MINA'BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2005 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 10(EE)

Introduced by:

R.J. Respicio
F.B. Aguon, Jr.
B.J. Cruz
L. Leon Guerrero
A. Palacios
J. WonPat

Relative to amending Section 18.09, Minority Members, of Rule XVIII, Powers, Authority and Composition of Committees, of the Standing Rules of *I Mina'Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* to provide for Minority representation on the Committee on Calendar and the Executive Committee, which are responsible for the administration of *I Liheslatura*.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF *I MINA'BENTE SIETE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*:

WHEREAS, prior to *Mina' Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*, the committee responsible for administration of *I Liheslatura* was known as the Committee on Rules; and

WHEREAS, traditionally whenever members of *I Liheslatura* represented more than one political party, the composition of the Committee on Rules included members from both the Majority party and the Minority party, as did all of *I Liheslatura's* standing committees, this bipartisan membership usually required by the Standing Rules; and

WHEREAS, the leadership of *I Mina' Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* has divided the traditional duties of the Committee on Rules between two committees, the Committee on Calendar and the Executive Committee; and

2005 JAN 13 AM 9: 21 *ef*

WHEREAS, while the duties of *I Liheslatura's* most powerful committee have been divided, the requirement for bipartisan membership on the newly created committees has been eliminated, opening up the possibility that Minority voices could be completely excluded from the decision making processes that regularly take place within the two committees; and

WHEREAS, specifically, in Section 18.09, Minority Members, of Rule XVIII, Powers, Authority and Composition of Committees, of the Standing Rules of *I Mina' Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*, the Committee on Calendar and the Executive Committee are excluded from the requirement that at least two (2) Minority Members must serve on these committees; and

WHEREAS, while this change in the rules does not **prevent** Minority Members from serving on the two committees, it also does not **require** that membership be offered, a move that is in apparent conflict with the spirit of fairness, cooperation and working together, especially considering that Forty Percent (40%) of the Members are from the Minority; and

WHEREAS, the membership of all standing committees, including the Committee on Calendar and the Executive Committee, should specifically include Minority representation in proportion to the total Minority Membership of *I Liheslatura*, now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Executive Committee of *I Mina' Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* on behalf of the people of Guam, shall immediately amend Section 18.09, Minority Members, of Rule XVIII, Powers, Authority and Composition of Committees, of the current Standing Rules to read as follows:

"Section 18.09. *Except for the Committee on Ethics and Standards, ~~the Committee on Calendar and the Executive Committee,~~*

each standing Committee shall offer Membership to at least ~~one~~ two (2) Minority Members, the Minority membership of each Committee to comprise no less than forty percent (40%) of total Committee membership. The Chairperson shall choose the Minority Members required by this Section. The Chairperson may select additional Minority Members over and above the required numbers if the Chairperson wishes to do so.”

And be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify, and Legislative Secretary attest to the adoption hereof.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA' BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN ON THIS DAY _____ OF _____, 2005.

Mark Forbes
Speaker

Eddie J.B. Calvo
Senator and Secretary of the Legislature