




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

Resolution No. <sup>103</sup> (LS)

Introduced by:

B.J.F. Cruz   
R.J. Respicio   
L.A. Leon Guerrero 

Relative to commending and congratulating human rights activist and writer Julian Aguon on the publication of his book, *Just Left of the Setting Sun*, a collection of critical essays exploring the contemporary struggle of the Chamoru people, and extending a *dångkolo na si Yu'os ma'åse'* to Mr. Aguon on behalf of the people of Guam for his ongoing efforts and his impassioned insights into the issues of colonization and culture that affect our island home.

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

**WHEREAS**, Julian Aguon, affectionately known as "Jules," was born in Guam 23 years ago, the youngest of four children of Annabelle Lee Hemsing Cruz and the late Peter Perez Aguon; and

**WHEREAS**, Julian is a proud product of Guam's public education system, graduating from Simon Sanchez High School in 2000 and attending Gonzaga University in Washington State where in 2004 he received his B.A. in Sociology with a Philosophy minor, focusing on Interdisciplinary Social Justice and Liberation Studies and Women Studies; and

**WHEREAS**, while a student, he was recognized as an Academic Cultural Excellence Scholar, 2001-2004, training extensively in Intercultural Competence and Diversity Education in a strategic three-year-long curriculum; and was a Rogers Scholar, recognized for sustained commitment to native communities of the Pacific Rim and North America, 2002-2003; and

2,2.

2007 10 11 10: 21

**WHEREAS**, Julian had the singular honor to be the youngest indigenous activist chosen to speak on behalf of native Chamorros on the matter of self determination as a Petitioner, United Nations Fourth Committee, on the Question of Guam, on October 6, 2005, addressing the Committee alongside representatives from Gibraltar and Western Sahara in the continuing UN debate on decolonization; and

**WHEREAS**, Julian is Spokesperson of the Chamoru Cultural Development and Research Institute; and is the Citizen of Conscience, *I Nasion Chamoru*, since 2004, and is one of the native activists leading the community in a more than yearlong campaign against water privatization in Guam, closely following the actions of the Chamber of Commerce, the Consolidated Commission on Utilities, and Guam's executive branch to violate participatory democracy by attempting to rush the privatization of the Guam Waterworks Authority despite popular objections, and is co-leader of a public campaign to stop the privatization of Guam's only commercial port; and

**WHEREAS**, in his ongoing role as an activist for human rights Julian: has served as Guam Representative, 9th Annual Festival of Pacific Arts, The Republic of Belau, July 2004 where he represented Guam in a symposium on the legal protection of traditional knowledge and expressions of culture; was invited to be on a panel in Hawaii on intellectual property rights, traditional and customary law, and related concerns regarding the practice of the United States in undermining sovereignty in the Pacific; as a guest lecturer, University of Guam, College of Arts and Sciences, Fall 2004 - Fall 2005; participates and holds membership in numerous other organizations promoting the issues of human rights, decolonization, and participatory democracy; and

**WHEREAS**, as a grantee of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Guam Humanities Council, Julian received support and funding to produce *Just Left of the Setting Sun*, his collection of critical essays exploring the contemporary struggle of the Chamoru people, the book intending to expose Guam's long colonial history by reportedly shedding light on facts about the progress or lack thereof toward decolonization for the Chamorro people, bringing a fresh, contemporary voice to this subject; and

**WHEREAS**, *Just Left of the Setting Sun* explores internalized colonization, which the author believes is deeply afflicting the native people of Guam, and he challenges American militarization, global hegemony and imperialism, as well as the privatization and militarization agendas of those he refers to as the "local elite," including the current local administration, the Chamber of Commerce and others, exposing what he calls the democratic deficiency in local government, the shortcomings of Guam's main newspaper, and the uneven presentation of issues directly threatening the survival of the Chamorro people; and

**WHEREAS**, Julian Aguon's youth belies his knowledge and wisdom, and the publication of the *Just Left of the Setting Sun* essays is a milestone in that it gives a voice to the thoughts and feelings of many of our island's indigenous people, while serving as a call to action and a call to engage in real conversation on important topics affecting everyone who lives in Guam; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'bente Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan*, on behalf of the people of Guam, commend and congratulate human rights activist and writer Julian Aguon on the publication of his book, *Just Left of the Setting Sun*, a collection of critical essays exploring the contemporary struggle of the Chamoru people; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'bente Siete na Liheslaturan Guåhan*, on behalf of the people of Guam, also extends a heartfelt *Dangkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse* to Julian Aguon on behalf of the people of Guam for his ongoing efforts and his impassioned insights into the issues of colonization and culture that affect our island home; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify to and the Secretary of the Legislative attest the adoption hereof, and copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Julian Aguon, to his mother Annabelle Lee Hemsing Cruz, to the National Endowment for the Humanities, to the Guam Humanities Council, and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'BENTE OCHO  
NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 10th DAY OF NOVEMBER,  
2005.**