

I MINA'BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN
2006 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. 127 (LS)

Introduced by:

J.A. Lujan 

RELATIVE TO REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR REQUEST THAT CIVILIAN INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADE COST BE INCLUDED IN ANY COST ESTIMATE TO TRANSFER MARINES FROM OKINAWA TO GUAM AND TO INCLUDE WAR REPARATIONS AS COST ELEMENTS IN UNITED STATES - JAPAN DISCUSSIONS FOR TRANSFERRING SAID MARINES.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA'BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN**
2 **GUAHAN:**

3 **WHEREAS**, the island of Guam was acquired by the United States in 1898
4 by military conquest, and thereafter as ownership was transferred by a treaty
5 that fundamentally defines national ownership of and terms of civilian
6 habitation on Guam to the present day; and

7 **WHEREAS**, a treaty between the United States and Japan foreclosed
8 claims by Guam inhabitants who suffered as U.S. nationals during World War II,
9 and the United States government assumed responsibility for war reparations
10 claims but resisted payment of objective calculated value, citing difficulty of
11 obtaining adequate appropriated funding from Congress; and

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ERM

1 **WHEREAS**, Guam's value as a strategic base for the projection of United
2 States military power in the Western Pacific and the stabilizing influence of this
3 role in the region and the defense of the nation is unquestioned.

4 **WHEREAS**, Guam and its residents have historically played their part to
5 defend the nation and to protect, promote and project its democratic ideals; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the nation has not fully appreciated the patriotic role played
7 by Guam in promoting and preserving the national interest; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Guam has too frequently been left by the nation to fend for
9 itself with very limited resources, when ever Guam has stepped forward to do its
10 part as an American Community, such as in the case of substandard and unfair
11 war reparations, failure and refusal to fully reimburse Guam for the impact of
12 immigration on Guam's infrastructure and budget for those states with which
13 the United States negotiated Compacts of Free Association; and

14 **WHEREAS**, once again Guam stands ready to do its part to promote
15 American and regional interest and accommodate a significantly higher military
16 presence on our small island; and

17 **WHEREAS**, Guam stands ready to so participate provided we are not
18 once more required as a community of 160,000 Americans to shoulder a
19 disproportionate burden of doing so for a nation of over 250,000,000 Americans;
20 and

1 **WHEREAS**, Guam’s current infrastructure is straining beyond its limits to
2 accommodate the current residents and will require significant investment and
3 upgrade to accommodate a sudden large increase in military personnel and their
4 families and the needed supporting employees; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the United States government is currently conducting
6 negotiations with the Government of Japan to relocate 8,000 Marines and their
7 families from Okinawa, Japan to Guam, the cost of which would be borne in
8 significant part by Japan; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Admiral William J. Fallon, Commander, U.S. Pacific
10 Command, cited in a recent interview the specific need for placing power lines
11 underground, improving Guam’s roads, and that in general our electrical power
12 and water systems were in a state of “disrepair”, all of which are valid
13 observations; and

14 **WHEREAS**, it is unclear whether current negotiations between the United
15 States and Japan include a comprehensive and detailed consideration of the
16 expected impact on Guam’s civil infrastructure of the proposed relocation of the
17 Okinawa Marines to Guam; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the Guam Legislature wishes to make clear the necessity of
19 fully considering sufficient investment by the United States in Guam’s

1 infrastructure as part of its negotiations and plans to move the Okinawa Marines
2 to Guam; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the Guam Legislature wishes to provide the United States
4 with its best current estimates of the amounts required for said infrastructure so
5 that the island's residents are able to maintain a quality of life at least equivalent
6 to that enjoyed now; and therefore, be it

7 **RESOLVED**, that Guam stands ready to do its part in the defense of the
8 nation and its democratic ideals and to do its part to promote regional stability
9 and harmony and therefore welcomes the transfer of the Marines from Okinawa
10 to Guam provided, the impact on Guam's infrastructure by said transfer is fully
11 addressed and funded; and now be it further

12 **RESOLVED**, that Guam's delegate to Congress inform the United States
13 security planners and negotiators that it is necessary to incorporate civilian
14 community development needs on Guam in order to absorb the impact of
15 increased military activities resulting from the transfer of the Okinawa Marines
16 to Guam; and now be it further

17 **RESOLVED**, that the 28th Guam Legislature requests the Governor to
18 provide without delay to the United States Negotiating Team a priority list of
19 civil infrastructure upgrades needed to accommodate the expected increase in

1 population due to the transfer of the Okinawa Marines to Guam; and now be it
2 further

3 **RESOLVED**, that the Guam Legislature based on its accumulated
4 knowledge of Guam's current and projected infrastructure needs hereby states
5 that Guam will, at a minimum, need the following infrastructure upgrades to
6 accommodate this sudden large military influx from the Okinawa Marines
7 transfer to wit:

- 8 1. Construction of additional electrical power base load generators
9 and their concrete housing of sufficient strength to withstand
10 typhoon force winds to increase base load generating capacity
11 by 40% - \$200,000,000
- 12 2. Place power lines underground to decrease road hazards from
13 concrete utility poles on sides of roadways which hazard shall
14 dramatically increase with the significant additional traffic
15 generated by the large influx of new Okinawa Marines residents
16 and their dependent families and supporting employees:
17 \$400,000,000
- 18 3. Build a North/South Highway to relieve the current excessive
19 congestion on Guam's only main North/South route – Marine
20 Corps Drive – which is already over crowded and dangerous,

1 and to allow for military movement of ammunitions and other
2 material to occur efficiently and safely on a more direct route
3 away from our central civilian business and residential areas;
4 \$400,000,000

5 4. Upgrades to our civilian port facilities to build a new berth, for
6 dredging and for other improvements needed to handle
7 significantly more port traffic generated by the additional
8 residents and to purchase a new gantry crane: \$100,000,000

9 5. Upgrades to water and sewage system to accommodate new
10 housing facilities for military personnel and families and for
11 businesses which will have to upgrade to meet new demand for
12 employees and services: \$200,000,000

13 6. Build a new hospital to accommodate demand from veterans
14 and compact impact residents who will not be able to use
15 current military hospitals due to overcrowding of those
16 facilities caused by transfer of Okinawan, moving to Guam:
17 \$300,000,000

18 7. Build new schools to accommodate new civilian workforce
19 needed to support new military arrivals: \$200,000,000

1 8. Improve roads in all villages and secondary roads throughout
2 the island to accommodate significant additional traffic caused
3 by transfer of Okinawan Marines to Guam, to maintain current
4 safety levels and to construct sidewalks and bike lanes where
5 needed for safety enhancement: \$400,000,000

6 9. Fully fund war claims reparation compensating fully for the
7 injuries and suffering for all those who were injured or suffered
8 or their descendents for those who have passed away:
9 \$200,000,000

10 **RESOLVED**, that the 28th Guam Legislature requests Guam's Delegate to
11 Congress to convey to national leaders in the most unambiguous manner
12 available, the strategic importance of national investment in Guam as an
13 American community, aside from its development as a military outpost; and
14 now be it further

15 **RESOLVED**, that the 28th Guam Legislature requests Guam's Delegate to
16 Congress to propose full funding of Guam war reparations to be incorporated
17 within the overall funding and financing of military base expansion on Guam as
18 an appropriate opportunity to address and bring closure to this historic injustice;
19 and now be it further