



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

Resolution No. 142 (L 5)

Introduced by:

Ray Tenorio 

L.F. Kasperbauer 

Edward J.B. Calvo 

Relative to recognizing April 2006 as 'Sexual Assault Awareness Month' and to honoring sexual assault victims and commending the employees and volunteers of community-based organizations and the employees of government agencies providing services and care for sexual assault victims and sexual assault survivors.

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

WHEREAS, the people of Guam acknowledge the pain, suffering, and loss that sexual assault victims endure along with family members and friends by the harmful acts of others and no fault of their own, with serious public health implications; and

WHEREAS, sexual assault victims and sexual assault survivors have underwent heinous crimes and deserve assistance to help cope with the consequences; and

WHEREAS, in order to end sexual assault on our island, we, as a community, must educate and support the employees and volunteers of

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community-based organizations and government agencies who provide services to sexual assault victims and survivors; and

WHEREAS, our island values the importance of support programs and services to sexual assault victims and survivors who often seek to regain self-dignity and recover from the aftermath of crime by restoring normalcy through counseling, medical services, food, and transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Sexual Assault Coalition, under the direction of Healing Hearts Crisis Center of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, established ideal examples of how forging collaborative relationships between service organizations and agencies improve the quality of service for persons most profoundly and directly impacted by sexual violence, and how the rest of the community must work together to speak out and find solutions to sexual violence; and

WHEREAS, the Healing Hearts Crisis Center has been instrumental in addressing sexual assault cases by providing 24-hour hotline services, responding to emergency calls, providing social work and counseling services, comforting victims during medico-legal rape exams, and empowering those impacted by sexual assault to progress toward healing; and

WHEREAS, community-based organizations and government agencies advocate for and support sexual assault victims and survivors to improve victims rights by providing prevention, education, and survivor empowerment information to schools, churches, civic organizations, as well as law enforcement, medical, mental health, education, and criminal justice professionals; and

WHEREAS, our community must strive to rid Guam of the tragedy resulting from sexual violence and to engender a safe environment where men, women, and children can live free from violence and exploitation; and

WHEREAS, our island community joins the nation in recognizing the month of April 2006 as 'Sexual Assault Awareness Month; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED that *I Mina'Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, honor and value the lives of sexual assault victims and survivors for their ability to overcome obstacles and restore their lives; and be it further

RESOLVED, that *I Mina'Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, further commend the employees and volunteers of community-based organizations and government agencies who provide services and care for sexual assault victims and survivors during 'Sexual Assault Awareness Month'; and be it further

RESOLVED, that *I Mina'Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, commend the employees and volunteers of the Healing Hearts Crisis Center of the Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse and the Sexual Assault Coalition for their efforts to educate the community and prevent sexual assault, and for providing comfort and support to sexual assault victims and survivors; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Healing Hearts Crisis Center of the Department of Mental

Health & Substance Abuse; Department of Law; 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 _____ DAY OF APRIL, 2006.

MARK FORBES
Speaker
Executive Committee Chairman

EDWARD J.B. CALVO
Senator
Secretary of the Legislature