

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

Resolution No. 29(LS)

Introduced by:

J. T. Won Pat

Mark Forbes

B. J. F. Cruz

Relative to recognizing Friday as "I Ha 'ånen I Antin Chamorro" or "Chamorro Sprit Day".

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

3 **WHEREAS**, the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'låhen Guåhan and I*
4 *Mina'Bente Ocho Na Lihesturan Guåhan* and working with the *Åñon Fino'*
5 *Chamorro yan Kottura* Executive Committee and the Department of Chamorro
6 Affairs; and of has, by executive proclamation and legislative resolution,
7 declared this year *Åñon Fino' Chamorro yan Kottura - Inina Deskubre Yan*
8 *Setbisiu* - The Year of the Chamorro Language and Culture 2005 -
9 Enlightenment, Discovery and Service; and

10 **WHEREAS**, for years the Government of Guam, the private sector,
11 countless thousands of school children, and other cultures have all
12 participated in previous "Chamorro Week", and "Chamorro Month" events;
13 and

14 **WHEREAS**, annually it is recognized that during these occasions the
15 Chamorro language, heritage, and culture be honored and celebrated; and

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1 **WHEREAS**, the Chamorro people are blessed with a rich history
2 scientifically dating back approximately four-thousand years; and

3 **WHEREAS**, many aspects of the Chamorro culture are still being
4 discovered in historic documents, and the study of artifacts, ancient remains,
5 and villages; and

6 **WHEREAS**, a vestige of the ancient Chamorro language still exists
7 today despite hundreds of years of external influence from the Spanish,
8 Americans, and Japanese; and

9 **WHEREAS**, thousands of indigenous cultures around the world are
10 rapidly being affected by globalization through the aggressive evolution of
11 new information technologies; and

12 **WHEREAS**, *I Mina' Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*, also wishes to do
13 its part to help in the promotion, perpetuation, protection, and the
14 preservation of the Chamorro language, arts, heritage, and culture; and now,
15 therefore, be it

16 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina' Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,
17 on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize Friday as “*I Ha’ånen I Antin*
18 *Chamorro*” or “Chamorro Spirit Day”; and be it further

19 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker of *I Mina' Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan*
20 *Guåhan* shall recognize Friday as “*I Ha’ånen I Antin Chamorro*” or “Chamorro
21 Spirit Day” and encourage all legislative employees and the members of *I*
22 *Mina' Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* and forthcoming *Liheslaturan Guåhan*
23 to carry out the intent of this resolution; and be it further

1 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina' Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* during this
2 day encourages the Government of Guam, the private sector, and private and
3 public school students to speak or greet others using the Chamorro language,
4 visit institutions that promote the Chamorro culture, recite the Inifresi, sing
5 the Guam Hymn, play Chamorro music, cook or eat Chamorro cuisine,
6 purchase Chamorro goods and products, prominently display the Guam Flag,
7 and to wear or display items representing the Chamorro culture. These items
8 include the sinahi or new moon pendant or Spondylus shell. The sinahi
9 pendant is made from hima or the giant clam shell and is now being
10 replicated by contemporary Chamorro artists. The sinahi pendant was worn
11 by ancient Chamorro men who were Maga'låhi or leaders who were of the
12 noble caste known as the Matao. To many, the pendant symbolizes the new
13 moon or the main hull of the galaide or outrigger canoe. Maga'Håga or
14 women leaders of the Matao caste valued the orange colored Spondylus shell
15 and traded with it or wore it as jewelry. Some believe the color signifies our
16 ancestral connection to Asia. The rarity of the shell, the condition of the shell,
17 how the shell was obtained, and the amount of the shells gathered all add to
18 the worth of the shell or shells. People are encouraged to wear the color
19 orange in recognition of the Spondylus shell and its link to our forefathers.
20 People are also encouraged to wear the colors white, black, and red. These
21 colors are documented as being used to paint the ancient galaide or sakman
22 or ocean sailing outrigger canoe; and be it further

23 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina' Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* recognizes
24 that there are hundreds of other ways to appropriately show pride in the

1 Chamorro culture and all cannot be listed but it is our hope that the island
2 accept Friday as a day set aside to promote and honor the Chamorro culture.
3 It is through this weekly recognition and celebration that we hope the
4 Chamorro spirit will permeate throughout the other days listed on the
5 calendar and continue throughout the years to come; and be it further

6 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Secretary of the Legislature attest
7 to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted
8 to the Guam Chamber of Commerce; to the Guam Hotel and Restaurant
9 Association; ; to the Guam Visitor's Bureau; to the *Ñion Fino' Chamorro yan*
10 *Kottura* Executive Committee; to the Division of Chamorro Studies and
11 Special Projects within the Department of Education; to the Department of
12 Chamorro Affairs; to the University of Guam's Center of Excellence for
13 Chamorro Language and Culture; to the Guam Education Policy Board; to the
14 Superintendent of Schools, Guam Department of Education; and to the
15 Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'låhen Guåhan*.

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

MARK FORBES
Speaker

EDWARD J.B. CALVO
Senator and Legislative Secretary