

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

Resolution No. 142 (LS)

As amended.

Introduced by:

Ray Tenorio
L. F. Kasperbauer
Mike Cruz
F. B. Aguon, Jr.
J. M.S. Brown
Edward J.B. Calvo
B. J.F. Cruz
Mark Forbes
R. Klitzkie
J. A. Lujan
A. B. Palacios, Sr.
R. J. Respicio
A. R. Unpingco
J. T. Won Pat

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.

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

3 **WHEREAS**, the people of Guam acknowledge the pain, suffering and
4 loss sexual assault victims and their family members and friends endure
5 because of the harmful acts of others, with serious public health implications;
6 and

1 **WHEREAS**, sexual assault victims and sexual assault survivors have
2 suffered from heinous crimes and deserve assistance to help cope with the
3 consequences; and

4 **WHEREAS**, in order to end sexual assault on our island, we must
5 educate and support the employees and volunteers of community-based
6 organizations and government agencies who provide services to sexual
7 assault victims and survivors; and

8 **WHEREAS**, our island values the importance of support programs and
9 services to sexual assault victims and survivors who seek to regain self-
10 dignity through counseling, medical services, food and transportation; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the Sexual Assault Coalition, under the direction of the
12 Healing Hearts Crisis Center of the Department of Mental Health and
13 Substance Abuse, has demonstrated how forging collaborative relationships
14 between service organizations and agencies improves the quality of service
15 for persons impacted by sexual violence, and how the rest of the community
16 must work together to speak out and find solutions to sexual violence; and

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

23 **WHEREAS**, community-based organizations and government agencies
24 advocate for and support sexual assault victims and survivors by providing
25 prevention, education, and survivor empowerment information to schools,

1 churches, civic organizations, as well as law enforcement, medical, mental
2 health, education and criminal justice professionals; and

3 **WHEREAS**, we must strive to rid Guam of the tragedy of sexual
4 violence and to foster a safe environment where men, women and children
5 can live free from violence and exploitation; and

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

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

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

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

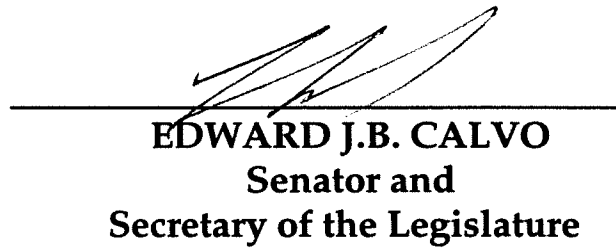
23 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the
24 Legislature attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be
25 thereafter transmitted to the Healing Hearts Crisis Center of the Department

- 1 of Mental Health & Substance Abuse; to the Department of Law; and to the
- 2 Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE 18TH DAY OF APRIL 2006.



MARK FORBES
Speaker



EDWARD J.B. CALVO
Senator and
Secretary of the Legislature