I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2008 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. (LS)

Introduced by:

Ray Tenorio

Relative to recognizing the month of February 2008 as 'Mentor Awareness and Appreciation Month' with programs and activities coordinated by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guam and commending the people of Guam in its efforts to raise awareness and support.

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

WHEREAS, in 1904, a young New York City court clerk named Ernest Coulter set out to find caring adults to assist the many young boys coming through his courtroom, marking the beginning of the movement and mission of what would eventually become the modern day Big Brothers Big Sisters Organization; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Big Brothers Big Sisters has been to help children reach their potential, as it continues to be the leader in one-to-one youth service for more than a century, developing positive relationships that have a direct and lasting impact on the lives of young people, mentoring children ages 6 through 18 throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, the mentoring programs of Big Brothers Big Sisters –which have been endorsed by Presidents and First Ladies including Theodore

- 1 Roosevelt, Calvin Coolidge, Bill Clinton and Laura Bush- have shown,
- 2 through national research, that positive relationships between youth and their
- 3 Big Brothers and Big Sisters mentors have a direct and measurable impact on
- 4 children's lives. By participating in our youth mentoring programs, Little
- 5 Brothers and Sisters are 46% less likely to begin using illegal drugs, 27% less
- 6 likely to begin using alcohol and 52% less likely to skip school; and
- WHEREAS, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guam seeks to provide the same
- 8 quality volunteer and professional mentoring services for children and youth
- 9 and assists them in achieving their highest potential as they grow to become
- 10 responsible men and women; and
- WHEREAS, the corporate mentoring partners with Big Brothers Big
- 12 Sisters of Guam such as the Bank of Guam, Bank of Hawaii, and Citibank,
- 13 N.A. have unconditionally devoted their time and efforts to positively
- 14 influence students around the island; and
- WHEREAS, children attending Price Elementary School, Maria Ulloa
- 16 Elementary School, Carbullido Elementary School, Tamuning Elementary
- 17 School, Marcial Sablan Elementary School, Agueda I. Johnston Middle School,
- 18 Vicente A. Benavente Middle School, F. B. Leon Guerrero Middle School, and
- 19 Untalan Middle School were able to receive support through intervention and
- 20 prevention programs as well as educational and community involvement
- 21 allowing each child to achieve their potential and function in society with a
- 22 greater degree of independence; and
- WHEREAS, the community mentor partners with Big Brothers Big
- 24 Sisters of Guam such as Island Girl Power!, Mangilao Mayor's Office,
- 25 Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, and the Department of

- 1 Youth Affairs with their support, hard work, and dedication continue to
- 2 promote the accessibility of mentoring programs through various activities
- 3 available at their agencies; and
- 4 WHEREAS, individual volunteers and members of private and
- 5 voluntary organizations have come forward to offer Big Brothers Big Sisters of
- 6 Guam their services to work toward improving the lives of our children on
- 7 the island of Guam; now therefore, be it
- 8 **WHEREAS**, that *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does
- 9 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize the month of February
- 10 2007 as 'Mentor Awareness and Appreciation Month,' and urges the island
- 11 community to actively participate in promoting greater understanding of
- mentoring a child; and be it further
- RESOLVED, that I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan does
- 14 hereby, commend the staff and management of Big Brothers Big Sisters of
- 15 Guam, corporate partners, community partners, and volunteers who have
- 16 made great strides, who continue to help raise the awareness, and who
- 17 without fail offer their support mentoring a child; and be it further
- 18 **RESOLVED,** that the Speaker certify and the Secretary of the
- 19 Legislature attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be
- 20 thereafter transmitted to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guam; and to the
- 21 Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY OF *I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THIS _____ DAY OF February 2008.

Edward JB Calvo	Ray Tenorio
Acting Speaker	Senator and Secretary of the Legislature