

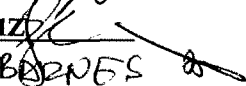



I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2008 (SECOND) Regular Session

¹⁴⁰
Resolution No. (LS)

Introduced by:

J.P. Guthertz 
R.J. Respicio 
B.J.F. Cruz 
TERRINA BERNES 

Relative to supporting and recommending the continuing development of the public policy framework for the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future, an administrative and research and development center for the Western Council of Micronesian Chief Executives and the Micronesian Presidents' Summits.

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

3 WHEREAS, the Unites States Affiliated Islands of Micronesia are
4 experiencing a period of rapid growth, urbanization, westernization and
5 increasing significance to national security; and

6 WHEREAS, in response to common challenges unique to small island
7 developing states, and given the extraordinary opportunities within the
8 region to preserve, leverage and integrate indigenous, natural, and human
9 resource systems and to establish processes of collaborative governance, the
10 member States have established two sub-regional Chief Executive Summits:
11 the Western Micronesia Chief Executives' Summit (WMCES) and the
12 Presidents' Summit; and

13 WHEREAS, the WMCES is composed of the Chief Executives from the
14 Territory of Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, the
15 Republic of Palau, the State of Yap, within the Federated States of
16 Micronesia, and recently, the Federated States of Micronesia; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the Presidents' Summit is composed of the Chief Executives
2 of the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the
3 Federated States of Micronesia; and

4 **WHEREAS**, during the past five years, the two Summits have met bi-
5 annually and have issued a series of joint communiqués and related
6 resolutions, letters and associated actions and arrangements; and

7 **WHEREAS**, these cooperative arrangements form the basis of an
8 emerging foundation of sub-regional multilateral cooperation and
9 governance; and

10 **WHEREAS**, to enhance and build upon this emerging collective vision,
11 and in order to solidify and implement regional policy goals, objectives and
12 multilateral actions, the establishment of a regional focal point for the
13 political entities within the sub-region represented in the two Summits has
14 been advanced to serve as an administrative, research and development
15 center within and for Micronesia; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the islands of Micronesia are all communities that draw
17 their economic livelihood, spiritual well-being and civic strength from their
18 God-given, tropical ocean-based environments many common activities
19 focus on environmental protection and sustainable development; and

20 **WHEREAS**, within this context and framework, the Micronesian Center
21 for a Sustainable Future is envisioned as the vehicle by which the chief
22 executives in the region ensure that there will be more effective and more
23 coordinated sustainable development strategies and programs based on
24 regional multilateral action, mutual cooperation and shared knowledge; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the primary objectives of the Micronesian Center for a
26 Sustainable Future will include the following:

27 • **RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT**

28 To identify and address gaps in data and the characterization of
29 information related to economic, social, environmental, and cultural

1 activities; and to develop databases, vulnerability indexes, cost indexes,
2 geographical information systems, econometrics modeling and other
3 information systems necessary to ensure a sustainable future for the
4 region, including the development of clearinghouse mechanisms for the
5 region; and to establish a relevant public policy executive degree
6 program which is to be aligned with all the existing institutions of
7 higher education within the region; and to collect, integrate and
8 synchronize emerging research, information and opportunities that have
9 the potential to stimulate sustainable development; and to serve as a
10 strategic think tank for the Western Council of Micronesian Chief
11 Executives and the Micronesian Presidents' Summits; and

12 • **DEVELOPMENT**

13 To identify and expand indigenous and exogenous systems in order
14 to advance methodologies for economic and ecological sustainability;
15 and integrate, leverage and synchronize opportunities for private and
16 public sector partnerships within the sub regional, regional, national
17 and international community; and

18 • **ADMINISTRATION**

19 To serve as a point of contact and facilitation for member
20 governments; to serve as a resource for program development and
21 project management; to provide a nexus for information technology,
22 strategic communications and public relations; and to assist member
23 governments in developing, organizing and planning for bi-annual
24 summits in order to ensure institutional continuity; to develop,
25 implement and manage a budget in order to carry out the Centers'
26 primary objectives; and to provide administrative capacity for sub-
27 regional programs and activities; and

28 **WHEREAS**, the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future will serve
29 as a strategic think tank for sustainable development for the Western

1 Council of Micronesian Chief Executives and the Micronesian Presidents'
2 Summit; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future will work
4 with the President of the University of Guam to establish an Office of
5 Research and Development along with a Research Fellows Program, which
6 is to be aligned with the Micronesian Area Research Center at the
7 University of Guam and all other institutions of Higher Education within
8 Micronesia; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the Research Fellows Program will be trans-disciplinary in
10 nature and dedicated to scholarship and scholars in action who are engaged
11 in the work of sustainability within the region and will offer undergraduate
12 and masters degrees in public policy, in collaboration with the College of
13 Natural and Applied Sciences, the School of Business and Public
14 Administration, the Special Masters in Business Consortium Program, the
15 Micronesian Studies Graduate Degree Program, the Marine Biology
16 Department, the College of Agriculture Extension Program, the Micronesian
17 Language Institute, the PEACESAT – Communications Program, the Center
18 for Continuing Education and Outreach Programs; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the areas of research and programs of action will include
20 the following areas; Biodiplomacy; Ecosystems and People; Education for
21 Sustainable Development, Environment and Sustainability; Sustainable
22 Development Governance, and Science Policy For Sustainable
23 Development; and

24 **WHEREAS**, the Micronesian Center for Sustainable Development will
25 work to assist the Micronesia Chief Executives develop and implement a
26 strategy to integrate and leverage research and funding opportunities for its
27 development and operations from the following agencies and
28 organizations: the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the
29 Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs, the Department of

1 Defense, the Department of Energy, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
2 Administration, the National Sea Grant Program, the United States State
3 Department, the Asian Development Bank, the United Nations
4 Environmental Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and
5 Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Global Environmental Facility, the
6 European Union and its member states, the Association of Small Island
7 Developing States, the Pacific Island Development Bank and all other
8 institutions dedicated to small island developing states; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the report of the global conference on the Sustainable
10 Development of Small Island Developing States issued by the United
11 Nations General Assembly — the Barbados Programme of Action and the
12 Implementation of the Mauritius Strategy — will be the basis for advocacy
13 and action by the Micronesian Center for Sustainable Development; now,
14 therefore, be it

15 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does
16 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, recommend the continued
17 development of the public policy framework for the Micronesian Center for
18 a Sustainable Future; and be it further

19 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does
20 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, offers its support and
21 encouragement for the continued growth of the Micronesian Center for a
22 Sustainable Future; and be it further

23 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary
24 attest to the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter
25 transmitted to each of the members of the Western Council of Micronesian
26 Chief Executives and the Micronesian Presidents' Summits; to the
27 Honorable Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations; and to
28 the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahren Guåhan*.

1 DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA*
2 *LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN* ON THE DAY OF MARCH, 2008.

JUDITH T. WONPAT
Speaker

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Senator and
Legislative Secretary