

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

Resolution No. 162 (EC)

Introduced by:

B.J.F. Cruz  
R.J. Respicio  
J.P. Guthertz  
T.R. Muña Barnes

2008 MAY -2 PM 3:37

RELATIVE TO EXPRESSING THE SUPPORT OF *I MINA' BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* OF THE GUAM ADULT DRUG COURT AND THE JUVENILE DRUG COURT ADMINISTERED BY THE JUDICIARY OF GUAM; AND TO URGING THE UNITED STATES SENATE AND THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO SUPPORT THEIR CONTINUED FUNDING.

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

3 WHEREAS, in December 2005, the Adult and Juvenile Drug Courts were  
4 recognized as courts of record of the Judiciary of Guam; and

5 WHEREAS, these programs are examples of "therapeutic justice" which  
6 focuses on rehabilitation of offenders and their reintegration into society;

7 WHEREAS, the Adult Drug Court program seeks to integrate substance  
8 abuse treatment, sanctions and incentives with case processing so that non-

1 violent defendants in drug-related cases are placed in a judicially supervised  
2 rehabilitation program;

3 **WHEREAS**, under the traditional system of punitive sanctions, these  
4 defendants rarely received substance abuse treatment in a systematic form, and  
5 in many cases, they received little or even no threat of sanctions;

6 **WHEREAS**, the focus, in the Adult Drug Court, is a treatment approach  
7 that results in cost-savings to the criminal justice system, and increases the  
8 likelihood of successful, rehabilitated community members;

9 **WHEREAS**, through a collaborative team approach, the members of the  
10 judicial system and these criminal offenders work together toward successful  
11 recovery and reintegration into the community as productive, law-abiding  
12 citizens;

13 **WHEREAS**, the Juvenile Drug Court program was established in response  
14 to adolescent abuse of drugs and alcohol on Guam;

15 **WHEREAS**, the program provides intensive supervision and substance  
16 abuse treatment to youths aged 13 to 17 years, who have committed non-violent  
17 offenses but exhibit substance abuse behaviors;

18 **WHEREAS**, the mission of the Juvenile Drug Court is to integrate drug  
19 treatment services with the juvenile justice system, including law enforcement  
20 personnel, prosecutors, defense attorneys and education system representatives;

21 **WHEREAS**, both the Adult Drug Court and the Juvenile Drug Court play  
22 an important role in addressing drug abuse on Guam by helping troubled youth

1 and adults become productive citizens and, as a preventive measure, avoiding  
2 the subsequent costs of confinement in correctional facilities;

3 **WHEREAS**, illustrating the success of the program, only two (2) percent of  
4 graduates and five (5) percent of participants of these programs became repeat  
5 offenders;

6 **WHEREAS**, the Adult Drug Court and the Juvenile Drug Court are now  
7 being placed in jeopardy because President George Bush's Fiscal Year 2009  
8 budget proposal eliminates drug court funding for Guam and dozens of other  
9 United States jurisdictions;

10 **WHEREAS**, *I Liheslaturam Guahan*, or the Guam Legislature, recognizes the  
11 success of such programs and the need for their continued funding; and now  
12 therefore be it

13 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina' Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guahan*, the Twenty-  
14 Ninth Guam Legislature, on behalf of the people of Guam, does hereby urge the  
15 members of the United States Senate and the United States House of  
16 Representatives to support the continued funding for drug court programs such  
17 as the Adult Drug Court and the Juvenile Drug Court administered by the  
18 Judiciary of Guam; and be it further

19 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to  
20 the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be transmitted to the Honorable  
21 Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Member of Congress; to the Honorable Robert C. Byrd,  
22 President Pro Tempore of the Senate; to the Honorable Harry Reid, Majority  
23 Leader of the Senate; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, Governor of Guam.

1 DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA*  
2 *LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN* ON THE \_\_\_\_TH DAY OF MAY 2008.

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JUDITH T. WON PAT  
Speaker

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TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES  
Senator and Legislative Secretary