

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

2008 AUG -4 PM 12: 06

Resolution No. 174(25)

Introduced by:

F. F. Blas, Jr. *[Signature]*
E. B. Calvo *[Signature]*
J. T. Won Pat *[Signature]* *[Signature]*

Relative to commending and congratulating Guam NARFE Chapter 1977 on the occasion of their Twenty-Fifth Anniversary and welcoming and extending a warm "Hafa Adai" to Forney A. Lundy, Region VIII, Regional Vice President on his visit to Guam.

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

3 **WHEREAS,** the National Association of Retired Federal Employees
4 ("NARFE") is dedicated to protecting the well-earned retirement benefits of federal
5 civilian retirees. NARFE, founded by fourteen (14) Charter Members in 1921, has
6 grown to nearly half a million members; and

7 **WHEREAS,** NARFE has been active in improving federal retirement benefits
8 since 1921. One need only to look at the history of the system to appreciate NARFE's
9 impact on the retirement program; and

10 **WHEREAS,** some, but not all, of NARFE's accomplishments are: obtaining
11 legislation which allowed survivor benefits; responsible for the restoration of a full
12 annuity to a retiree following the death of the spouse; supported computation for
13 annuities from 'High Five Year' to the 'High Three Year' salary basis; worked for
14 passage of the Second Spouse Benefit Bill to allow benefits for a second spouse;

1 worked for an 'Open Season' so retirees could change their health benefits coverage;
2 initiated legislation to allow survivor annuitants to marry at age 55 without loss of
3 retirement benefits; achieved liberalization of the 1983 law which required windfall
4 reduction for social security benefits. Thus, the reduction for retirees with 21 to 35
5 years of substantial social security coverage became less severe; supported the Gorton
6 Amendment to the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Bill of 1985 which gave federal and
7 military COLAs the same protection from automatic reduction given the social
8 security inflation adjustment; in the FY 98 Budget, NARFE persuaded Congress not
9 to enact a COLA delay; and

10 **WHEREAS**, NARFE Chapter 1977 was formed in January 1983. The first slate
11 of officers for NARFE Chapter 1977 were Peter C. Siguenza, Sr., President; Jose A.
12 Rivera, First Vice President for Membership; Pedro D. Perez, Second Vice President
13 for Legislation; Zenon Balenger, Treasurer and John Blas, Secretary. The new officers
14 were assisted by Mr. Cordell, a NARFE Field Vice President who served as an
15 advisor to the first slate of officers; and

16 **WHEREAS**, since its beginnings in 1983, NARFE Chapter 1977, has grown
17 from a handful of active Federal employees and retirees to approximately 200
18 members strong. Membership for NARFE Chapter 1977 is open to civilians who have
19 worked for even one day in any agency of the federal or District of Columbia
20 Government including: retirees, former employees, current employees, spouses and
21 surviving spouses of those eligible to join NARFE; now, therefore, be it

22 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,
23 on behalf of the people of Guam, commemorate the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the
24 NARFE Chapter 1977 by saluting its past presidents: Peter C. Siguenza, Sr., Jose A.
25 Rivera, Pedro D. Perez, John Phillips and Concepcion '*Connie*' Q. Sayama, the most
26 served multiple term president; and be it further

1 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,
2 on behalf of the people of Guam, commend and congratulate the Officers and
3 members of NARFE, Chapter 1977 on the occasion of their Twenty-Fifth Anniversary
4 and to extend *un dangkolu na si Yu'us Ma'ase'* and *Hafa Adai* to Forney A. Lund,
5 NARFE Regional Vice President, Region VIII for this tireless efforts in helping to
6 grow and sustain our island's federal retiree sector; and be it further

7 **RESOLVED**, that an appropriate expression of the importance of this
8 anniversary would be the presentation of this resolution on Sunday, August 10, 2008,
9 at the Fiesta Resort, Guam, a venue designated by NARFE Chapter 1977; and be it
10 further

11 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature
12 attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to
13 Mrs. Concepcion '*Connie*' Q. Sayama, President, NARFE, Chapter 1977; to Mr.
14 Forney A. Lund, NARFE Regional Vice President for Region VIII; to Margaret L.
15 Baptiste, President of NARFE; to the Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam's
16 Delegate to the United States Congress; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I*
17 *Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.