

**MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2007 (FIRST) REGULAR SESSION**

Resolution No. 62 (LS)

Introduced by:

v.c. pangelinan



10:09
2007

Relative to supporting H. Res. 121 introduced in the 110th Congress expressing the sense that the Government of Japan should formally acknowledge, apologize, and accept historical responsibility in a clear and unequivocal manner for its Imperial Armed Force's coercion of young women into sexual slavery, known to the world as "comfort women," during Japan's colonial and wartime occupation of Asia and the Pacific Islands from the 1930s through the duration of World War II; and to request that Guam be included among Pacific Islands affected.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY I LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:**

2 **WHEREAS**, the island of Guam is an unincorporated Territory of the
3 United States of America; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Guam has a longstanding history of colonial rule first being
5 controlled by Spain until it was ceded to the United States in 1898; and

6 **WHEREAS**, Guam was invaded and occupied on December 8, 1941 by
7 Japanese enemy forces; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Guam is the only United States territory, possession or state
9 that was occupied by Japanese armed forces during World War II; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the people of Guam were subjected to death, personal
11 injury, rape, forced labor, forced march, and internment during the Japanese

1 occupation; and

2 **WHEREAS**, the Government of Japan officially commissioned the
3 acquisition of young women for the sole purpose of sexual servitude to its
4 Imperial Armed Forces, who became known to the world as “ianfu” or
5 “comfort women” during its occupation and control of foreign lands prior to
6 and during World War II, of which Guam was one of the occupied lands; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the “comfort women” system of forced military
8 prostitution by the Government of Japan, considered unprecedented in its
9 cruelty and magnitude, included gang rape, forced abortions, humiliation,
10 and sexual violence resulting in mutilation, death, or eventual suicide in one
11 of the largest cases of human trafficking in the 20th century; and

12 **WHEREAS**, H. Res. 121 makes reference of Japanese schools using new
13 textbooks that downplay the atrocities such as the “comfort women” tragedy
14 and Japanese officials recently expressing a desire to dilute or rescind the 1993
15 statement by Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono on the “comfort women,”
16 which expressed the Government’s sincere apologies and remorse for their
17 ordeal; and

18 **WHEREAS**, despite numerous attempts from the people of Guam
19 seeking reparation and recognition for their suffering and atrocities
20 encountered as a result of Japan’s occupation, no resolution has been
21 achieved; and

22 **WHEREAS**, H. Res. 121 now seeks to have the Government of Japan
23 make a formal acknowledgment, apology and acceptance of historical
24 responsibility relative to its Imperial Armed Force’s maltreatment and

1 coercion of women into sexual slavery, known to the world as “comfort
2 women,” during its colonial and wartime occupation of Asia and the Pacific
3 Islands from the 1930s through the duration of World War II; and now
4 therefore be it

5 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina’Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does
6 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, petition the United States House of
7 Representatives to adopt H. Res. 121; and be it further

8 **RESOLVED**, that the United States Congress include Guam as having
9 been affected with atrocities inflicted by the Japanese Armed Forces in their
10 vicious coercion of young women into sexual slavery and for their cruelty
11 towards the people of Guam during its occupation, and be it further

12 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary
13 attests to, the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter
14 transmitted to the Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker, U.S. House of
15 Representatives; the Honorable Mike Honda, member, U.S. House of
16 Representatives; Mr. David Cohen, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the United
17 States Department of the Interior’s Office of Insular Affairs; the Honorable
18 George W. Bush, President of the United States of America; the Honorable
19 Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam’s Congressional Delegate, U.S. House of
20 Representatives; and the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga’lahen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE ___ DAY OF _____, 2007.

Mark Forbes
Speaker

Ray Tenorio
Senator and Legislative Secretary