## I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2007 (FIRST) Regular Session

## Resolution No. 14 (LS) As amended.

Introduced by:

Ray Tenorio Mark Forbes <u>Frank T. Ishizaki</u> Frank F. Blas, Jr. Edward J.B. Calvo James V. Espaldon Judith Paulette Guthertz J. A. Lujan Tina Rose Muña Barnes A. B. Palacios, Sr. v. c. pangelinan R. J. Respicio D. L.G. Shimizu A. R. Unpingco J. T. Won Pat

Relative to recognizing the month of April 2007 as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month", to honoring sexual assault victims and to commending the employees of Government agencies and volunteers of private organizations for providing services and care to sexual assault victims.

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

3 WHEREAS, our island recognizes and addresses the presence of sexual 4 assault in our community to ensure that victims of this crime will no longer 5 suffer pain and loss; and WHEREAS, victims and survivors of sexual assault deserve assistance
 to help cope with the consequences of assault; and

WHEREAS, our island understands the importance of providing services and support programs to sexual assault victims and survivors need restoring their life through counseling, medical services, food and transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Sexual Assault Coalition, under the leadership of
Healing Hearts Crisis Center of the Department of Mental Health and
Substance Abuse, has established partnerships between service organizations
and Government agencies to improve the quality of care for persons hurt by
sexual violence; and

12 WHEREAS, the Healing Hearts Crisis Center has provided services 13 such as a 24-hour hotline for emergency calls, social work and counseling 14 services, comforting victims during medico-legal rape exams, and 15 empowering victims to begin healing; and

WHEREAS, Government agencies and private organizations encourage
 victims and survivors through education, prevention, survivor empowerment,
 and providing information to schools, churches, civic organizations, as well as
 law enforcement, medical, mental health, education, and criminal justice
 professionals; and

WHEREAS, our island community is encouraged to increase its awareness and participation in an effort to rid our people of the tragedy of sexual violence, to strengthen the community and to provide a safer environment; and

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WHEREAS, Guam joins the Nation in recognizing the month of April
 2007 as 'Sexual Assault Awareness Month'; now, therefore, be it

3 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does 4 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, honor sexual assault victims and 5 survivors for surpassing the obstacles and rebuilding their lives; and be it 6 further

**RESOLVED,** that *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does
hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, further commends the employees of
Government agencies and volunteers of private organizations who provide
services and care for sexual assault victims and survivors; and be it further

11 **RESOLVED,** that *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does 12 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, commend the employees and 13 volunteers of the Healing Hearts Crisis Center of the Department of Mental 14 Health and Substance Abuse and the Sexual Assault Coalition for educating 15 the community about sexual assault and supporting sexual assault victims 16 and survivors; and be it further

17 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the 18 Legislature attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be 19 thereafter transmitted to the Healing Hearts Crisis Center of the Department 20 of Mental Health and Substance Abuse; to the Department of Law; and to the 21 Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

## DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 23<sup>RD</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2007.

MARK FORBES

MARK FORBES Speaker

**EAY** TENORIO Senator and Secretary of the Legislature