

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

Resolution No. 162 (EC)

As amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

B. J.F. Cruz
R. J. Respicio
Judith P. Guthertz, DPA
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Edward J.B. Calvo
James V. Espaldon
Mark Forbes
Frank T. Ishizaki
J. A. Lujan
A. B. Palacios, Sr.
v. c. pangelinan
Dr. David L.G. Shimizu
Ray Tenorio
J. T. Won Pat, Ed. D.

Relative to expressing the support of *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* of the Guam Adult and Juvenile Drug Courts 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**
4 **were recognized as courts of record of the Judiciary of Guam; and**

1 **WHEREAS**, these programs are examples of “*therapeutic justice*” which
2 focuses on rehabilitation of offenders and their reintegration into society;

3 **WHEREAS**, the Adult Drug Court program seeks to integrate substance
4 abuse treatment, sanctions and incentives with case processing so that non-
5 violent defendants in drug-related cases are placed in a judicially supervised
6 rehabilitation program;

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

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

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

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

19 **WHEREAS**, the program provides intensive supervision and substance
20 abuse treatment to youths aged thirteen (13) to seventeen (17) years, who have
21 committed non-violent offenses but exhibit substance abuse behaviors;

22 **WHEREAS**, the mission of the Juvenile Drug Court is to integrate drug
23 treatment services with the juvenile justice system, including law enforcement

1 personnel, prosecutors, defense attorneys and education system
2 representatives;

3 **WHEREAS**, both the Adult Drug Court and the Juvenile Drug Court
4 play an important role in addressing drug abuse on Guam by helping
5 troubled youth and adults become productive citizens and, as a preventive
6 measure, avoiding the subsequent costs of confinement in correctional
7 facilities;

8 **WHEREAS**, illustrating the success of the program, only two percent
9 (2%) of graduates and five percent (5%) of participants of these programs
10 became repeat offenders;

11 **WHEREAS**, the Adult Drug Court and the Juvenile Drug Court are
12 now being placed in jeopardy because President George Bush's Fiscal Year
13 2009 budget proposal eliminates drug court funding for Guam and dozens of
14 other United States jurisdictions; and

15 **WHEREAS**, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* recognizes the success of such
16 programs and the need for their continued funding; now, therefore, be it

17 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does
18 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, urge the members of the United
19 States Senate and the United States House of Representatives to support the
20 continued funding for Drug Court Programs such as the Adult Drug Court
21 and the Juvenile Drug Court administered by the Judiciary of Guam; and be it
22 further

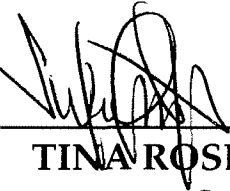
23 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the
24 Legislature attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be

1 thereafter transmitted to the Honorable Robert C. Byrd, President Pro
2 Tempore of the Senate; to the Honorable Harry Reid, Majority Leader of the
3 Senate; to the Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Member of Congress; and to
4 the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE 9TH DAY OF AUGUST 2008.



JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed. D.
Speaker



TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Senator and
Secretary of the Legislature