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

Resolution No. 18 (LS)

As amended.

Introduced by:

Ray Tenorio Frank F. Blas, Jr. <u>Edward J.B. Calvo</u> James V. Espaldon Mark Forbes Judith Paulette Guthertz Frank T. Ishizaki 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 April 2007 as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" with the theme, "Promoting Healthy Families in Your Community", and commending the employees of the Child Protective Services Division and the Bureau of Social Services Administration of the Department of Public Health and Social Services and the volunteers of private organizations that provide services to children.

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

3 WHEREAS, we acknowledge that child abuse and child neglect are 4 problems on our island, but we emphasize the importance of protecting the lives and dignity of our precious children within a secure and nurturing
 environment; and

3 WHEREAS, it is estimated that three million (3,000,000) child welfare 4 reports involving approximately five million five hundred thousand 5 (5,500,000) children are made annually across the nation, of which one 6 thousand two hundred sixty-seven (1,267) were made here on Guam in 2006; 7 and

8 WHEREAS, most parents are aware of their primary responsibility to 9 provide for their children's well-being, some cannot do so without support 10 from family and community programs; and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that parents and caretakers who have the necessary resources and support systems are more likely to provide a safe and healthy environment for their children; and

14 WHEREAS, if we as a community encourage parents to use available 15 programs such as: Parenting Education, Child Care Opportunities, Early and Regular Child/Family Screening and Treatment, Support for New Parents, 16 17 Programs for Abused Children, Family Support Services, Life Skills Training 18 for Children and Young Adults, Public Information and Education, 19 Understanding and Meeting their Child's Emotional, Physical and Developmental Needs, we will help prevent child abuse and start the healing 20 process for those who have already fallen victim; and 21

22 WHEREAS, the Child Protective Services Division and the Bureau of 23 Social Services Administration of the Department of Public Health and Social 24 Services encourage private organizations and government agencies to

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promote education, intervention, and the prevention of abuse and neglect of
 children; and

WHEREAS, Guam should increase its awareness and participation to
prevent child abuse and neglect, thereby strengthening our community; now,
therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan does
hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize the month of April 2007 as
"Child Abuse Prevention Month" with the theme, "Promoting Healthy
Families in Your Community"; and be it further

10 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does 11 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, commend the employees of the 12 Child Protective Services Division and the Bureau of Social Services 13 Administration of the Department of Public Health and Social Services and 14 the volunteers of private organizations that provide services to children; and 15 be it further

16 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the 17 Legislature attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be 18 thereafter transmitted to the Child Protective Services Division of the 19 Department of Public Health and Social Services; to the Bureau of Social 20 Services Administration of the Department of Public Health and Social 21 Services; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

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DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 29^{TH} DAY OF MARCH 2007.

MÆKK FORBES Speaker

RAY TENORIO Senator and Secretary of the Legislature