



THE SENATE
 Eighteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature
 P. O. Box 500129
 Saipan, MP 96950

32-14-1417
 Office of the Speaker
 Judith T. Won Pat, Ed. D.
 Date: 3.7.14
 Time: 8:20 am
 Received by: [Signature]

February 24, 2014

The Honorable Judith T. Won Pat
 Speaker
 32nd Guam Legislature
 155 Hesler Place
 Hagatna, Guam 96910

2014 MAR 18 AM 10:43
 [Signature]

Dear Madam Speaker Won Pat:

I have the honor of transmitting herewith a certified copy of Senate Resolution No. 18-26, entitled: "To support alternative regional transportation between Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands through ferry service or by similar vessels," which was adopted on February 18, 2014, by the Senate of the Eighteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
 Dolores S. Bermudes
 Senate Clerk

Attachment



**THE SENATE
EIGHTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE**

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 18-26

Introduced by: Senators Paul A. Manglona, Victor B. Hocog, Jovita M. Taimanao, Francisco M. Borja, Francisco Q. Cruz, Joaquin H. Borja, Ray N. Yumul, Pete P. Reyes and Ralph DLG. Torres

A SENATE RESOLUTION

To support alternative regional transportation between Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands through ferry service or by similar vessels.

1 **WHEREAS**, there is currently no alternatives to inter-island transportation other than
2 air transportation between Guam and the CNMI; and

3 **WHEREAS**, due to the increasing demands of transporting goods and services as well
4 as providing additional means of transportation, the addition of ferry services or similar
5 vessels will be highly beneficial to the promotion of inter-island trade between Guam and the
6 CNMI; and

7 **WHEREAS**, by providing alternative means of transportation through ferry services
8 or similar vessels, Guam and the CNMI would ultimately expand the tourism market as well
9 as infuse new money into its economies; and

10 **WHEREAS**, ferry service will not just supplement air travel; its capabilities can be
11 utilized as a source of inter-island commuter service for work, delivery service, tourist
12 attraction and may be used for emergency responses; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Guam Senator Tina Barnes introduced Resolution 279-32 which
14 supports the promotion of an affordable alternative regional transportation between Guam and
15 the CNMI by means of ferry service or other similar vessel and cargo service; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, in its recent board of
17 directors meeting, unanimously adopted Resolution 54-BOD-07, which promoted the idea of
18 an affordable alternative regional transportation between Guam and the CNMI by means of a

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 18-26

1 commuter and cargo vessel service; and

2 **WHEREAS**, the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA) was created to
3 oversee the transportation system in the CNMI and would be the regulating entity for the ferry
4 system in the CNMI; and

5 **WHEREAS**, by diligently working to build a strong partnership with the public and
6 private sectors and through the regulation from the COTA, ferry service connecting the island
7 of Guam and the CNMI is a very realistic possibility; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the CNMI is undoubtedly committed to the development of its inter-
9 island trade services through alternative transportation by ferry or similar vessels to connect
10 our islands and truly become one Pacific Island nation; and

11 **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Senate of the Eighteenth Northern
12 Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, that the Senate hereby supports alternative regional
13 transportation between Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
14 through ferry service or by similar vessels; and

15 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Senate President shall certify, and the
16 Senate Legislative Secretary shall attest to the adoption of this Resolution and the Senate
17 Clerk thereafter transmit certified copies to the Honorable Thomas J. Camacho, Special
18 Assistant, Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority; the Honorable Judith T. Won Pat,
19 Speaker, 32nd Guam Legislature; the Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres, President of the Senate;
20 the Honorable Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, Speaker, Eighteenth House of Representatives; the
21 Honorable Eloy S. Inos, Governor, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and the
22 Honorable Gregorio "Kilili" Camacho Sablan, CNMI Delegate to the United States Congress.

ADOPTED BY THE SENATE ON FEBRUARY 18, 2014.

CERTIFIED BY:



RALPH DLG. TORRES
President of the Senate

ATTESTED BY:



JOVITA M. TAIMANAO
Senate Legislative Secretary