


**IMINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
RESOLUTIONS**


Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE AUTHORS REPORT FILED	NOTES
159-38 (LS)	Frank F. Blas, Jr. Telo T. Taitague William A. Parkinson Jesse A. Lujan V. Anthony Ada Joe S. San Agustin Christopher M. Dueñas Therese M. Terlaje Shelly V. Calvo Sabrina Salas Matanane Tina Rose Muña-Barnes Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao Sabina Flores Perez Vincent A.V. Borja Chris Barnett	Relative to recognizing and commending the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence, the Guam Bureau of Women's Affairs, the Guam Behavioral Health & Wellness Center, the Guam Department of Public Health & Social Services, and the numerous community advocates, organizations, and government agencies in their efforts to raise public awareness and celebrate April 2026 as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" and "Child Abuse Prevention Month"; and to further recognize April 19, 2026 to April 25, 2026 as "National Crime Victims' Rights Week."	3/24/26 11:22 a.m.	3/30/26 11:00 a.m.						


I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2026 (SECOND) Regular Session


Resolution No. 159-38 (LS)


Introduced by:


Frank F. Blas, Jr. 


Telo T. Taitague 


William A. Parkinson 


Jesse A. Lujan 

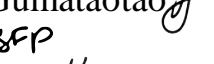
V. Anthony Ada 


Joe S. San Agustin 


Christopher M. Dueñas 


Therese M. Terlaje 


Shelly V. Calvo 


Sabrina Salas Matanane 

Tina Rose Muña-Barnes 

Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao 

Sabina F. Perez 

Vincent A.V. Borja 

Chris Barnett 

Relative to recognizing and commending the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence, the Guam Bureau of Women’s Affairs, the Guam Behavioral Health & Wellness Center, the Guam Department of Public Health & Social Services, and the numerous community advocates, organizations, and government agencies in their efforts to raise public awareness and celebrate April 2026 as “Sexual Assault Awareness Month” and “Child Abuse Prevention Month”; and to further recognize April 19, 2026 to April 25, 2026 as “National Crime Victims’ Rights Week.”

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN***
2 ***GUÅHAN*:**

1 **WHEREAS**, Guam joins the nation in observing April 2026 as Sexual Assault
2 Awareness Month and Child Abuse Prevention Month, and in recognizing April 19,
3 2026 to April 25, 2026 as National Crime Victims’ Rights Week; and

4 **WHEREAS**, these observances provide an opportunity to raise awareness of
5 sexual violence, child abuse, and victimization, while promoting prevention strategies,
6 supporting survivors, and advancing the rights and needs of crime victims; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Sexual Assault Awareness Month 2026 marks the 25th Anniversary
8 of the national movement under the theme “25 Years Stronger: Looking Back, Moving
9 Forward,” reflecting both the progress made and the continued work required to prevent
10 sexual violence and supporting survivors; and

11 **WHEREAS**, sexual violence remains a pervasive issue both nationally and
12 locally, affecting thousands of individuals each year; and

13 **WHEREAS**, data from the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN)
14 indicates that an average of 321,500 individuals age twelve (12) or older experience
15 rape or sexual assault each year in the United States, with women and girls
16 disproportionately impacted; and

17 **WHEREAS**, approximately ninety percent (90%) of rape victims are female and
18 ten percent (10%) are male, and an estimated one (1) in six (6) women and one (1) in
19 thirty-three (33) men in the United States have experienced an attempted or completed
20 rape in their lifetime; and

21 **WHEREAS**, in Guam, the impact of sexual violence is particularly pronounced,
22 with approximately 64.2 reported rapes per 100,000 people, significantly higher than
23 the national rate of 25.2 per 100,000 people, according to the Federal Bureau of
24 Investigation Uniform Crime Reporting Program; and

25 **WHEREAS**, these statistics underscore the importance of sustained,
26 community-based prevention efforts and coordinated responses to address sexual
27 violence and support survivors across Guam; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Child Abuse Prevention Month recognizes the shared
2 responsibility of families, communities, and institutions to prevent abuse and neglect
3 and to create safe, stable, and nurturing environments where children can thrive; and

4 **WHEREAS**, findings from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention
5 indicate that an estimated 558,899 children nationwide were identified as victims of
6 abuse and neglect, with approximately one (1) in four (4) girls and one (1) in thirteen
7 (13) boys experiencing sexual abuse; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services,
9 Bureau of Social Services Administration documented approximately 1,682 child abuse
10 and neglect referrals involving 2,440 children in Fiscal Year 2025, reflecting the
11 ongoing need for prevention, early intervention, and supportive services on Guam; and

12 **WHEREAS**, child abuse affects individuals across all socioeconomic
13 backgrounds and has lasting impacts on physical health, mental well-being, and long
14 term development, often disrupting a child’s sense of safety, trust, and stability; and

15 **WHEREAS**, in 1981, President Ronald W. Reagan proclaimed National Crime
16 Victims’ Rights Week to raise awareness of the rights, needs, and concerns of victims
17 and survivors; and

18 **WHEREAS**, data from the Federal Bureau of Investigation indicates that in
19 2024, a violent crime occurred, on average, every 25.9 seconds in the United States,
20 including a murder every 31.1 minutes and a rape every 4.1 minutes, underscoring the
21 ongoing need for prevention and victim support; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence
23 continues to strengthen coordinated community responses and provide critical services,
24 including advocacy, prevention education, and support for survivors through
25 partnerships among government agencies and community-based organizations,
26 including Catholic Social Services – Alee Shelter; the Department of Public Health and
27 Social Services, Bureau of Social Services Administration; Erica’s House, Inc.; Guam
28 Community College; Guam Legal Services Corporation – Disability Law Center; Guma
29 Mami, Inc; the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center – Healing Hearts Crisis

1 Center; the Guam Police Department – Domestic Assault Response Team; Homeland
2 Security Investigations; Joint Region Marianas; the Public Defender Service
3 Corporation – Civil Law Center; the United States Attorney’s Office; Victim Advocates
4 Reaching Out; WestCare Pacific Islands; and the Bureau of Women’s Affairs; and

5 **WHEREAS**, these observances provide an opportunity to honor survivors,
6 recognize the work of advocates and service providers, and reaffirm Guam’s
7 commitment to strengthening systems that support healing, safety, and accountability
8 now therefore, be it

9 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on
10 behalf of the people of Guam, commend the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault &
11 Family Violence, the Guam Bureau of Women’s Affairs, the Guam Behavioral Health
12 and Wellness Center, the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services; and
13 all community advocates, organizations, and government agencies for their continued
14 efforts during April 2026 Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Child Abuse Prevention
15 Month, and National Crime Victims’ Rights Week from April 19, 2026 to April 25,
16 2026; and be it further

17 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the
18 adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Guam Coalition
19 Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence, the Guam Bureau of Women’s Affairs, the
20 Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center, the Guam Department of Public Health
21 & Social Services; and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan*
22 *Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE DAY OF 2026.

Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Speaker

Sabrina Salas Matanane
Legislative Secretary