

I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
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 the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence, the Guam Bureau of Women's Affairs, the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center, the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services, and the numerous community advocates, organizations, and government agencies for their continued dedication and efforts to raise public awareness during the month of 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.	3/24/26 11:22 a.m.					

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 Agustín
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 the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence, the Guam Bureau of Women's Affairs, the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center, the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services, and the numerous community advocates, organizations, and government agencies for their continued dedication and efforts to raise public awareness during the month of 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."

BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence continues to strengthen coordinated community responses and provide critical services, including advocacy, prevention education, and support for survivors through partnerships among government agencies and community-based organizations, including Catholic Social Services – Alec Shelter; the Department of Public Health and Social Services, Bureau of Social Services Administration; Enica's House, Inc.; Guam Community College; Guam Legal Services Corporation – Disability Law Center; Guma Mami, Inc; the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center – Healing Hearts Crisis Center; the Guam Police Department – Domestic Assault Response Team; Homeland Security Investigations; Joint Region Marianas; the Public Defender Service Corporation – Civil Law Center; the United States Attorney's Office; Victim Advocates Reaching Out; WestCare Pacific Islands; and the Bureau of Women's Affairs; and

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

RESOLVED, that I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guahan does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence, the Guam Bureau of Women's Affairs, the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center, the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services; and the numerous community advocates, organizations, and government agencies for their continued dedication and efforts to raise public awareness during the month of 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" from; and be it further

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

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN ON THE 24TH DAY OF MARCH 2026.

Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Speaker

Sabrina Salas Matanane
Legislative Secretary



5 COPIES

Mara Cruz

Mley

March 27, 2024

4:10pm

EN

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
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Chris Barnett

Relative to recognizing the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence, the Guam Bureau of Women's Affairs, the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center, the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services, and the numerous community advocates, organizations, and government agencies for their continued dedication and efforts to raise public awareness during the month of 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."

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

WHEREAS, Guam joins the nation in observing April 2026 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Child Abuse Prevention Month, and in recognizing April 19,

1 2026, to April 25, 2026, as National Crime Victims' Rights Week; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 **WHEREAS**, Child Abuse Prevention Month recognizes the shared

responsibility of families, communities, and institutions to prevent abuse and neglect and to create safe, stable, and nurturing environments where children can thrive; and

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence continues to strengthen coordinated community responses and provide critical services, including advocacy, prevention education, and support for survivors through partnerships among government agencies and community-based organizations, including Catholic Social Services – Alee Shelter; the Department of Public Health and Social Services, Bureau of Social Services Administration; Erica's House, Inc.; Guam

1 Community College; Guam Legal Services Corporation – Disability Law Center; Guma
2 Mami, Inc; the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center – Healing Hearts Crisis
3 Center; the Guam Police Department – Domestic Assault Response Team; Homeland
4 Security Investigations; Joint Region Marianas; the Public Defender Service
5 Corporation – Civil Law Center; the United States Attorney’s Office; Victim Advocates
6 Reaching Out; WestCare Pacific Islands; and the Bureau of Women’s Affairs; and

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

11 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on
12 behalf of the people of Guam, recognize the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault &
13 Family Violence, the Guam Bureau of Women’s Affairs, the Guam Behavioral Health
14 and Wellness Center, the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services; and
15 the numerous community advocates, organizations, and government agencies for their
16 continued dedication and efforts to raise public awareness during the month of April
17 2026 as “Sexual Assault Awareness Month” and “Child Abuse Prevention Month”, and
18 to further recognize April 19, 2026 to April 25, 2026 as “National Crime Victims’
19 Rights Week” from; and be it further

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

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE 24TH DAY OF MARCH 2026.



Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Speaker



Sabrina Salas Matanane
Legislative Secretary



OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER
FRANK F. BLAS, JR.

38TH GUAM LEGISLATURE – *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910 • Tel: (671) 969-6456, (671) 969-0628, (671) 969-6023 • email: speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov

March 24, 2026

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media

From: Speaker Frank F. Blas, Jr. *ky*

Subject: **NOTICE OF PRESENTATION for Resolution No. 159-38 (LS)**

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

Join me in presenting:

- **Legislative Resolution No. 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 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 and 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.”**

The presentation will take place on **March 30, 2026 (Monday) at 11:00 A.M.** at the **Guam Community College, Multi-Purpose Auditorium, Building 300.**

We look forward to your attendance and participation.

Si Yu’os Ma’ase’!