

**I MINA'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 |
|----------------|--------------------------|---|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-------|
| 32-38 (COR) | Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao | Relative to recognizing the Autism Community Together (ACT) for its efforts to promote autism awareness and provide support to families on the observance of "Autism Awareness Month" during the month of April 2025, with this year's theme: "Autism is Life – Embrace the Journey!"; and commending the members of ACT, and the families and caregivers of all persons with autism spectrum disorders for their unconditional love and dedication to bettering the lives of their children, grandchildren, family members, and friends. | 3/17/25 1:05 p.m. | 4/9/25 5:30 p.m. | 4/7/25 4:29 p.m. | | | | | |

Resolution No. 32-38 (COR)

Introduced by:

Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao
V. Anthony Ada
Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Vincent A. V. Borja
Shelly V. Calvo
Christopher M. Dueñas
Jesse A. Lujan
Sabrina Salas Matanane

Telo T. Tattague
Chris Barnett
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
William A. Parkinson
Joe S. San Agustin
Sabina Flores Perez
Therese M. Teraja



Relative to recognizing the Autism Community Together (ACT) for its efforts to promote autism awareness and provide support to families, and on the observance of “Autism Awareness Month” during the month of April 2025, with this year’s theme: “Autism is Life-Embrace the Journey!”; and commending the members of ACT, and the families and caregivers of all persons with autism spectrum disorders for their unconditional love and dedication to bettering the lives of their children, grandchildren, family members, and friends.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:

WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorder, or ASD, is a complex developmental disability that typically appears during the first three (3) years of a child’s life and affects their ability to communicate and interact with others; and there is no single cause for ASD, but increased awareness and funding can help families today; and

WHEREAS, autism is defined by a certain set of behaviors and is a “spectrum disorder” that affects individuals differently, to varying degrees, and it knows no racial, ethnic, or social boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network found that one (1) in thirty-six (36) children were identified with ASD based on tracking across multiple areas of the United States. This same data revealed that some characteristics of children with ASD have remained the same, and that boys were almost four (4) times more likely to be identified with ASD than girls. Today, one (1) in twenty-five (25) boys and one (1) in one hundred (100) girls, or one (1) in thirty-six (36) children, will be diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders; and more children are diagnosed with ASD than childhood cancer, juvenile diabetes, and pediatric AIDS combined; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. CDC reports the likelihood of a school-aged child receiving a diagnosis of autism, or a related developmental disorder, rose more than seventy percent (70%) since 2012. The report also stated that approximately one (1) in thirty-six (36) children in the nation are diagnosed with autism today, an increase from one (1) in one thousand (1,000) in 1980; and

WHEREAS, on average, autism costs an estimated Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000) a year through childhood, with the bulk of the costs in special services and lost wages related to increased demands on one (1) or both parents; and costs increase with the occurrence of intellectual disability. The cost of caring for Americans with autism had reached \$268 Billion Dollars in 2015 and would rise to \$461 Billion Dollars by 2025 in the absence of more effective interventions and support across the life span of individuals with autism; and

WHEREAS, caring for a child with ASD can place a heavy economic burden on families and communities. The ADDM Network estimates that it costs at least Seventeen Thousand Dollars (\$17,000) more per year to care for a child with ASD, as compared to a child without ASD; and costs include health care, education, ASD-related therapy, family-coordinated services, and caregiver time. Taken together, it is estimated that the total societal costs of caring for children with ASD was more than \$11.5 Billion Dollars in 2011; and

WHEREAS, the latest report from the U.S. CDC finds that 1.47% of eight (8) year old children have autism. Extrapolating this rate to all people with autism puts costs at roughly \$358 Billion Dollars in 2015 and \$616 Billion Dollars in 2025. Assuming autism rates will continue to climb, as they have over the past few years, lifts the 2025 estimate to more than \$1 Trillion Dollars; and

WHEREAS, a quarter century ago, a nationwide effort was launched to promote autism awareness, inclusion, and self-determination for all, and ensure that each person with ASD is provided with the opportunity to achieve the highest possible quality of life; and this year, the Autism Society wants to go beyond simply promoting autism awareness by encouraging friends and collaborators to become partners in the movement towards acceptance and appreciation; and

WHEREAS, the Autism Community Together (ACT), which was formed in January 2004, has continued to spearhead an awareness effort to educate parents, professionals, and the general public about autism and its effects; and a Run for Autism, an Autism Awareness Fair, and other events are being coordinated throughout the month of April 2025 during the observance of “Autism Awareness Month” with its theme: “Autism is Life-Embrace the Journey!”; and

WHEREAS, in order to highlight the growing need for concern and awareness about autism, the Autism Community Together (ACT), parents and family members, support groups, researchers, and professionals have dedicated years of service in their ongoing efforts to advocate for the rights, respect, dignity, humane treatment, and appropriate education in support of all persons with autism; now therefore, be it


RESOLVED, that the Committee of Rules of I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan does hereby, on behalf of I Liheslaturan Guåhan and the people of Guam, recognize the Autism Community Together (ACT) for its efforts to promote autism awareness and provide support to families on the observance of “Autism Awareness Month” during the month of April 2025, with this year’s theme: “Autism is Life-Embrace the Journey!”; and commend the members of ACT, and the families and caregivers of all persons with autism spectrum disorders for their unconditional love and dedication to bettering the lives of their children, grandchildren, family members, and friends; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Ms. Josephine M.P. Blas, President, Autism Community Together (ACT) on behalf of individuals with autism spectrum disorders, their families and supporters; and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, I Maga'hagan Guåhan.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 7TH DAY OF APRIL 2025.


Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Speaker


Christopher M. Dueñas
Acting Chairperson, Committee on Rules


Sabrina Salas Matanane
Legislative Secretary



Manichelle Gubay

May

5:15pm

4/9/25

Zada H.P.

I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
2025 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 32-38 (COR)

Introduced by:

Eulogio S. Gumataotao
V. Anthony Ada
Chris Barnett
Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Vincent Anthony V. Borja
Shelly V. Calvo
Christopher M. Dueñas
Jesse A. Lujan
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
William A. Parkinson
Sabina Flores Perez
Sabrina Salas Matanane
Joe S. San Agustin
Telo T. Taitague
Therese M. Terlaje

Relative to recognizing the Autism Community Together (ACT) for its efforts to promote autism awareness and provide support to families, and on the observance of “Autism Awareness Month” during the month of April 2025, with this year’s theme: “Autism is Life-Embrace the Journey!”; and commending the members of ACT, and the families and caregivers of all persons with autism spectrum disorders for their unconditional love and dedication to bettering the lives of their children, grandchildren, family members, and friends.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I**
2 ***MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN:***

3 **WHEREAS**, autism spectrum disorder, or ASD, is a complex developmental
4 disability that typically appears during the first three (3) years of a child’s life and
5 affects their ability to communicate and interact with others; and there is no single cause
6 for ASD, but increased awareness and funding can help families today; and

1 **WHEREAS**, autism is defined by a certain set of behaviors and is a “spectrum
2 disorder” that affects individuals differently, to varying degrees, and it knows no racial,
3 ethnic, or social boundaries; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Autism and
5 Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network found that one (1) in thirty-six (36)
6 children were identified with ASD based on tracking across multiple areas of the United
7 States. This same data revealed that some characteristics of children with ASD have
8 remained the same, and that boys were almost four (4) times more likely to be identified
9 with ASD than girls. Today, one (1) in twenty-five (25) boys and one (1) in one hundred
10 (100) girls, or one (1) in thirty-six (36) children, will be diagnosed with autism spectrum
11 disorders; and more children are diagnosed with ASD than childhood cancer, juvenile
12 diabetes, and pediatric AIDS combined; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. CDC reports the likelihood of a school-aged child
14 receiving a diagnosis of autism, or a related developmental disorder, rose more than
15 seventy percent (70%) since 2012. The report also stated that approximately one (1) in
16 thirty-six (36) children in the nation are diagnosed with autism today, an increase from
17 one (1) in one thousand (1,000) in 1980; and

18 **WHEREAS**, on average, autism costs an estimated Sixty Thousand Dollars
19 (\$60,000) a year through childhood, with the bulk of the costs in special services and
20 lost wages related to increased demands on one (1) or both parents; and costs increase
21 with the occurrence of intellectual disability. The cost of caring for Americans with
22 autism had reached \$268 Billion Dollars in 2015 and would rise to \$461 Billion Dollars
23 by 2025 in the absence of more effective interventions and support across the life span
24 of individuals with autism; and

25 **WHEREAS**, caring for a child with ASD can place a heavy economic burden on
26 families and communities. The ADDM Network estimates that it costs at least

1 Seventeen Thousand Dollars (\$17,000) more per year to care for a child with ASD, as
2 compared to a child without ASD; and costs include health care, education, ASD-related
3 therapy, family-coordinated services, and caregiver time. Taken together, it is estimated
4 that the total societal costs of caring for children with ASD was more than \$11.5 Billion
5 Dollars in 2011; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the latest report from the U.S. CDC finds that 1.47% of eight (8)
7 year old children have autism. Extrapolating this rate to all people with autism puts
8 costs at roughly \$358 Billion Dollars in 2015 and \$616 Billion Dollars in 2025.
9 Assuming autism rates will continue to climb, as they have over the past few years, lifts
10 the 2025 estimate to more than \$1 Trillion Dollars; and

11 **WHEREAS**, a quarter century ago, a nationwide effort was launched to promote
12 autism awareness, inclusion, and self-determination for all, and ensure that each person
13 with ASD is provided with the opportunity to achieve the highest possible quality of
14 life; and this year, the Autism Society wants to go beyond simply promoting autism
15 awareness by encouraging friends and collaborators to become partners in the
16 movement towards acceptance and appreciation; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the Autism Community Together (ACT), which was formed in
18 January 2004, has continued to spearhead an awareness effort to educate parents,
19 professionals, and the general public about autism and its effects; and a Run for Autism,
20 an Autism Awareness Fair, and other events are being coordinated throughout the
21 month of April 2025 during the observance of “Autism Awareness Month” with its
22 theme: “*Autism is Life-Embrace the Journey!*”; and

23 **WHEREAS**, in order to highlight the growing need for concern and awareness
24 about autism, the Autism Community Together (ACT), parents and family members,
25 support groups, researchers, and professionals have dedicated years of service in their

1 ongoing efforts to advocate for the rights, respect, dignity, humane treatment, and
2 appropriate education in support of all persons with autism; now therefore, be it


3 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee of Rules of *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na*
4 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people
5 of Guam, recognize the Autism Community Together (ACT) for its efforts to promote
6 autism awareness and provide support to families on the observance of "Autism
7 Awareness Month" during the month of April 2025, with this year's theme: "*Autism is*
8 *Life-Embrace the Journey!*"; and commend the members of ACT, and the families and
9 caregivers of all persons with autism spectrum disorders for their unconditional love
10 and dedication to bettering the lives of their children, grandchildren, family members,
11 and friends; and be it further

12 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules
13 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of
14 the same be thereafter transmitted to Ms. Josephine M.P. Blas, President, Autism
15 Community Together (ACT) on behalf of individuals with autism spectrum disorders,
16 their families and supporters; and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I*
17 *Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF
I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 7TH DAY OF
APRIL 2025.**



Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Speaker



Christopher M. Dueñas
Acting Chairperson, Committee on Rules



Sabrina Salas Matanane
Legislative Secretary



COMMITTEE ON RULES



VICE SPEAKER V. ANTHONY ADA, CHAIRPERSON

I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

38th Guam Legislature

COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

Resolution No. 32-38 (COR) Eulogio S. Gumataotao - "Relative to recognizing the Autism Community Together (ACT) for its efforts to promote autism awareness and provide support to families, and on the observance of "Autism Awareness Month" during the month of April 2025, with this year's theme: "Autism is Life-Embrace the Journey!"; and commending the members of ACT, and the families and caregivers of all persons with autism spectrum disorders for their unconditional love and dedication to bettering the lives of their children, grandchildren, family members, and friends."

| | INITIAL | DATE | TO ADOPT | TO NOT ADOPT | TO ABSTAIN |
|--|---|------------|----------|--------------|------------|
| Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada Chairperson | E-VOTE | 04/07/2025 | ✓ | | |
| Senator Christopher M. Dueñas Vice Chairperson | E-VOTE | 04/07/2025 | ✓ | | |
| Speaker Frank F. Blas, Jr. Member | E-VOTE | 04/07/2025 | ✓ | | |
| Legislative Secretary Sabrina Salas Matanane Member | E-VOTE | 04/07/2025 | ✓ | | |
| Senator Vincent A.V. Borja Member | E-VOTE | 04/07/2025 | ✓ | | |
| Senator Shelly Calvo Member | E-VOTE | 04/07/2025 | ✓ | | |
| Senator Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao Member |  | 04/07/2025 | ✓ | | |
| Senator Jesse Anderson Lujan Member | E-VOTE | 04/07/2025 | ✓ | | |
| Senator Telo Teresa Taitague Member | E-VOTE | 04/07/2025 | ✓ | | |
| Senator Tina Rose Muña Barnes Minority Member | E-VOTE | 04/07/2025 | ✓ | | |
| Senator Joe S. San Agustin Minority Member | E-VOTE | 04/07/2025 | ✓ | | |
| For Sponsor's Office Use Only | | | | | |
| Sponsor Signature:  | | | | | |
| Staff Contact Person: Diana Topasna | | | | | |
| For COR/Clerk's Office Use Only | | | | | |
| <u>11</u> Certified _____ Returned | | | | | |
| Name: Jennalyn-Rose Aflague | | | | | |
| Date: April 7, 2025 at 4:29 p.m. | | | | | |
| Notes: | | | | | |




OFFICE OF SENATOR
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao

38th Guam Legislature | *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

April 3, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators

From: Senator Shawn Gumataotao 

Subject: **Presentation Notice for Resolution No. 32-38 (COR)**

Buenas yan Håfa Adai!

Please join me in presenting Resolution No. 32-38 (COR) – Relative to recognizing the Autism Community Together (ACT) for its efforts to promote autism awareness and provide support to families, and on the observance of “Autism Awareness Month” during the month of April 2025, with this year’s theme: “Autism is Life-Embrace the Journey!”; and commending the members of ACT, and the families and caregivers of all persons with autism spectrum disorders for their unconditional love and dedication to bettering the lives of their children, grandchildren, family members, and friends.

The presentation will take place on Wednesday, April 9, 2025, 5:30 p.m. on the front steps of the Guam Congress Building in Hagåtña.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse'!

cc: Executive Director
Clerk of the Legislature
Sergeant-at-Arms
A/V Department