











**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
37-38 (COR)	Frank F. Blas, Jr. Therese M. Terlajje Jesse A. Lujan Chris Barnett V. Anthony Ada Christopher M. Dueñas Telo T. Taitague William A. Parkinson Tina Rose Muña Barnes Shelly V. Calvo	Relative to recognizing and commending the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence, Guam Behavioral Health & Wellness Center, and 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 2025 as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" and "Child Abuse Prevention Month"; and to further celebrate April 6, 2025 to April 12, 2025 as "National Crime Victims' Rights Week".	4/1/25 1:48 p.m.							

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

Resolution No. 37 -38 (COR)

Introduced by:

Frank F. Blas, Jr. 
Therese M. Terlaje 
Jesse A. Lujan 
Chris Barnett 
V. Anthony Ada 
Christopher M. Dueñas 
Telo T. Taitague 
William A. Parkinson 
Tina Rose Muña Barnes 
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Relative to recognizing and commending the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence, Guam Behavioral Health & Wellness Center, and 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 2025 as “Sexual Assault Awareness Month” and “Child Abuse Prevention Month”; and to further celebrate April 6, 2025 to April 12, 2025 as “National Crime Victims’ Rights Week”.

- 1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF**
2 ***I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:***
3 **WHEREAS,** Guam joins the nation in celebrating April 2025 as “Sexual Assault
4 Awareness Month” and “Child Abuse Prevention Month”; and further recognizing the

1 week of April 6, 2025 to April 12, 2025 as “National Crime Victims’ Rights Week”;
2 and

3 **WHEREAS**, April 2025 is a time to raise public awareness of sexual violence,
4 child abuse, victimization, promotion of prevention strategies, support survivors,
5 advocate for the rights and needs of crime victims, and emphasize the importance of
6 providing comprehensive support and services to those affected by crime; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) 2025’s theme is
8 “Together We Act, United We Change”. Highlighting the importance of working
9 together to address and prevent sexual abuse, assault, and harassment. Initiatives by the
10 island’s collaborators aim to promote coordinated community responses that focus on
11 enhancing the public’s understanding of sexual violence, amplifying the voices of
12 survivors, and empowering the island’s people to work together to promote the safety
13 and well-being of others; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the Federal Bureau of Investigations, Uniform Crime Reporting
15 Program released statistics that in 2023 revealed a violent crime occurred every 25.9
16 seconds, with one murder every 27.3 seconds and one rape every 4.1 seconds. In 2023,
17 the U.S. documented 7,555,863 crimes in total; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the Guam Police Department released data that in 2024 there were
19 400 Assault cases, 273 Harassment cases, 226 Terrorizing cases, 224 Criminal Sexual
20 Conduct cases, 206 Aggravated Assault cases, 97 Family Violence cases, 72 Child
21 Abuse cases, 52 Violation of Court Order cases, 28 Stalking cases, and 7 Kidnapping
22 cases; and

23 **WHEREAS**, from over 1,500 family violence and criminal sexual conduct cases,
24 data found in Guam, females of Native Hawaiian or Pacific Island descent, ages 18-59
25 years of age were the highest at risk of family violence or criminal sexual conduct,
26 where their offenders were most likely a family or household member; and

27 **WHEREAS**, “Child Abuse Prevention Month” recognizes the importance of
28 families and communities working together to prevent child abuse and neglect; and to
29 build healthier environments where children can reach their full potential; and

1 **WHEREAS**, findings from a 2022 Centers for Disease Control report on child
2 abuse and neglect, an estimated 558,899 children were victims of abuse and neglect,
3 that is 8 to every 1,000 children nationwide. Later findings in 2024 from the CDC report
4 found that 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 13 boys were abused in the U.S. According to their most
5 recent study, children most vulnerable to abuse were children in their first year of life
6 or 15% of all victims, and about 27% of child maltreatment victims are no more than
7 two years old; and

8 **WHEREAS**, child abuse hurts minds, bodies, and futures. Globally, numerous
9 studies have come to the same conclusion that child abuse is non-discriminatory and
10 that it affects every socioeconomic group. The trauma of child abuse causes children to
11 lose their sense of safety and trust in the world, and harm their relationships; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the Department of Public Health and Social Services documented
13 approximately 1,671 “Child Welfare referrals” and that 667 children are under Child
14 Protective Services’ custody for fiscal year 2023; and

15 **WHEREAS**, in 1981, President Ronald W. Reagan saw the need to increase
16 public awareness of the rights, needs, and concerns of victims and survivors, declaring
17 the month of April as “National Crime Victims’ Rights Week”; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence in
19 collaboration with the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center and the Guam
20 Department of Public Health & Social Services has forged community partnerships with
21 other government agencies, private companies, and non-profit organizations to enhance
22 the quality of care for survivors of violent sexual crimes, child abuse, and child neglect;
23 and

24 **WHEREAS**, events like “Sexual Assault Awareness Month”, “Child Abuse
25 Prevention Month”, “Child Abuse Prevention Month”, and “National Crime Victims’
26 Rights Week” provide opportunities to renew our commitment to ensuring all victims
27 and survivors have access to necessary services for healing and empowerment. These
28 events also allow communities to honor those dedicated to providing critical resources
29 for rebuilding the lives of survivors; therefore, be it

1 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na*
2 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, commend the
3 Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence, the Guam Behavioral
4 Health and Wellness Center, and the Guam Department of Public Health and Social
5 Services, and the numerous community advocates, organizations and government
6 agencies in their efforts to raise public awareness during April 2025 “Sexual Assault
7 Awareness Month”, “Child Abuse Prevention Month”, and “National Crime Victims
8 Rights Week” from April 6 to April 12, 2025; and be it further

9 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules
10 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of
11 the same be thereafter transmitted to the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault &
12 Family Violence, the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center, the Guam
13 Department of Public Health & Social Services; and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon
14 Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

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

FRANK F. BLAS, JR.
Speaker

V. ANTHONY ADA
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

SABRINA SALAS MATANANE
Legislative Secretary