

*I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*

**2009 (FIRST) Regular Session**

**Resolution No. 30-159 (COR)**

**Introduced By:**

**MATT RECTOR**

**RELATIVE TO ENDORSEMENT BY THIS BODY OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO THE TERRITORY OF GUAM, THE PENDING MILITARY BUILDUP UPON GUAM, AND LABOR UPON GUAM CONTAINED WITHIN THE ACT CURRENTLY KNOWN AS H.R. 2647 OR THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010 AND REQUESTING THAT SAID PROVISIONS BE ENACTED BY THE 111<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AS CURRENTLY WRITTEN FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PEOPLE OF GUAM.**

**1 BE IT RESOLVED BY *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan***

**2 Whereas, Guam's workers are currently being treated like second class**  
**3 citizens by being paid less than half of what their brothers and sisters in**  
**4 Hawaii are paid for doing the same work for the same company on a Federal**  
**5 Contract,**

1 **Whereas,** Guam’s cost of living is considered the same as Hawaii’s by the  
2 Federal Government,

3 **Whereas,** Low wages on Federal contracts rob Guam’s families of a decent  
4 standard of living and Guam’s economy of hundreds of Millions of Federal  
5 dollars a year,

6 **Whereas,** The majority of Guam’s families are desperate for good middle  
7 class jobs,

8 **Whereas,** Thousands of Guam’s families that have moved to the mainland  
9 United States in search of a decent standard of living would love to come  
10 home if there were decent middle class jobs available on Guam,

11 **Whereas,** The upcoming military buildup should benefit all of Guam’s  
12 families and not just an elite few,

13 **Whereas,** numerous incidents of scandals involving the abuse of Temporary  
14 Foreign Workers upon Guam have demonstrated that H2-B Visa programs  
15 within the territory of Guam have been severely misused in a manner that is  
16 inhumane, incompatible with our morals and values, and at times an  
17 appalling violation of the human rights of workers according to the standards  
18 of the United States Government, the Laws of the Territory of Guam, and the  
19 United Nations.

20 **Whereas,** American Tax dollars spent on American Military facilities should  
21 go to Americans Workers and build American economies first and foremost,

1 **Whereas**, the People of Guam have paid a high price for their citizenship by  
2 being the only Americans to ever endure occupation by a foreign power, by  
3 serving in the Armed forces at an unprecedented rate, and still suffering to  
4 this day from the effects of being downwind from the U.S Military Nuclear  
5 tests on Bikini Atoll, and thus, at the very least, deserve the same benefits and  
6 wages as every other American,

7 **Whereas**, this body recognizes that an estimated 10 billion additional Federal  
8 dollars flowing into the pockets of local construction workers would result in  
9 enormous benefit not only to said worker's family but to our entire economy  
10 as they buy new cars, go out to eat, rent houses and apartments and spend  
11 money in our local stores,

12 **Whereas**, economists estimate that every additional dollar paid to local  
13 workers circulate in our economy up to ten times,

14 **Whereas**, the hundreds of Millions of dollars in tax revenue generated by  
15 increased wages will provide much needed additional funding for Guam's  
16 Public Health, Safety and Education,

17 **Whereas**, *I Liheslatura* recognizes that the people of Guam would  
18 overwhelmingly benefit from the amendments made by Congressman Neil  
19 Abercrombie (D) of Hawaii to the National Defense Authorization Act for  
20 Fiscal Year 2010, currently H.R. 2647, which will increase Guam's  
21 prevailing wage and provide a fair chance for all of Guam's people to benefit  
22 from the pending Guam military buildup; now, therefore, be it

1 **Resolved**, that *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*, on behalf of the  
2 People of Guam, hereby formally request that the One-Hundred Eleventh  
3 United States Senate, and President Barack Obama, in finalizing the act  
4 currently known as H.R. 2647, the National Defense Authorization Act for  
5 Fiscal Year 2010, pass into law the amendments introduced by Congressman  
6 Neil Abercrombie of Hawaii, specifically sections 2833 and 2834 of Subtitle  
7 (C), "Provisions Related To Guam Realignment" , TITLE XXVIII of this Act  
8 as currently written in the version of this legislation passed by the United  
9 States House of Representatives on June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009, these provisions being  
10 hereby recognized by this body as critical to the well being of Guam's  
11 people during the military buildup and critical to the future of Guam's society  
12 and economy.

13 **Resolved**, that the Speaker and Chairman Speaker and the Chairman of the  
14 Committee on Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to the  
15 adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to  
16 President Barack Obama; to each and every member of the 111<sup>th</sup> United  
17 States Senate; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.