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<td>Tina Rose Muña Barnes</td>
<td>Relative to supporting the Republic of China’s (Taiwan) participation in the World Health Organization and to further commending them for their successful response to the COVID-19 pandemic.</td>
<td>4/24/20</td>
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Resolution No. 324-35 (COR)

Introduced by: Tina Rose Muña Barnes

Relative to supporting the Republic of China’s (Taiwan) participation in the World Health Organization and to further commending them for their successful response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

WHEREAS, One Hundred and Nine years ago on October 10, 1911, the Republic of China was founded. The United States of America and the Republic of China have been friends and allies for many years. Throughout this time the ties of friendship and the commercial interests of the United States of America and the Republic of China have developed into a strong partnership; and

WHEREAS, the freedom and democracy enjoyed by the people of the Republic of China (Taiwan) are clearly demonstrated in the progress and growth of the economy of this great country. In furthering its commitment to freedom and democracy Taiwan continues to seek representation in international organizations; and

WHEREAS, in April 2008, I Liheslaturan Guåhan adopted Legislative Resolutions commending the efforts of the Republic of China (Taiwan) to promote World Health and had endorsed Taiwan’s observer status in the World Health Assembly. The people of Guam maintained a special Sister-City relationship with the people of Taipei City since 1973, and believe that good health is important to every
citizen of the world and believe that access to the highest standard of health
information and services is necessary to improve the public health; and

WHEREAS, the preamble of the World Health Organization (WHO)
Constitution states that “the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is
one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race,
religion, political belief, economic or social condition.” Taiwan’s twenty-three million
five hundred thousand (23,500,000) people wish to attend the WHA as an observer;
and have a population that is greater than three-fourths of member states already
admitted into the WHO. Because health and disease have no borders, it is in the best
interest of the human condition that Taiwan be afforded observership in the WHO in
order to benefit from information regarding the prevention, monitoring and cure of
epidemic diseases, prevention of terrorist bio-chemical attacks, and discussions of
global health policies; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan’s achievement in the field of health are substantial,
including one of the highest life expectancy levels in Asia; maternal and infant
mortality rates comparable to those of western countries; the eradication of such
infectious diseases as cholera, smallpox and the plague; and being the first nation to
eradicate polio and provide children with Hepatitis B vaccinations; and

WHEREAS, Direct and unobstructed participation in international health
cooperation forums and programs is beneficial for all parts of the world, especially
with today’s greater potential for cross-border spread of various infectious diseases
such as human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), tuberculosis, malaria, and the 2019
pandemic that has ravaged the World has shown the acute need for the complete
cooperation of all members of the international community in matters of health.
Because we live in a world that is closely linked by travel and commerce, any
loophole in the prevention and treatment network presents a danger for the entire
global community; and

WHEREAS, On January 5, 2020, the WHO published their first Disease
Outbreak News on Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the public health response to
the cases in Wuhan China (People’s Republic of China). Prior to the WHO’s January
5th publication, the Republic of China (Taiwan) initiated a series of one hundred
twenty-four (124) actions to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak from December 31st
to February 21st. Due to their decisive response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Taiwan
currently has four hundred twenty-five (425) confirmed COVID-19 cases, and six (6)
deaths out of a population of twenty-three million five hundred thousand
(23,500,000). On March 19, 2020, President Tsai Ing-wen announced on Twitter that
the Republic of China (Taiwan) is “willing to contribute [their] capabilities to better
protect human health around the world;” and on April 1, 2020 Taiwan pledged to
donate ten million (10,000,000) masks to the United States, and eleven (11) other
countries, as well as, their diplomatic allies. Taiwan’s commitment to their fellow
nations during the COVID-19 pandemic is just one of several instances in which the
Republic has expressed their willingness to provide the WHO with financial and
technical assistance; and

WHEREAS, the World Health assembly has allowed observers to participate in
activities of the organization, including the Palestine Liberation Organization in 1974,
the Order of Malta, and the Holy See in the early 1950s. The United States, in the
1994 Taiwan Policy Review, declared its intention to support Taiwan’s participation
in appropriate international organizations. U.S. Public Law 106-137 required the
Secretary of State to submit a report to the congress on efforts by the executive branch
to support Taiwan’s participation in international organizations, in particular the
WHO; and
WHEREAS, in line with the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979, Asia Reassurance Initiative Act of 2018, as well as the recently enacted Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act of 2019, Guam intends to continue to maintain relationships with one of our closest democratic countries in the Pacific; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Committee on Rules of I Mina'trentai Singko Na Lihesluran Guåhan does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, in light of all benefits that the Republic of China’s (Taiwan) participation in the WHO can bring to the state of health not only in Taiwan, but also regionally and globally, Taiwan and its twenty-three million five hundred thousand (23,500,000) people should have appropriate and meaningful participation in the WHO. As noted in his speech made in the World Medical Association on May 14, 2002, Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy Thompson announced America's work for a healthy world cuts across political lines. According to Secretary Thompson, the U.S. government supports Taiwan's efforts to gain observer status at the World Health Assembly; and be it further

RESOLVED, that I Mina'trentai Singko Na Lihesluran Guåhan, on behalf of the people of Guam, does hereby express its support for the people of Taiwan, that they deserve the same level of public health as citizens of every nation on earth, and that we support them in their efforts to achieve its objective to become an observer of WHO; and commend them for their successful response to the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 the Honorable Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General, World Health Organization; to the Honorable Donald J. Trump, President of the United States of America; to the Honorable Mike Pompeo, Secretary
of State, United States of America; to the Honorable Alex M. Azar II, Secretary of
Health and Human Services, United States of America; to Her Excellency Tsai Ing-
wen, President, Republic of China (Taiwan); to His Excellency Joseph Wu, Minister,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of China (Taiwan); to the Honorable Chen
Shih-Chung, Minister, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Republic of China (Taiwan);
to His Excellency Wallace M.G Chow, Ambassador of the Republic of China
(Taiwan) in Palau; to the Honorable António Guterres, Secretary General of the
United Nations; to the United States Congressional Taiwan Caucus; to the Honorable
Michael F.Q. San Nicolas, Guam’s Delegate to the United States Congress and to the
Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, I Maga’hågan Guåhan.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF
I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE DAY OF

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TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES  RÉGINE BISCOE LEE
Speaker                  Chairperson, Committee on Rules

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AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary