ASSOCIATION OF MARIANA ISLANDS' MAYORS, VICE MAYORS AND ELECTED MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MEMBERS
Ineinon Mahet, Segundo Mahet, yan i Manma na Membron Konsehelon i Munisipat siha gi Islas Marianas

December 11, 2017

GL# 34-17-1309
Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz

DEC 11 2017
Time: 9:35 [X] AM [ ] PM File No. ____
Received By: ____

Honorable Benjamin J.F. Cruz
Speaker
Mina Trentai Kuåttro Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96932

Dear Speaker,

Buenas yan Hafa Adai! Transmitted herewith for your information and file are copies of Resolution Nos. 2017-24-01, 2017-24-02, 2017-24-03, 2017-24-04, 2017-24-05, 2017-24-06, and 2017-24-07 adopted by the members of the Association of Mariana Islands' Mayors, Vice Mayors & Elected Municipal Council Members (AMIM). The aforementioned Resolutions are as follows:

Resolution No. 2017-24-01 Relative To Requesting The Honorable Edward Calvo, Governor Of Guam, The Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres, Governor Of The CNMI, The Honorable Madeleine Bordallo, Guam Delegate To The U.S. House Of Representatives, And The Honorable Gregorio "Kilili" Sablan, CNMI Delegate To The U.S. House Of Representatives, To Support And Seek Legislation In The U.S. Congress To Exempt Guam And The CNMI From The Applicability Of The Guest Worker Visa Program Being Implemented In The Continental U.S. By Authorizing The Islands To Set The Numerical Limit On Guest Worker Based On Their Respective Economic Activities And To Lower The Fees And Charges Being Assessed For Processing Of Guest Worker Visa; and for Other Purposes;

Resolution No. 2017-24-02 Relative To Requesting The Honorable Edward Calvo, Governor Of Guam And The Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres, Governor Of The CNMI, To Encourage The Respective Island's Department Agencies and/or Boards Charged With The Responsibility For Monitoring, Controlling, Enforcing, And Administering Marijuana Laws And Regulations To Share Between The Commonwealth And The Island Of Guam, Their Data, Reports, Information, Etc. Related To The Licensing, Enforcement, Prescriptions, Arrests, Convictions, Etc. Related To The Legalization Of Marijuana Use For Medical And Recreational Uses; and for Other Purposes;

2017 DEC 11 AM 10:03

Resolution No. 2017-24-03 Relative To Requesting The Honorable Edward J. Calvo, Governor Of Guam, The Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres, Governor Of The CNMI, The Honorable Madeleine Bordallo, Guam Delegate To The U.S. House Of Representatives, And The Honorable Gregorio "Kilili" Sablan, CNMI Delegate To The U.S. House Of Representatives, To Support And Seek Exclusion Of Guam And The Commonwealth Of The Northern Mariana Islands and/or To Exempt Guam And The Commonwealth Of The Northern Mariana Islands From The Applicability Of House Of Representatives (H.R.) No. 4202, The "Parity In Animal Cruelty Enforcement Act" Or The "Pace Act", As Introduced By U.S. Representative Peter Roskam, R-Ill, Earl Blumenauer, D-Ore, Rodney Davis, R-Ill, Rick Nolan, D-Minn, Kevin Yoder, R-Kan, Tony Cardenas, D-Cal, Steve Knight, R-Cal, Brad Sherman, D-Cal, And Vern Buchanan, R-Fla; and for Other Purposes;

Resolution No. 2017-24-04 Relative To Ensuring that Live Cattle Imported Into Guam From The CNMI be Protected and Cleared Of Anaplasmosis, Cattle Disease And Any Animal Diseases Before Importation to Guam;

1309

Resolution No. 2017-24-05 Relative to The Discovery of the Invasive Species Rhino Beetle In Rota And A Call For Aggressive Collaboration And Assistance Between Guam And The CNMI To Ensure the Eradication of the Rhino Beetles in the Marianas;

Resolution No. 2017-24-06 Relative to Allowing Medicinal Plants Indigenous to the Marianas to Be Imported/Exported Amongst the Mariana Islands and for the Respective Customs/Quarantine/Agriculture and Respective Agencies to Ease Restrictions On Importation/Exportation of Indigenous Rooted Medicinal Plants for Cultural Purposes;

Resolution No. 2017-24-07 Relative to the Establishment of an Environmental Court in the Territory Of Guam And The Commonwealth Of The Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI) to Address The Growing Controversies Relative to the Protection of our Environment and Natural Resources.

Thank you for your attention regarding this matter. If you should have any questions or comments relative to the above resolutions, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

MAYOR JOEY P. SAN NICOLAS
AMIM President

Resolution No. AMIM 2017-24-01

Introduced By: **Governmental Affairs Committee**

Mayor David M. Apatang, Saipan
Mayor Melissa B. Savares, Dededo
Mayor Rudy M. Matanane, Yigo
Mayor Jessy C. Gogue, Chalan Pago-Ordot
Vice Chairman Kary John Ramos, Rota MC
Mayor Vicente Santos, Jr., Northern Islands
Mayor Joey P. San Nicolas, Tinian
Chairman Luis John DLG Castro, Saipan & Northern Islands MC
Mayor John A. Cruz, Hagatña
Mayor Efraim M. Atalig, Rota
Chairman Anthony DLC Barcinas, Rota MC
Mayor Frankie A. Salas, Asan-Maina
ALL AMIM MEMBERS

RELATIVE TO REQUESTING THE HONORABLE EDWARD CALVO, GOVERNOR OF GUAM, THE HONORABLE RALPH DLG. TORRES, GOVERNOR OF THE CNMI, THE HONORABLE MADELEINE BORDALLO, GUAM DELEGATE TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND THE HONORABLE GREGORIO "KILILI" SABLAN, CNMI DELEGATE TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, TO SUPPORT AND SEEK LEGISLATION IN THE U.S. CONGRESS TO EXEMPT GUAM AND THE CNMI FROM THE APPLICABILITY OF THE GUEST WORKER VISA PROGRAM BEING IMPLEMENTED IN THE CONTINENTAL U.S. BY AUTHORIZING THE ISLANDS TO SET THE NUMERICAL LIMIT ON GUEST WORKER BASED ON THEIR RESPECTIVE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES AND TO LOWER THE FEES AND CHARGES BEING ASSESSED FOR PROCESSING OF GUEST WORKER VISA; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE AMIM 24TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

WHEREAS; businesses depend on people to operate and deliver the goods and services that consumers demand, which in turn generates revenue for businesses, the government, and pay the salaries of employees;

WHEREAS; Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands share a common market that drives their economies that maintains their respective government deliver services that are vital to a healthy, safe, and clean environment;

WHEREAS; thriving economies depend on what is produced, how such production is delivered, the regulation of its production, and more importantly its labor workforce, among many other factors that drives and sustains a sound economic market;

WHEREAS; Guam and the CNMI have historically relied on filling their labor workforce demands by bringing prospective employees from other places remote from the islands;

WHEREAS; Guam and the CNMI continue to offer attractive opportunities to outside businesses to set up in the islands, as a way to sustain their economies and offer their respective residents affordable living, healthcare, education, clean environment, and so forth;

WHEREAS; Guam and the CNMI are currently experiencing tremendous pressure on meeting their respective demand for sufficient labor workforce which currently is being dictated by the federal government, which sets limits on the number of non-United States citizens that could lawfully enter the islands for employment; and

WHEREAS; for the economies of Guam and the CNMI to thrive and for their respective base population to enjoy a decent, affordable, and healthy environment, restrictions currently in place that sets numerical limit on non-U.S. citizens that could lawfully enter and work in the islands must be relaxed and to allow the economies of both islands to dictate the number of non-U.S. citizens that could be lawfully employed, and to reduce the fees being charged for the processing of guest worker visas; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Association of Mariana Islands Mayors, Vice Mayors and Elected Municipal Council Members, as a unified body, encourage the Governor of Guam, The Honorable Edward Calvo, and the Governor of the CNMI, The Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres, to continue efforts aimed toward resolving the current guest worker visa that unequivocally would result in the immediate disastrous impact to the economies of the respective islands should the same guest worker visa program currently being applied in the Continental United States be applied in Guam and the CNMI; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Association of Mariana Islands Mayors, Vice Mayors, and Elected Municipal Council Members, as a unified body, to encourage the Guam United States Delegate in the U.S. House of Representatives for Guam, The Honorable Madeleine Bordallo, and CNMI Delegate in the U.S. House of Representatives, The Honorable Gregorio "Kilili" Sablan, to continue supporting their respective islands and the efforts of the islands by seeking federal legislation to exempt the islands from the application of the guest worker visa program currently being implemented in the Continental United States, and to authorize the islands to use their respective economies as basis for setting the numerical limit on guest worker visa; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President of the Association of Mayors, Vice Mayors, and Elected Municipal Council Members shall certify and the Secretary of the Association of Mayors, Vice Mayors, and Elected Municipal Council Members shall attest to this adoption of this resolution, and thereafter transmit a certified copy to the Honorable Edward Calvo, Governor of Guam; the Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres, Governor of the CNMI; the Honorable Madeleine Bordallo, Guam delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives; and the Honorable Gregorio "Kilili" Sablan, CNMI delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives; now, therefore be it further

RESOLVED, that the President certify to and the Secretary attest to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Speaker of *I Mina Trentai Kuat'tro Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*; to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the CNMI, and to the President of the CNMI Senate; and to the *I Maga Låhen Guåhan*, and to the Governor of Northern Mariana Islands, the Guam Delegate and to the CNMI Delegate to the U.S. Congress.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE AMIM TWENTY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE 30TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2017 TUMON, GUAM

Certified By:

MAYOR JOEY P. SAN NICOLAS
President

Attested By:

MAYOR DORIS F. LUJAN
Secretary

Resolution No. AMIM 2017-24-02

Introduced By: **Socio-Cultural Development Committee**

Mayor Rudy M. Matanane, Yigo
Mayor Paul M. McDonald, Agana Heights
Mayor Doris F. Lujan, Inarajan
Mayor Rudy A. Paco, Mongmong-Toto-Maite
Mayor Jesse M. Blas, Yona
Vice Mayor Christopher J. Fejeran, Agat
Mayor Efraim M. Atalig, Rota
Mayor Vicente M. Santos, Jr., Norther Islands
Vice Chairman Edwin M. Hofschneider, Tinian MC
Mayor David M. Apatang, Saipan
Chairman Luis John DLG Castro, Saipan & Northern Islands MC
Mayor Kevin JT Susuico, Agat
Mayor Jesse LG Alig, Piti
Mayor June U. Blas, Barrigada
Mayor Dale E. Alvarez, Santa Rita
Chairman Anthony DLC Barcinas, Rota MC
Chairman Antonio SN Borja, Tinian MC
Vice Chairman Kary John Ramos, Rota MC
ALL AMIM MEMBERS

RELATIVE TO REQUESTING THE HONORABLE EDWARD CALVO, GOVERNOR OF GUAM AND THE HONORABLE RALPH DLG. TORRES, GOVERNOR OF THE CNMI, TO ENCOURAGE THE RESPECTIVE ISLAND'S DEPARTMENT AGENCIES AND/OR BOARDS CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MONITORING, CONTROLLING, ENFORCING, AND ADMINISTERING MARIJUANA LAWS AND REGULATIONS TO SHARE BETWEEN THE COMMONWEALTH AND THE ISLAND OF GUAM, THEIR DATA, REPORTS, INFORMATION, ETC. RELATED TO THE LICENSING, ENFORCEMENT, PRESCRIPTIONS, ARRESTS, CONVICTIONS, ETC. RELATED TO THE LEGALIZATION OF MARIJUANA USE FOR MEDICAL AND RECREATIONAL USES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS; Guam legalized use of marijuana for medical purposes in 2014, while use of the drug for recreational purposes was not;

WHEREAS; Guam is currently in the process of setting up procedure to responsibly control medical use of marijuana, which process is lengthy and requires substantial man hours and expert input to make its procedure enforceable and easy to administer;

WHEREAS; as with any drug, use of medical marijuana might or might not have consequential impact to the community, the user, the industry supporting it, the government, the youth, the healthcare provider that prescribes its use to a patient, etc., which impact potentially could contribute to additional financial and human resource costs to taxpayers, social workers, healthcare providers, school system, among others;

WHEREAS; establishing a system with consistent method of collecting and storing data on both the impact and benefits of medical marijuana use is vital to the medical, political, economic, and social acceptance or non-acceptance of the drug;

WHEREAS; the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is currently contemplating the legalization of marijuana for medical and recreational use, as offered in Senate Bill No. 20-62, SD1, in the CNMI;

WHEREAS; Guam and the CNMI will both benefit from an effort that consistently and identically collects data, reports, revenue collection, etc. on the impact of medical and recreational uses of marijuana; and

WHEREAS; the federal government has not promulgated guidelines for the collection and report of the benefits or harm of marijuana use, Guam and the CNMI must collaborate and develop criteria for reporting by physicians, licensed dispensers of marijuana, therapists, etc., which report could be submitted to a designated board or existing department agencies in the government that has the capability and capacity to receive, collect, and store data, reports, etc.; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Association of Mariana Islands Mayors, Vice Mayors and Elected Municipal Council Members, as a unified body, encourage the Governor of Guam, The Honorable Edward Calvo, and the Governor of the CNMI, The Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres, to designate in their respective government an agency that would be tasked of receiving, collecting, and storing data on the number of marijuana prescriptions issued, the amount of marijuana used by a patient, the effects of marijuana on the user, the number of licensed growers, the types of marijuana grown, the number of licensed dispensers, etc.; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Association of Mariana Islands Mayors, Vice Mayors, and Elected Municipal Council Members, as a unified body, to encourage the Governor of Guam, The Honorable Edward Calvo, and the Governor of the CNMI, The Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres, to require the sharing of data and other information on the adverse impact or benefit of marijuana use and to share policies, proposed policies, regulations, or legislations to further the effort of monitoring, controlling, and enforcing the control of marijuana between Guam and the CNMI; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President of the Association of Mayors, Vice Mayors, and Elected Municipal Council Members shall certify and the Secretary of the Association of Mayors, Vice Mayors, and Elected Municipal Council Members shall attest to this adoption of this resolution, and thereafter transmit a certified copy to the Honorable Edward Calvo, Governor of Guam, and the Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres, Governor of the CNMI; now, therefore be it further

RESOLVED, that the President certify to and the Secretary attest to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Speaker of *I Mina Trentai Kuat'tro Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*; to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the CNMI, and to the President of the CNMI Senate; and to the *I Maga Låhen Guåhan*, and to the Governor of Northern Mariana Islands, the Guam Delegate and to the CNMI Delegate to the U.S. Congress.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE AMIM TWENTY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE 30TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2017 TUMON, GUAM

Certified By:

MAYOR JOEY P. SAN NICOLAS

Attested By:

MAYOR DORIS F. LUJAN

Resolution No. AMIM 2017-24-03

Introduced By: **Socio-Cultural Development Committee**

Mayor David M. Apatang, Saipan
Mayor Paul M. McDonald, Agana Heights
Mayor Doris F. Lujan, Inarajan
Mayor Rudy A. Paco, Mongmong-Toto-Maite
Mayor Jesse M. Blas, Yona
Vice Mayor Christopher J. Fejeran, Agat
Mayor Efraim M. Atalig, Rota
Mayor Vicente M. Santos, Jr., Norther Islands
Vice Chairman Edwin M. Hofschneider, Tinian MC
Mayor Rudy M. Matanane, Yigo
Chairman Luis John DLG Castro, Saipan & Northern Islands MC
Mayor Kevin JT Susuico, Agat
Mayor Jesse LG Alig, Piti
Mayor June U. Blas, Barrigada
Mayor Dale E. Alvarez, Santa Rita
Chairman Anthony DLC Barcinas, Rota MC
Chairman Antonio SN Borja, Tinian MC
Vice Chairman Kary John Ramos, Rota MC
ALL AMIM MEMBERS

RELATIVE TO REQUESTING THE HONORABLE EDWARD J. CALVO, GOVERNOR OF GUAM, THE HONORABLE RALPH DLG. TORRES, GOVERNOR OF THE CNMI, THE HONORABLE MADELEINE BORDALLO, GUAM DELEGATE TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND THE HONORABLE GREGORIO "KILILI" SABLAN, CNMI DELEGATE TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, TO SUPPORT AND SEEK EXCLUSION OF GUAM AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS AND/OR TO EXEMPT GUAM AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS FROM THE APPLICABILITY OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (H.R.) NO. 4202, THE "PARITY IN ANIMAL CRUELTY ENFORCEMENT ACT" OR THE "PACE ACT", AS INTRODUCED BY U.S. REPRESENTATIVE PETER ROSKAM, R-ILL, EARL BLUMENAUER, D-ORE, RODNEY DAVIS, R-ILL, RICK NOLAN, D-MINN, KEVIN YODER, R-KAN, TONY CARDENAS, D-CAL, STEVE KNIGHT, R-CAL, BRAD SHERMAN, D-CAL, AND VERN BUCHANAN, R-FLA; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS; Representative Peter Roskam, R-Ill, along with eight other representatives introduced H.R. No. 4202, an amendment to the Animal Welfare Act, specifically 7 U.S.C. § 2156 to, among others, expressly provide a proscription on animal fighting venture, inclusive of cockfighting; in all states, possessions, and territories of the U.S.;

WHEREAS; the people of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands share a commonality that dates many years back, which commonality has become embedded deep in the tradition of the people of the islands;

WHEREAS; cockfighting is a longstanding community tradition practiced among the people of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, which tradition has been passed down to present day for generations and enjoyed by people during island fiestas and festivals, recognized national holidays, family gatherings, etc.;

WHEREAS; the people of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands have recognized that in island events that include cockfighting, people come together to reinforce kinship, reminisce the old days, and forged everlasting bonds; and

WHEREAS; the people of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands recognize the importance of regulating cockfighting to ensure the humane treatment of the fighting cocks, fairness in the conduct of the cockfighting, monitor and control the conduct and behavior of cockers, and to protect the age-old tradition from being abused, which regulation must be deferred to the government policymakers of the islands; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Association of Mariana Islands Mayors, Vice Mayors and Elected Municipal Council Members, as a unified body, encourage the Governor of Guam, The Honorable Edward Calvo, and the Governor of the CNMI, The Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres, the Guam Delegate to the United States House of Representatives, the Honorable Madeleine Bordallo, and the CNMI Delegate to the United States House of Representatives, the Honorable Gregorio "Kilili" Sablan, to continue efforts aimed toward persuading the sponsor and co-sponsors of H.R. No. 4202 to exclude and/or exempt Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands from H.R. No. 4202; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President of the Association of Mayors, Vice Mayors, and Elected Municipal Council Members shall certify and the Secretary of the Association of Mayors, Vice Mayors, and Elected Municipal Council Members shall attest to this adoption of this resolution, and thereafter transmit a certified copy to the Honorable Edward Calvo, Governor of Guam; the Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres, Governor of the CNMI; the Honorable Madeleine Bordallo, Guam Delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives; and the Honorable Gregorio "Kilili" Sablan, CNMI Delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives; now, therefore be it further

RESOLVED, that the President certify to and the Secretary attest to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Speaker of *I Mina Trentai Kuat'tro Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*; to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the CNMI, and to the President of the CNMI Senate; and to the *I Maga Låhen Guåhan*, and to the Governor of Northern Mariana Islands, the Guam Delegate and to the CNMI Delegate to the U.S. Congress.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE AMIM TWENTY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE 30TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2017 TUMON, GUAM

Certified By:

MAYOR JOEY P. SAN NICOLAS

Attested By:

MAYOR DORIS F. LUJAN

Resolution No. AMIM 2017-24-04

Introduced By: **Socio-Cultural Development Committee**

Mayor Rudy M. Matanane, Yigo
Mayor Paul M. McDonald, Agana Heights
Mayor Doris F. Lujan, Inarajan
Mayor Rudy A. Paco, Mongmong-Toto-Maite
Mayor Jesse M. Blas, Yona
Vice Mayor Christopher J. Fejeran, Agat
Mayor Efraim M. Atalig, Rota
Mayor Vicente M. Santos, Jr., Norther Islands
Vice Chairman Edwin M. Hofschneider, Tinian MC
Mayor David M. Apatang, Saipan
Chairman Luis John DLG Castro, Saipan & Northern Islands MC
Mayor Kevin JT Susuico, Agat
Mayor Jesse LG Alig, Piti
Mayor June U. Blas, Barrigada
Mayor Dale E. Alvarez, Santa Rita
Chairman Anthony DLC Barcinas, Rota MC
Chairman Antonio SN Borja, Tinian MC
Vice Chairman Kary John Ramos, Rota MC
ALL AMIM MEMBERS

RELATIVE TO ENSURING THAT LIVE CATTLE IMPORTED INTO GUAM FROM THE CNMI BE PROTECTED AND CLEARED OF ANAPLASMOSIS, CATTLE DISEASE AND ANY ANIMAL DISEASES BEFORE IMPORTATION TO GUAM.

WHEREAS; Guam welcomes the importation of cattle from the CNMI;

WHEREAS; past experiences of the importation of cattle from the CNMI has resulted in disease-carrying cattle being imported into Guam;

WHEREAS; the disease-carrying cattle eventually resulted in the deaths of such cattle;

WHEREAS; it is paramount that the Marianas protect the livelihood of all animals that are for human consumption;

WHEREAS; the protection of cattle and other animals is best done through the testing and examination of such animals before exportation to other islands;

WHEREAS; such testing should be done by qualified and licensed veterinarians in the CNMI or Guam and especially for anaplasmosis;

WHEREAS; no cattle or animals should be imported or exported without the clearance or approval of a qualified and licensed veterinarian;

WHEREAS; the AMIIM requests the Guam and CNMI Invasive Species Council and both Guam and CNMI Department of Agriculture to include, but not limited to, the Bio-Security screening and quarantine for livestock (cattle, fighting game cocks, poultry, goats and domestic pets); and

WHEREAS; the AMIM requests both the Guam Invasive Species Council and the CNMI Department of Agriculture to each include individuals from either entities in their councils to fully represent the islands at any meeting called for such purpose, and to rename such group the Marianas Regional Invasive Species Council; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the President certify to and the Secretary attest to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Speaker of *I Mina Trentai Kuat'tro Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*; to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the CNMI, and to the President of the CNMI Senate; and to the *I Maga Låhen Guåhan*, and to the Governor of Northern Mariana Islands, the Guam Delegate and to the CNMI Delegate to the U.S. Congress.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE AMIM TWENTY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE 30TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2017 TUMON, GUAM

Certified By:

MAYOR JOEY P. SAN NICOLAS

Attested By:

MAYOR DORIS F. LUJAN

Resolution No. AMIM 2017-24-05

Introduced By: **Governmental Affairs Committee**

Mayor Efraim M. Atalig, Rota
Mayor Joey P. San Nicolas, Tinian
Chairman Luis John DLG Castro, Saipan & Northern Islands MC
Mayor John A. Cruz, Hagatna
Chairman Anthony DLC Barcinas, Rota MC
Mayor Vicente Santos, Jr. Northern Islands
ALL AMIM MEMBERS
Mayor David M. Apatang, Saipan
Mayor Melissa B. Savares, Dededo
Mayor Rudy M. Matanane, Yigo
Mayor Jessy C. Gogue, Chalan Pago-Ordot
Vice Chairman Kary John Ramos, Rota MC
Vice Chairman Edwin M. Hofschneider, Tinian MC

RELATIVE TO THE DISCOVERY OF THE INVASIVE SPECIES RHINO BEETLE IN ROTA AND A CALL FOR AGGRESSIVE COLLABORATION AND ASSISTANCE BETWEEN GUAM AND THE CNMI TO ENSURE THE ERADICATION OF THE RHINO BEETLES IN THE MARIANAS.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE AMIM 24TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

WHEREAS; the rhinoceros beetle already has caused major destruction of Guam's coconut trees;

WHEREAS; it is in the best interest of the islands of the Marianas to collaborate together to protect each other's natural resources, especially the coconut tree, from infestation of the rhinoceros beetle;

WHEREAS; it has recently been discovered to be present in the island of Rota after being first discovered on Guam many years ago;

WHEREAS; the responsible departments or agencies from Guam and CNMI, should work closely together to ensure the complete eradication of the rhinoceros beetle in the Marianas;

WHEREAS; on October 5, 2017 Rota discovered the presence of the rhinoceros beetle at Tweksberry Beach south of Rota's west marina;

WHEREAS; the Rota, local and CNMI Quarantine Division through the Department of Lands and Natural Resources immediately took control and administered the eradication process and procedures through the assistance of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the University of Guam; and

WHEREAS; the eradication of the rhinoceros beetle is of high priority as it threatens the survival of our economic, tourism and cultural values of our people of the Mariana Islands; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, AMIM encourages Congresswoman Madeline Bordallo and U.S. Congressman Gregorio "Kilili" Sablan, to continue their support and encourage the respective federal agencies to provide assistance in eradicating the invasive species, the rhinoceros beetle; now, therefore be it further

RESOLVED, that the President certify to and the Secretary attest to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Speaker of *I Mina Trentai Kuat'tro Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*; to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the CNMI, and to the President of the CNMI Senate; and to the *I Maga Låhen Guåhan*, and to the Governor of Northern Mariana Islands, the Guam Delegate and to the CNMI Delegate to the U.S. Congress.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE AMIM TWENTY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE 30TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2017 TUMON, GUAM

Certified By:

MAYOR JOEY P. SAN NICOLAS

Attested By:

MAYOR DORIS F. LUJAN

Resolution No. AMIM 2017-24-06

Introduced By: **Socio-Cultural Development Committee**

Chairman Luis John DLG Castro, Saipan & Northern Islands MC
Mayor Rudy M. Matanane, Yigo
Mayor Paul M. McDonald, Agana Heights
Mayor Doris F. Lujan, Inarajan
Mayor Rudy A. Paco, Mongmong-Toto-Maite
Mayor Jesse M. Blas, Yona
Vice Mayor Christopher J. Fejeran, Agat
Mayor Efraim M. Atalig, Rota
Mayor Vicente M. Santos, Jr., Norther Islands
Vice Chairman Kary John Ramos, Rota MC
Mayor David M. Apatang, Saipan
Chairman Antonio SN Borja, Tinian MC
Mayor Kevin JT Susuico, Agat
Mayor Jesse LG Alig, Piti
Mayor June U. Blas, Barrigada
Mayor Dale E. Alvarez, Santa Rita
Chairman Anthony DLC Barcinas, Rota MC
Vice Chairman Edwin M. Hofschneider, Tinian MC
ALL AMIM MEMBERS

RELATIVE TO ALLOWING MEDICINAL PLANTS INDIGENOUS TO THE MARIANAS TO BE IMPORTED/EXPORTED AMONGST THE MARIANA ISLANDS AND FOR THE RESPECTIVE CUSTOMS/QUARANTINE/AGRICULTURE AND RESPECTIVE AGENCIES TO EASE RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTATION/EXPORTATION OF INDIGENOUS ROOTED MEDICINAL PLANTS FOR CULTURAL PURPOSES.

WHEREAS; the art of traditional healing via the use of natural herbs and plants is an important part of Mariana Island culture;

WHEREAS; it has been proven that treatments and remedies made from traditional medicinal plants are beneficial in curing ailments and illnesses that modern medicine cannot either treat or cure;

WHEREAS; with the need of traditional medicine in times of emergency, it is important to make sure that necessary plants are available when needed by suruhånus and suruhånas;

WHEREAS; at times certain plants may not be readily available due to either overharvesting or lack of growth in a certain areas which may necessitate importing or exporting them to the islands in need of those resources;

WHEREAS; at times importers and/or exporters experience difficulty in sending or receiving those plants due to certain restrictions from either customs and quarantine agencies in our jurisdictions with regards to the import and export of natural plants;

WHEREAS; these restrictions and technicalities may hamper the process of treating illnesses that bring about life and death situations; and

WHEREAS; in order for situations like this not to happen, our islands must look at ways to allow exceptions for these plants and herbs to be shared when needed by the cultivators and healers that grow and use them; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Association of Mariana Island Mayors, Vice-mayors and Elected Municipal Council Members urge the governments of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands to have their respective customs/quarantine/agriculture and respective agencies ease restrictions on the importation and exportation of indigenous rooted medicinal plants brought in for cultural purposes; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Association of Mariana Island Mayors, Vice-Mayors and Elected Municipal Council Members urge the governments of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands hope that with this, our islands can further benefit from the presence and practice of traditional healing through continued resource sharing; now, therefore be it further

RESOLVED, that the President certify to and the Secretary attest to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Speaker of *I Mina Trentai Kuat'tro Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*; to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the CNMI, and to the President of the CNMI Senate; and to the *I Maga Låhen Guåhan*, and to the Governor of Northern Mariana Islands, the Guam Delegate and to the CNMI Delegate to the U.S. Congress.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE AMIM TWENTY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE 30TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2017 TUMON, GUAM

Certified By:

MAYOR JOEY P. SAN NICOLAS

Attested By:

MAYOR DORIS F. LUJAN

Resolution No. AMIM 2017-24-07

Introduced By: Environmental and Natural Resources Committee

Mayor Joey P. San Nicolas, Tinian
Mayor David M. Apatang, Saipan
Mayor Doris F. Lujan, Inarajan
Mayor Rudy A. Paco, Mongmong-Toto-Maite
Vice Mayor Christopher J. Fejeran, Agat
Mayor Vicente S. Taitague, Talofofo
Mayor Vicente Santos, Jr., Northern Islands
Chairman Luis John DLG Castro, Saipan & Northern Islands MC
Vice Chairman Edwin M. Hofschneider, Tinian MC
Mayor Allan R.G. Ungacta, Mangilao
Vice Mayor Jessie P. Bautista, Barrigada
Vice Mayor Frank A. Benavente, Dededo
AND ALL AMIM MEMBERS

Mayor Jessy C. Gogue, Chalan Pago-Ordot
Mayor Efraim M. Atalig, Rota
Mayor Kevin JT Susuico, Agat
Mayor Rudy M. Matanane, Yigo
Mayor Dale E. Alvarez, Santa Rita
Mayor Frankie A. Salas, Asan-Maina
Vice Chairman Kary John Ramos, Rota MC
Mayor Melissa B. Savares, Dededo
Mayor John A. Cruz, Hagatna
Mayor June U. Blas, Barrigada
Chairman Antonio SN Borja, Tinian MC

RELATIVE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL COURT IN THE TERRITORY OF GUAM AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS (CNMI) TO ADDRESS THE GROWING CONTROVERSIES RELATIVE TO THE PROTECTION OF OUR ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE AMIM 24TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

WHEREAS; with the continued approvals of new developments by our island governments and their impacts to our Environment and Natural Resources, there appears to be a growing protest among our people, that the approval of these projects is at the expense of our Natural Resources and our Environment, which many of our residents and visitors have come to enjoy and which defines the beauty and uniqueness of each or our islands;

WHEREAS; several recent developments have resulted in protests by our people and the filing of lawsuits because of the harm these projects would bear upon our environment and natural resources, to include a proposed military firing range in the northern part of Guam, proposed military projects in the CNMI, and a lawsuit filed by residents and the Save Southern Guam non-profit organization, against the Government of Guam, for a Zone Variance approval in the area of Pago Bay, for a proposed high rise hotel in close proximity to a river, wetlands, and our shoreline;

WHEREAS; several U.S. states, to include Hawaii, have established an Environmental Court, to address these environmental lawsuits, which often involves very scientific and technical matters which are weighed in the legal decisions surrounding most environmental lawsuits;

WHEREAS; an Environmental Court would have focus on hearing appeals against our governments' land use permit decisions, state environmental permit decisions, and other decisions of Agencies and their impact to our islands environment and natural resources, raised by our people, as well as Decisions of Enforcement issued by our Regulatory Environmental and Natural Resources agencies upon violators of our applicable environmental laws;

WHEREAS; the establishment of an Environmental Court will help to ensure a fair, **consistent**, and effective resolution of cases involving our environment and natural resources, to include minimizing the potential for federal intervention over environmental issues, similar to a decision by the District Court of Guam, which ordered the assignment of a Receiver to implement and oversee the closure of the Ordot Dump; and

WHEREAS; it is clear that islands possess very limited resources and that the protection of our natural resources and our environment is in indirect correlation to our islands' sustainability for future generations; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the President certify to and the Secretary attest to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Speaker of *I Mina Trentai Kuat'tro Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*; to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the CNMI, and to the President of the CNMI Senate; and to the *I Maga Låhen Guåhan*, and to the Governor of Northern Mariana Islands and the Presiding Judge, Superior Court of Guam, and Chief Judge of the CNMI; and Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Guam; Chief Justice, Supreme Court of CNMI; the Guam Delegate and CNMI Delegate to the U.S. Congress.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE AMIM TWENTY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE 30TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2017 TUMON, GUAM

Certified By:

MAYOR JOEY P. SAN NICOLAS

Attested By:

MAYOR DORIS F. LUJAN