

*I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*  
2013 (FIRST) Regular Session

2013 FEB 28 PM 2:33

Resolution No. 58-32 (cor)

Introduced by:

Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. 

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Relative to the consideration of Self Advocate in Action (SINA) to become a state self advocacy organization of Guam as recommended by the Guam Developmental Disabilities Council (GDDC) to promote and support the development of leadership and self advocacy among people with developmental disabilities, family members and to the island community.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF**

2 *I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:*

3 **WHEREAS**, Guam Developmental Disabilities Council (GDDC) is a  
4 member of the Administration on Intellectual Developmental Disabilities (AIDD)  
5 Tri-Agency with Guam Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities  
6 Education, Research and Service (CEDDERS) and the Guam Legal Services  
7 Corporation Disability Law Center. The Council serves as a resource to individuals  
8 with disabilities and their families who are in need of assistance to access  
9 community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that  
10 promote self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and  
11 inclusion in all facets of community life; and

1           **WHEREAS**, under the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of  
2 Rights Act of 2000 (the DD Act), the state or territory council is mandated to  
3 develop a five (5) year State Plan in order to receive federal funding. In the State  
4 Plan, the council must establish or strengthen a program for the direct funding of a  
5 state self advocacy organization led by individuals with developmental disabilities;  
6 support opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities who are  
7 considered leaders to provide leadership training to individuals with developmental  
8 disabilities who may become leaders; and support and expand participation of  
9 individuals with developmental disabilities in cross-disability and culturally  
10 diverse leadership coalitions; and

11           **WHEREAS**, currently, there is no existing self advocacy group in Guam.  
12 The GDDC recommends the Self Advocate in Action (SINA) to serve as the state  
13 self advocacy organization for Guam. The Council describes SINA as a cross  
14 disability organization that promotes self advocacy for persons with all types of  
15 disabilities with the leadership of its own members; and

16           **WHEREAS**, the purpose of SINA is to promote self-advocacy and self-  
17 determination for people with disabilities and their families by assisting, educating,  
18 forming alliances, participating together to further strengthen effort to accomplish  
19 individual goals to improve one's quality of life and independence; and

20           **WHEREAS**, in 2009, self advocacy groups were trained to facilitate  
21 workshop trainings and mentor participants in completing self-advocay projects,  
22 which began an interest for SINA. In 2011, self advocates approved a constitution  
23 and by-laws for SINA, which later received the status as a charitable and  
24 educational organization; and

25           **WHEREAS**, SINA is under the leadership of a Board of Directors which is  
26 comprised of up to seven (7) members, sixty (60) regular members that are  
27 individuals with disabilities, fifteen (15) associate members, and one (1) advisor.

1 In addition, the organization has an active network of seven (7) community  
2 organizations, ten (10) local agencies, two (2) regional entities, as well as being a  
3 member of Self Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE), a national self  
4 advocacy organization; and

5 **WHEREAS**, SINA has participated in numerous community awareness,  
6 services, and activities in support of their mission to individuals with disabilities  
7 and their family members. Among these accomplishments include the Self  
8 Advocacy Workshop and Training in 2009. In 2010, SINA participated in  
9 continuing the self advocacy workshop, participated in the Superfriends group,  
10 facilitated forums to policy makers, and attended SABE conference off-island. In  
11 2011, they continued with the workshop, participated with the Superfriends during  
12 the K-57 Talk Show, and acquiring the non-profit status as an organization in  
13 Guam. Finally, in 2012, SINA participated in the AIDD Self Advocacy Summit in  
14 Honolulu, Hawaii, attended another SABE conference, as well as coordinated and  
15 facilitated the Self Advocacy Conference in Guam; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the accomplishments and effective work of SINA explains the  
17 support given by the Guam Developmental Disabilities Council in recognizing the  
18 Self Advocate in Action (SINA) as the state self advocacy organization for Guam;  
19 and now, be it further

20 **RESOLVED**, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people of Guam, request *I*  
21 *Maga'lahen Guåhan* to duly consider and recognize, pursuant to Executive Order,  
22 Self Advocate in Action (SINA) as a state self advocacy organization of Guam, as  
23 recommended by the Guam Developmental Disabilities Council (GDDC) to  
24 promote and support the development of leadership and self advocacy among  
25 people with developmental disabilities, family members, and island community;  
26 and be it further

1           **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on  
2 Rules certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the adoption hereof,  
3 and that copy of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Honorable Edward J.B.  
4 Calvo, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES  
OF I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 28<sup>TH</sup>  
DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2013.**

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**JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D**  
Speaker

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**RORY RESPICIO**  
Chairman, Committee on Rules

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**TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES**  
Legislative Secretary