



Senator pangelinan calls for UN intervention

In defense of our people, our land, and our water, Senator pangelinan joined many others from Guam in testifying before the [United Nations Special Committee on Decolonization](#) to call for UN intervention with the military build-up. On June 22nd, the delegation urged the Special Committee to visit the islands to gain a closer view of the impact already imposed by the military upon the communities of Guam and Saipan.

Senator pangelinan strongly feels that as a result of our political status, Guam's voice is continually ignored and that our people have been slighted in this very monumental move by the United States, clearly violating basic human rights. "The conscious decision of an administering authority to increase the population of a non self-governing territory... dilutes rights of the native inhabitants of these non self-governing territories as adopted in the resolutions guiding this body [United Nations]," said the senator in his written testimony.

Among the other testimonies presented the senator joined the delegation in requesting a "visiting mission to Guam" and to include an education campaign to inform the people of Guam regarding the right to self-determination and decolonization options. He added that this mission must take place with all immediacy and a greater sense of urgency.

"I request that this most august body lay before its membership... to demand our administering authority to comply with our request. We should not be made to wait for another day, for another day we do not have."

To read the senator's entire testimony, please visit www.senbenp.com.

Sign up for the Decolonization Registry

If you are eligible to register, please do so at the Office of Senator ben c. pangelinan. You may call 473-4236/7 for details.



A Message from ben

Håfa Adai,

Last week, we celebrated the 68th anniversary of Guam's Liberation Day. Hundreds of people lined Marine Corps Drive to watch the parade that includes floats, marching bands, and performing arts groups. For many families, it is a tradition to camp out the night before the parade to bring everyone together for food and fun.

Liberation Day is more than just a day of family barbecues and the parade. It is a day for us to remember Sumay where our loved ones are buried. We remember the lives that were lost at Fenna and in Mañenggon and their pain and suffering. We remember Tinta and Fåha and the families who were forced to march to their death.

This day rolls around every year, and amidst the remembrance and celebration, we choose to do more for our democracy and freedom. We choose to act towards bringing about the issue of decolonization and moving forward our destiny to fulfill our human right to self-determination. This is a right that a liberator does not bestow to the liberated—it is a right that a just and moral authority recognizes as one that belongs to the people who are denied such right. It is a right that can—only by the action of such people and those who have yet to exercise such right—bring about real freedom and the truest of all liberties.

Biba Liberation, Abiba Self-Determination!

Did you know?



Did you know that Senator pangelinan has not owned a television for several years? He chooses not to own one so that he can instead take the time to read correspondence, news and scholarly articles, official memos, and other items of public interest. Whenever he feels the need to catch up on entertainment, he strolls over to his father's house where he can enjoy a show or two.

Bills & Resolutions Introduced

Bill No. 438-30 (COR)

An act to add subsections (a)(5), (a)(6) and (a)(7) of Section 13109 Chapter 13 of Title 12 Guam Code Annotated relative to Section 30 funds and other federal matters.

Bill No. 437-30 (COR)

An act to add a new Chapter 82 to Title 12 of the Guam Code Annotated, relative to authorizing the issuance of government of Guam bonds to refund the government of Guam limited obligation infrastructure improvement bonds 1997 series A and to fund additional capital improvement projects.

Bill No. 431-30 (COR)

An act to amend §4302 (b) Chapter 4, Article 3, Title 4 Guam Code Annotated relative to providing utilization and cost information to current and prospective health insurance companies who provide health care coverage to government of Guam employees and retirees.

Department of Education Financial Supervisory Commission bill becomes law

Last October, Senator pangelinan introduced Bill 238 to create the Department of Education Financial Supervisory Commission (EFSC). The Commission's primary purpose is to assist the Guam Department of Education (GDOE) and the Guam Education Policy Board by monitoring the financial health of the GDOE. The EFSC is structured with financial experts to monitor GDOE's monthly financial reports to ensure that the approved budget plan is executed and maintained from inception to the end of each fiscal year thus allowing GDOE to be accountable for their operations and expenditures before a shortfall can occur.

The department makes up about one-third of the Government of Guam's budget, and its past history of poor financial performance has led to the closure of schools, a high turnover of key positions in the department, and has hampered the overall efficiency and efficacy of delivering quality education to our public school students. Senator pangelinan knew it was time to take action by developing a more realistic approach to the department's financial reputation.

"I am aware that the financial accountability of the GDOE is imperative to its relationship with federal and local programs. The creation of the EFSC will assist our public educational system in maintaining financial stability which, in turn, will continue to provide educational services to all our island residents while restoring the credibility of GDOE," said the senator.

We are pleased to announce that the bill has been signed into law and is now referred to as P.L. 30-164.

Hami Guåhan... in honor of our people

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This is the season when the people of Guam take the time to commemorate and memorialize our loved ones who endured the trauma, atrocious acts, and celebrated victory in surviving World War II. This is the time when we all humble ourselves to honor their experiences and lives. While many of us today may never know what it was like to march under war conditions from Piti to As Inan there are those who will never forget.

We hear the stories told and re-told of how our people were forced to give up their livelihoods, their families, their lands, their heritage, and their pride. We hear stories of how our people were forced to speak languages other than our own. We hear stories of how our people were forced into jobs that were treacherous and harmful. And we hear stories of how our women were forced into a new kind of slavery that we would otherwise never allow.

These are the stories which mark our trek through history and molded us into who we are today. These are the stories we must hold close to our hearts as we remember what life was like almost five generations ago. They're the stories that remind us how fortunate we are today, because our mañaina did what they could to survive and to provide for us no matter the hardships.

Let us always remember them in spirit, in prayer, in our hearts, and in our minds. We honor all those before us, and we give them our gratitude and utmost respect. Pã' go ta honra i mañainan-mãmi ya ta nã'i agradesimiento yan respetu.

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