Resolution No. 28-GA-08

"Expressing the strong support of the members of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures for the efforts by Guam to enter into intergovernmental agreements in support of the military build-up."

WHEREAS, on February 18, 2009, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton signed a pact with Japan, formalizing an earlier agreement made in 2006 to relocate Marines stationed in Okinawa, further demonstrating the United States Government’s plans for realignment of military personnel and assets to Guam; and

WHEREAS, Guam’s transformation is expected to cost at least $15 billion and put some of the United States military’s highest-profile assets within the fences of a vastly improved network of bases; and

WHEREAS, up to $1.1 billion could trickle through Guam’s economy in FY2010, with $674 million going towards the Marines relocation from Okinawa to Guam, $259 million towards the construction of a new Naval Hospital, and $174 million to be spread out amongst other military construction contracts; and

WHEREAS, the Guam Contractors Association has indicated that the current available work force, construction material throughput of the Port Authority of Guam, utility capacities and existing road conditions, supports a current volume of $550 million (both private and government sectors) of construction per year on Guam; and

WHEREAS, studies commissioned by the Joint Guam Program Office (JGPO) have determined that various enhancements to construction capacity are required to increase the volume of construction capacity to $2.5 billion per year; and
WHEREAS, it has been estimated that there will be a need for as many as 20,000
workers to carry out the construction activities and, in addition, the realignment will
require additional workers to move to the island, including non-defense personnel,
Department of Defense contractors, and transient military personnel; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Governor of Guam, Michael W. Cruz, M.D, first
proposed the idea of a public-public partnership during the CNMI’s Economic
Restoration Summit on April 2nd, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the military build-up will affect not only Guam, but it will also
affect the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and possibly the other APIL
jurisdictions; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 28th
General Assembly, FSM State of Pohnpei, June 9-11, 2009, that Guam seeks the support
and assistance of the member jurisdictions to effectively carry out the various activities
that are being undertaken to prepare the region for the transfer of elements of the III
Marines Expeditionary Force from Okinawa, Japan to Guam; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Guam seeks to enter into inter-
governmental agreements with the member jurisdictions to utilize the region’s resources
as a means of sharing in the economic activity to be realized by the expenditure of $15
billion over the next 5 years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
the Western Micronesian Chief Executives for discussion at their next scheduled meeting;
and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the Association of Pacific
Island Legislatures shall certify, and the Secretary of the Association of Pacific Island
Legislatures shall attest to the adoption hereof; and that copies of the same shall be
thereafter transmitted to the Governor of Guam; to the Speaker of the Guam Legislature; to Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo; to the Chief Executives and Presiding Legislative Officers of the APIL jurisdictions; to Major General David F. Bice, Executive Director, Joint Guam Program Office; and to such other officials and organizations as the President of the APIL deems appropriate.


J. KALANI ENGLISH
APIL PRESIDENT

JUDITH T. WON PAT, ED.D.
APIL SECRETARY