Resolution No. 54-BOD-07

"Relative to promoting affordable alternative regional transportation between Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands by means of a Ferry Service or similar vessels."

WHEREAS, despite being one island chain, in recent years the lack of sufficient volume of affordable alternative interisland transportation, the ocean between Mariana Islands has divided Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and has been an obstacle to economic and social development; and

WHEREAS, additional alternative passenger and cargo vessels will provide much needed capacity that will allow for the rapid transportation of people and goods between the islands; and

WHEREAS, the lack of passenger and cargo capacity combined with the present high costs of travel, interisland shipping, and commodities have been the main obstacles to our tourism industry and interisland trade and economic development; and

WHEREAS, with added passenger and cargo capacity at the short transit time and costs that ferries and similar vessels can provide, will allow many more people to travel, increase the agricultural and industrial production based on the existence of adequate transportation infrastructure and logistics; and

WHEREAS, the addition of a ferry or similar vessel based sea route between the islands of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will be an integral component of achieving this goal; and

WHEREAS, the addition of a ferry or similar vessel based sea route between the islands will be especially beneficial to the promotion of trade between Guam and the Island of Rota and expand the tourism market in both islands; and
WHEREAS, the Government of Guam is committed to the sustainable development of not only Guam, but also the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas as One Marianas; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 54th Board of Directors Meeting, Island of Guam, December 4-6, 2013, that the Board of Directors of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures expresses its full support for promoting affordable alternative regional transportation between Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands by means of a Ferry Service or other similar passenger and cargo vessel; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the APIL President shall certify, and the APIL Secretary shall attest to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, Governor of Guam; to the Honorable Eloy Inos, the Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; to the U.S. Department of Transportation and to the Chief Executives and Presiding Legislative Officers of the APIL Member jurisdictions.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 6TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2013.

JUDITH T. WON PAT, ED.D.
PRESIDENT

CHANG WILLIAM
SECRETARY