I MINA TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2009 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 6 (LS)

As amended.

Introduced by:

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.
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vicente c. pangelinan
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Ray Tenorio

Relative to expressing sincere condolences to the family of the late Monique Yve'tte Portusach-Cepeda, and to recognizing and memorializing her for the many accomplishments she has done for our community and our people of Guam.

1 BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN **GUÅHAN:** 2

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WHEREAS, Monique Yve'tte Portusach-Cepeda, affectionately known as "Momo" or "Irensia", and raised in the village of Agana Heights, was born 4 on March 9, 1978 to Frances Portusach Hudgens and Anthony Calvo Cepeda, 6 and later married Nathaniel Ulloa of Tamuning; and

WHEREAS, Monique's belief in and commitment to education was demonstrated by her educational accolades: graduating Valedictorian from George Washington High School in 1996; receiving her Bachelor's Degree from Brown University in 2000; earning a Masters Degree from Harvard University in 2002; and while she was undergoing treatment for her cancer, Monique was enrolled in a doctorate degree program focusing on healthcare; and

WHEREAS, Monique's unique background as a first generation college graduate, a product of the Guam Public School System, and a Chamorro woman, had brought her the understanding and privileges of having to give back and dedicate her life to her island community; and

WHEREAS, Monique's contributions to the island stemmed from her frustrations from the lack of research and programs on Pacific Islands, as well as the under-representation of Native Pacific Islanders in academia, and from there, she made it one of her missions in life to bring the nation and the world

- 1 to a complete understanding of her island's culture, its people, and its
- 2 traditions, as well as of the islands surrounding Guam; and
- 3 **WHEREAS**, Monique worked for the Social Security Administration as
- 4 a Federal Disability Examiner for American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the
- 5 Northern Mariana Islands and Guam, which assisted with one of her missions
- 6 in life to bring to light the plight and difficulties surrounding Pacific Islanders,
- 7 learning firsthand about the diseases and disabilities affecting Pacific
- 8 Islanders, and the issues associated with their limited access to care; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Monique's dedication to public service, her
- 10 accomplishments within her community, her academic excellence, and her
- 11 role as a community leader was nationally recognized in 2000, when she was
- 12 selected as a President Harry S Truman Scholar, a prestigious designation
- 13 given to only a select few, and created by the United States Congress to honor
- 14 outstanding future leaders in public service; and
- WHEREAS, Monique further brought pride to her island, having been
- 16 selected as a Presidential Management Fellow, a prestigious two(2)-year
- 17 federal government program that employs graduate students who
- 18 demonstrate a breadth and quality of accomplishments, a capacity for
- 19 leadership, and a commitment to excellence in the leadership and
- 20 management of public policies and programs; and
- 21 WHEREAS, Monique spearheaded and participated in organizations
- such as Youth 4 Youth Live!, that sought to motivate individuals to be their

- 1 best and encourages positive growth and success, and she became a mentor to
- 2 all, especially our youth; and
- 3 WHEREAS, Monique, having struggled with Non-Hodgkins
- 4 Lymphoma for more than a year, became the motivation that brought our
- 5 island community together for the second bone-marrow drive; and she later
- 6 lost her battle to the cancer that affected her lymph node cells on January 3,
- 7 2009; and
- 8 **WHEREAS**, Monique will be deeply missed by her husband, Nathaniel
- 9 Ulloa; her mother, Frances Portusach Hudgens; her father, Anthony Calvo
- 10 Cepeda; her maternal, grandmother Virginia Hughes Portusach; and her
- 11 family, friends, colleagues, and many individuals whose lives she has
- 12 positively touched; now, therefore, be it
- 13 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on
- 14 behalf of the people of Guam, recognize and commend the late Monique
- 15 Yve'tte Portusach-Cepeda for her numerous and outstanding
- 16 accomplishments and contributions to the island and the people of Guam, and
- 17 does celebrate her life as one of Guam's outstanding daughters, and does
- 18 further extends its most sincere condolences to her husband, Nathaniel Ulloa;
- 19 to her parents, Frances Portusach Hudgens and Anthony Calvo Cepeda; to
- 20 her maternal grandmother, Virginia Hughes Portusach; and to her family and
- 21 friends; and be it further

- 1 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify and the Legislative Secretary attest
- 2 to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to
- 3 Mr. Nathaniel Ulloa, Mrs. Frances Portusach Hudgens, Mr. Anthony Calvo
- 4 Cepeda, and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, I Maga'lahen Guåhan.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 9TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2009.

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D. Speaker

TINA RÒSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary