

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

Resolution No. 40 (COR)

Introduced by:

Judith P. Guthertz, DPA

R. J. Respicio

B. J.F. Cruz

T. C. Ada

F. B. Aguon, Jr.

F. F. Blas, Jr.

J. V. Espaldon

T. R. Muña Barnes

Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.

vicente c. pangelinan

M. J. Rector

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Relative to remembering and memorializing the late Joseph Charles Murphy on his legacy as Guam's foremost journalist and columnist; and to honoring him for his service to our island and offering condolences to his family, on behalf of the people of Guam.

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

2 ***MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:***

3 **WHEREAS, the people of Guam lost an icon of journalism on February**

4 **5, 2009, when the great columnist, writer, and editor Joseph Charles Murphy**

5 **passed on; and**

1 **WHEREAS**, Joseph Charles Murphy, better known as “Joe” to his
2 family, friends, and readers, was born on February 23, 1927, in Appleton,
3 Wisconsin; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Joe Murphy married his high school sweetheart, Marion
5 Muth, sixty-two (62) wonderful years ago and were blessed with eight (8)
6 children: Colleen, Maureen, Shannon, †Kerry, Timothy, Erin, Megan and Joey;
7 twenty-seven (27) grandchildren; and seventeen (17) great grandchildren; and

8 **WHEREAS**, during World War II Joe Murphy joined the U. S. Navy at
9 the age of seventeen (17) years, and returned home after war to finish high
10 school. He eloped with Marion on the night of their high school graduation,
11 and later went on to earn a degree in journalism from the University of
12 Wisconsin at Madison, and has worked as a journalist ever since; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Joe Murphy worked as a reporter, editor and columnist in
14 Wisconsin, Oregon and California, before taking a job in Guam in 1965; and

15 **WHEREAS**, Joe Murphy arrived on Guam on December 8, 1965, Our
16 Lady of *Kamalen* Day, and joked that the procession was a welcoming parade
17 just for him, as he knew Guam would be his home for the rest of his life; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Joe Murphy took a job managing what was then known as
19 the “Guam Daily News”, and is now known as the “Pacific Daily News”,
20 where he became the editor, and also was writer of the column for which he is
21 most well known, “Pipe Dreams,” and other daily editorials on topics such as
22 new developments, the economy, innovative ideas, and politics. He later

1 traveled around the Pacific to produce more editorials about the region, as the
2 issues related to Guam; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Joe Murphy loved adventure and took advantage of offers
4 to try many different things and write about them, and is the author of two (2)
5 books: "Guam is a Four Letter Word" and "Son of a Four Letter Word"; and

6 **WHEREAS**, Joe Murphy later retired as editor of the Pacific Daily News
7 in 1988, but continued to write his column, which changed titles from "Pipe
8 Dreams" to "Murphy's Law" after he quit smoking; and

9 **WHEREAS**, upon retirement and raising his children to adulthood, Joe
10 Murphy took his great love, Marion, and traveled the world because of his
11 love for history, geography, culture and politics and was always looking for
12 new ideas that might work on Guam, his beloved home, and he shared those
13 thoughts in his column in the Pacific Daily News; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Joseph Charles Murphy's legacy lives on in the island of
15 Guam and with its people, but most especially in his children, who have
16 carried on his passion for writing and journalism and have followed in his
17 footsteps and made it their business, just like their father; and

18 **WHEREAS**, in February 2007, Joe Murphy wrote a column about his
19 80th birthday where he reflected on his passionate life, wild youth and the
20 changing island; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Joe Murphy always believed in equality, pushing his
22 daughters, as well as his sons, to find their passions and to excel in life; and he

1 thought highly of the island people and, together with his wife, passed on
2 their attitudes about islanders to all those whom they encountered; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the people of Guam will sorely miss the writings, the
4 thoughts, and the humor that we grew up with and that enriched our lives for
5 more than four (4) decades as we all mourn the passing of Joseph Charles
6 Murphy, journalist extraordinaire; now, therefore, be it

7 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'Trenta Na*
8 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the
9 people of Guam, grieve over the loss of the late Joseph Charles Murphy, and
10 does offer its condolences and sympathies to his wife and children; and be it
11 further

12 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on
13 Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and
14 that copies of the same be transmitted to his wife, Marion Murphy; to his
15 children: Colleen, Maureen, Shannon, Timothy, Erin, Megan and Joey; to
16 Rindraty Celes-Limitiaco, Publisher of the Pacific Daily News; to the President
17 and CEO of Gannett, Inc.; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I*
18 *Maga'lahren Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES
OF *I MINA' TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE 12TH DAY
OF FEBRUARY, 2009.



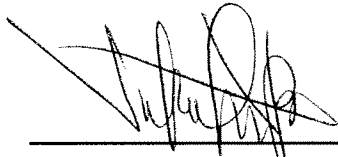
JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.

Speaker



RORY J. RESPICIO

Chairperson, Committee on Rules



TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES

Legislative Secretary