I MINA TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2010 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. 298-30 (COR)

Introduced by:

Ray Tenorio E. J.B. Calvo <u>B. J.F. Cruz</u> Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D. Telo Taitague T. C. Ada F. B. Aguon, Jr. F. F. Blas, Jr. J. V. Espaldon Judith P. Guthertz, DPA T. R. Muña Barnes Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr. v. c. pangelinan R. J. Respicio

Relative to posthumously commending the late Lourdes Torres Leon Guerrero for her lifetime commitment to the public education of the people of Guam, and to extending condolences to her family on her passing.

1 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF *I* 2 *MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*:

3 WHEREAS, a proper education is paramount to the future prosperity of4 any place; and

5 WHEREAS, on a small island like Guam, it is even more important to 6 have people committed to teaching and educating our people; and

7 WHEREAS, the late Lourdes Torres Leon Guerrero dedicated her life to8 the public schools of Guam; and

9 WHEREAS, her civil service began in 1941, when she was just in the tenth 10 (10th) grade, and where despite her age she was hired as a permanent substitute 11 teacher at Maxwell School in the village of *Sumay*; and

WHEREAS, during the Japanese occupation of Guam in World War II,
she was chosen to learn the Japanese language in order to teach other *Chamorros*; and

WHEREAS, she continued to teach in *Merizo* during the occupationuntil May 1944; and

WHEREAS, after the liberation of Guam, she resumed her teaching
career in *Merizo* at the request of Mr. Simon Sanchez, who was then the
Superintendent of Schools; and

20 WHEREAS, she continued to teach until 1949, when she married her 21 husband, Vicente Garrido Leon Guerrero, a United States Naval sailor; they,

2

along with their three (3) children, were stationed in Virginia, California, and
 Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, she returned to Guam in 1959, and immediately jumped
back into her career, taking a teaching position at *Talofofo* Elementary School;
and

6 WHEREAS, ten (10) years later, she was promoted to Assistant Principal
7 of *Agana Heights* Elementary School; and

8 WHEREAS, amidst her personal and professional responsibilities, Mrs. 9 Leon Guerrero made time to obtain her Bachelor of Arts degree in Education 10 in 1969; and

WHEREAS, the crowning glory of her professional career came in 1974, when she was chosen to be the first Principal of what was then F.B. Leon Guerrero Elementary School, which at the time was the second largest school on Guam; and

WHEREAS, the very next year, she finished the next phase in her own
education, earning her Masters of Education degree; and

WHEREAS, even though she retired in 1976, she came back to the
Department of Education, holding administrative positions and teaching until
she finally retired in 1997; and

WHEREAS, during her fifty-seven (57) years of distinguished service in
public education, Mrs. Leon Guerrero taught at the following schools:
Maxwell School in *Sumay; Merizo, Sinajana, Talofofo,* and *Santa Rita* Elementary

3

Schools; and John F. Kennedy, George Washington, Oceanview, and Simon
 Sanchez High Schools; she also served as a member of the Guam Community
 College Board of Trustees, as Administrator and Consultant of the Guam
 Teacher Corps In Service Training Program, and as an instructor for the
 Department of Labor *Manamko' Manhoben* Program; and

6 WHEREAS, her dedication did not go unnoticed, as she was named a 7 "Pioneer of Education on Guam" by the University of Guam; she was 8 depicted in the UOG's Micronesian Area Research Center Book, "*I Manfayi*" 9 Series; and she was inducted into the local chapter of the *Phi Delta Kappa's* 10 "Guam Educator's Hall of Fame," an honor bestowed only to the island's 11 premier educators; and

WHEREAS, her dedication to education was imprinted on three (3) of
her children, Esther, Vincent and Darlene, who all became educators
themselves; and

WHEREAS, her most recent endeavor in advancing the education of our
island people was as the Assistant Editor of the Official *Chamorro*-English
Dictionary or *"Ufisiåt Na Diksionårion Chamorro-Engles"* – the most complete
and comprehensive *Chamorro* dictionary to date; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Leon Guerrero passed away at the age of eighty-six
(86) years on February 25, 2010; and

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WHEREAS, her passing leaves a void that will be felt for many years to
 come, in both the family she loved and the island she served so selflessly;
 now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people of Guam, posthumously commend the late Lourdes Torres Leon Guerrero for her lifetime commitment to the public education of the people of Guam; and does extend sincere condolences to her family on her passing; and be it further

10 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on 11 Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and 12 that copies of the same be transmitted to her four (4) children: Esther L.G. 13 Keone, Vincent Leon Guerrero, Darlene L.G. Perez, and Joseph Leon 14 Guerrero; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*. DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF *I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE 5TH DAY OF MARCH, 2010.

BÉNJAMIN J.F. CRUZ Acting Speaker

Au

RORY J. RESPICIO Chairperson, Committee on Rules

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES Legislative Secretary