

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

Resolution No. 469-30 (COR)

Introduced by:

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

T. R. Muña Barnes

R. J. Respicio

T. C. Ada

V. Anthony Ada

F. B. Aguon, Jr.

F. F. Blas, Jr.

E. J.B. Calvo

B. J.F. Cruz

J. V. Espaldon

Judith P. Guthertz, DPA

Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.

v. c. pangelinan

Telo Taitague

Ray Tenorio

Relative to recognizing and honoring the late Thomas "Tom" Fernandez Torres for his invaluable contributions to the people of Guam, and for his commitment to promoting and perpetuating our Chamorro culture, values and traditions through his work; and to expressing sincere condolences to the Torres family on their loss.

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

3 **WHEREAS**, Thomas “Tom” Fernandez Torres was born in Guam on
4 October 23, 1957. He is the son of Master Weaver *Tan* Lucia Torres who
5 throughout her lifetime committed herself to teaching Tom the traditions and
6 ways of the *Chamorro* culture through the weaving of coconut leaves; and

7 **WHEREAS**, under his mother’s tutelage, Tom also became a Master
8 Weaver creating many cultural crafts depicting the rich history of our island
9 people. During his lifetime, Tom had made weaving a family affair and
10 continued to pass down his skills and knowledge of weaving to his wife,
11 Florence Torres, and their children; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the Torres family has participated in numerous cultural
13 events, such as *I Gupot Fanha’aniyan Pulan Chamoru* (*Chamorro Lunar*
14 *Festivities*); *Gupot I Peskadot*; Earth Day; and the Micronesian Island Fair.
15 During the 1st and 2nd Annual *Gupot Fanha’aniyan Pulan Chamoru*, Tom and
16 his family participated in the “*Katupat Weaving Party*”, weaving hundreds of
17 *Katupats* for the feast. In this event, each family member demonstrates and
18 teaches participants how to weave the *Katupat*, and explains its cultural
19 significance; and

20 **WHEREAS**, in addition to being a Master Weaver, Tom was also a
21 cultural subsistence fisherman, and he always ensured that his family
22 participated in every *Gupot I Peskadot*, which is sponsored by the Guam

1 Fishermen’s Cooperative Association. At the request of the organizers, Tom
2 and his family assisted with the festival decorations, and they also weaved
3 hats for the many influential visitors, both local and from off-island, who
4 came to Guam to attend the fishery events; and

5 **WHEREAS**, Tom’s woven coconut leaf hats have found their way
6 around the world, and many visitors, whom he had given hats to, have kept
7 in contact with Tom and his family and friends, and they still talk about the
8 special hats they received to remember their visit to Guam; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Tom, a former employee of the Department of Parks and
10 Recreation, will always be remembered for his hard work and commitment to
11 service for the people of Guam, which later translated to his work as a Master
12 Weaver. For his many invaluable contributions, the people of Guam recognize
13 and honor Tom Torres for upholding his *Chamorro* beliefs and values, and for
14 sharing it through his gift of cultural *Chamorro* weaving; now, therefore, be it

15 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina’Trenta Na*
16 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the
17 people of Guam, recognize and honor the late Thomas “Tom” Fernandez
18 Torres for his commendable works and accomplishments throughout his
19 lifetime, and for being a living example of the *Chamorro* culture; and does
20 further express our sincerest condolences to the Torres family for the loss of
21 their loved one; and be it further

1 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on
2 Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and
3 that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the family of the late
4 Thomas "Tom" Fernandez Torres; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I*
5 *Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES
OF I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 15TH DAY OF
OCTOBER 2010.**



JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.

Speaker



RORY J. RESPICIO

Chairperson, Committee on Rules



TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary