




MINA' TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2009 (FIRST) REGULAR SESSION

Resolution No. 52 (cor)
Introduced by:

FRANK B. AGUON, JR. 
A. B. PALACIOS, SR. 
T. C. ADA 

RELATIVE TO RECOGNIZING THE EXTRAORDINARY SUPPORT AND GENEROSITY THE IGLESIA NI CRISTO, (CHURCH OF CHRIST) HAS PROVIDED THE LOCAL COMMUNITY FOR OVER FORTY (40) YEARS, AND EXTENDS A UN DANGKOLO' NA SI YU'OS MA'ASE' AND MARAMING SALAMAT PO' FOR ITS WONDERFUL CONTRIBUTION TO THE PEOPLE OF GUAM; FURTHER EXTENDS A SPECIAL COMMENDATION AND CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ENTIRE IGLESIAS NI CRISTO, CHURCH OF CHRIST, BOTH ON GUAM AND INTERNATIONALLY FOR THE TREMENDOUS LOVE AND COMMITMENT IT HAS PROVIDED ITS FAMILY MEMBERS AND THE PEOPLE OF GUAM; AND FINALLY EXTENDS GUAM'S BEST WISHES FOR MANY MORE SUCCESSFUL YEARS IN THE FUTURE IN STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND BRINGING INDIVIDUALS AND MEMBERS CLOSER TO CHRIST AND THE IGLESIAS NI CRISTO CHURCH.

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

3 WHEREAS, in 1960, seven contract workers of US Naval Installation
4 Facilities were the founding group members of the *Iglesia Ni Cristo* (Church

1 of Christ) while they congregated at their barracks in Camp Roxas, Agat, for
2 regular prayer and social gatherings; and

3 **WHEREAS**, The *Iglesia Ni Cristo* (Church of Christ) congregation was
4 officially registered on Guam as a religious church organization with the
5 government of Guam on March 17, 1969, and has henceforth celebrated its
6 anniversary on this date in recognition of its years of service to the people of
7 Guam; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the first large prayer service was held in 1963 with more
9 than 50 members who met in a rented Quonset hut located along Marine
10 Drive in Tamuning; and

11 **WHEREAS**, in 1965, due to the increased interest in Guamanians
12 joining the church and the need to identify a more formal church facility, the
13 place of worship was relocated to the residence of Brother Luciano Hipolito,
14 who additionally served as the first deacon of the local church congregation;
15 and

16 **WHEREAS**, Guam's first residential minister, the late Brother Liberato
17 Panares, arrived from the Philippines on November 29, 1969; and shortly
18 thereafter, the late Brother Aniceto S. Bunag, presided over the construction
19 of a semi-concrete church on Route 16 in Harmon, Dededo; and

20 **WHEREAS**, in 1973 with a growing church congregation which now
21 encompassed more than one hundred fifty (150) religious members, the late
22 Brother Cipriano P. Sandoval, General Secretary of the Iglesia Ni Cristo,
23 visited Guam from the central office of the Iglesias Ni Cristo (Church of
24 Christ) in New Era, Quezon City, Philippines, to officiate a special worship
25 service dedicating the official church building and the adjacent properties

1 which were acquired by the local church members through their hard work
2 and financial commitment; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the increasing number of church members lead to the
4 formation of a separate church gathering and building, located in Apra
5 Heights, Santa Rita in 1984; and

6 **WHEREAS**, in recognition of the continuing growth in the number of
7 church members, it was the wish and desire of the local congregation to
8 provide a much larger and better accommodating house of worship facility
9 that will enable church members to more comfortably worship and share
10 time with fellow church members; this strong desire for a larger facility
11 resulted in the eventual approval for the construction of a new house of
12 worship with the generous support of the administration of the Iglesias Ni
13 Cristo; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the construction of the present House of Worship in
15 Harmon, Dededo, commenced on February 22, 1993, with a generous
16 investment of approximately \$2.1 million by the local community of
17 believers; the elegant and stylish edifice which provides for a seating capacity
18 of at least six hundred (600) along with adjacent meeting rooms was officially
19 opened and dedicated to God and church members on March 19, 1994, and
20 today serves as the spiritual sanctuary for more than one thousand (1,000)
21 worshipers on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the magnificent church structure reflects the holiness and
23 sanctity of the Iglesias Ni Cristo - Church of Christ and the sacredness of its
24 mission; and furthermore today, represents one of the most conspicuous and
25 remarkable landmarks in Guam; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the *Iglesia Ni Cristo* - Church of Christ for much more
2 than forty years of existence in Guam brought spiritual development and
3 maturity to the entire island community, to include predominantly Filipinos
4 and other ethnic cultures, and has also shared in the burden of addressing the
5 island's social and economic concerns; and

6 **WHEREAS**, as a religious institution, *Iglesia Ni Cristo's* role in society
7 serves as a pillar that inculcates brotherly and sisterly love among its church
8 members and all people; and

9 **WHEREAS**, on March 17, 2009, the *Iglesia Ni Cristo* - Church of
10 Christ, Guam, will be commemorating and celebrating its 40th anniversary of
11 serving and supporting the people of Guam through its numerous prayer
12 services and community activities; now therefore, be it

13 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of I Mina Trenta Na
14 Liheslaturan Guahan does hereby, on behalf of I Liheslaturan Guahan and the
15 People of Guam, recognize the extraordinary support and contribution that the
16 Iglesias Ni Cristo - Church of Christ has provided the community of Guam for
17 over forty (40) years, and extends a warmhearted **Un Dangkolo' Na Si yu'os**
18 **Ma'ase' and Maraming Salamat Po'** to its church ministers, leaders and the
19 entire congregation; and be it further

20 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of I Mina Trenta Na
21 Liheslaturan Guahan does further extends, on behalf of the people of Guam, its
22 commendations and congratulations to the Iglesias Ni Cristo - Church of Christ
23 on Guam and Internationally for the tremendous love and commitment it has
24 provided its family members and the people of Guam for the past 40 years; and
25 additionally extends Guam's best wishes for many more successful years in the

1 future in strengthening families and bringing individuals and members closer to
2 Christ and the Iglesias Ni Cristo Church; and be it further

3 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on
4 Rules and the Secretary of the Legislature attest the adoption hereof and that
5 copies of the same be transmitted to Iglesias Ni Cristo Executive Minister Erano
6 G. Manalo, Philippines; Brother Jose J. Ventilacion, Resident Minister of *Iglesia*
7 *Ni Cristo*, Guam; to the Honorable Olivia Palala, Consul General of the
8 Philippines, Guam; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahren*
9 *Guåhan*.

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11 **DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA' TRENTA NA**
12 **LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE _____ DAY OF _____, 2009.**

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Speaker

Senator and Secretary of the Legislature

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Chairperson, Committee on Rules