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

208-30 Resolution No. ____(COR)

Introduced by:

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A. B. Palacios, Si F. B. Aguan, Jr.

Relative to congratulating the George Washington High School Class of 1959 on their Golden Class Reunion and to commend them for their lifelong friendships that they have established and shared among themselves and their families.

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

WHEREAS, on October 31, 1936, a building was constructed and dedicated to the

hardworking, intelligent, young men and women of Guam's Education Department and in

honor of the first President of the United States and its Territories, George Washington

High School (GWHS) was established by Governor Benjamin McCandlish; and

6 WHEREAS, when the educational institution opened its doors in July of 1936, Mrs.

7 Agueda Iglesias Johnston, a prominent Chamorro woman educator became the first

presiding principal of George Washington High School. On March 31, 1937, sixty-four (64)

young men and women proudly graduated from the ninth (9th) grade and in June of 1940,

10 the first senior class graduated; and

WHEREAS, between the years of 1945 to 1950, the GWHS campus would shift from

Sinajaña to the 5th Marine Depot in Mongmong due to the large number of students who

13 enrolled after the ravages of World War II; and

WHEREAS, between the years of 1953-1959, the student population at GWHS

increased to over two thousand two hundred (2,200) students whereby the faculty and staff

would have to cope with housing and accommodating each student, transforming quonset

huts into classrooms. Soon, accreditation would begin and in 1957, GWHS became a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools (NCA); and

WHEREAS, the commencement of the George Washington High School (GWHS) graduating Class of 1959 was conducted on June 3, 1959 with two hundred and seventy (270) graduating high school seniors becoming the 19th class to graduate from GWHS; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation, the GWHS Class of 1959 ventured into the world to become outstanding achievers in various sectors of society at the local, national and international levels; and

WHEREAS, the graduates of the GWHS Class of 1959 exemplified great effort to reflect the mission and vision of their alma mater: "to provide students the skills and knowledge they need to make wise decisions and be good productive citizens in the community;" and

WHEREAS, the GWHS Class of 1959 exemplified the mission of the school by working long hours, living in modest neighborhoods, raising their families with the values cherished by the island community, struggling after WWII to create a better future for themselves and their children by going to trade school, joining the U.S. Armed Forces, entering into the Government of Guam workforce, becoming educational leaders by entering the Territorial College of Guam, now the University of Guam, under the Department of Education, and other private business enterprises, ultimately becoming valued members of the world community by assisting when called upon, contributing to various civic and religious organizations; and

WHEREAS, some members of the GWHS Class of 1959 have volunteered their time to form a planning committee for the GWHS Golden Class Reunion in creating a festive and successful event by fostering a sense of loyalty and fraternity among the 1959 graduates of GWHS and by promoting the general welfare of classmates in support of the high school located now in Mangilao, Guam; and

1 WHEREAS, graduates of the GWHS Class of 1959 is replete with successful leaders 2 within the community who have all contributed significantly to the overall political, 3 religious, economic, social and cultural advancements of the island of Guam; and 4 WHEREAS, the GWHS Class of 1959 will be celebrating their "Golden Class 5 Reunion at Top-O-The-Mar, Nimitz Hill, on October 3, 2009, a gala event that covers fifty 6 (50) years of promoting camaraderie, friendship and support to each other; and 7 WHEREAS, members of the GWHS Class of 1959 have fully dedicated themselves to 8 honoring their alma mater, their families and themselves and pays tribute to all those who 9 have passed away and offers their deepest condolences to the families on behalf of those 10 who are present for the Golden Class Reunion; now, therefore, be it 11 **RESOLVED**, that I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan does hereby, on behalf of the 12 people of Guam, congratulate the George Washington High School Class of 1959 on their 13 Golden Class Reunion and commends them for their lifelong friendships that they have 14 established and shared among themselves and their families; and be it further 15 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairman of the Committee on Rules certify, 16 and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the adoption hereof and that copies of the 17 same be thereafter transmitted to Dr. Nerissa Underwood, Superintendent of the 18 Department of Education, Mrs. Begonia Flores, Principal of George Washington High 19 School; Mrs. Evelyna L.G. Bonner, President of the Planning Committee for the Golden 20 Reunion of the Class of 1959, and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, I Maga'lahen Guåhan. DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE DAY OF 2009. JUDITH T. WONPAT RORY J. RESPICIO Speaker Chairman, Committee on Rules

> TINA ROSE MUÑA-BARNES Secretary of the Legislature