

I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
2011 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 202-31 (COR)

Introduced by:

R. J. Respicio
Judith P. Guthertz, DPA
T. C. Ada
V. Anthony Ada
F. F. Blas, Jr.
B. J.F. Cruz
Chris M. Dueñas
Sam Mabini, Ph.D.
T. R. Muña Barnes
Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.
v. c. pangelinan
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
M. Silva Tajeron
Aline A. Yamashita, Ph.D.
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Relative to commending and congratulating Dr. Mary L. Spencer on the occasion of her retirement from the University of Guam; and to further extending a most sincere *Un Dangkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'* to her for her outstanding contributions and continued service to Guam, and its people.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I**
2 ***MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN:***

3 **WHEREAS, Dr. Mary L. Spencer was born in 1942, in Wichita, Kansas; and**
4 **she studied Psychology and Sociology at Wichita State University, and at the**
5 **University of Kansas; and by 1970, she had graduated with a Bachelor of Arts, a**
6 **Master of Arts, and Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of New Mexico; and**

1 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Mary L. Spencer taught at the University of Hawaii as an
2 Assistant Professor of Psychology for two (2) years before moving to the San
3 Francisco Bay Area, where she conducted research in cross-cultural and bilingual
4 education for the next ten (10) years; and

5 **WHEREAS**, in 1981, at the invitation of Dr. Robert Underwood, Dr. Mary L.
6 Spencer first traveled to Guam to teach courses in language assessment, and
7 approaches to bilingual education instruction, to a group of teachers from Guam and
8 the outer islands of Micronesia,; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Mary L. Spencer returned to Guam in 1983 to serve as the
10 Assessment and Evaluation Specialist for the Bilingual Education Resource Center for
11 the Micronesian region, under a grant which was awarded to the University of Guam
12 by the U.S. Department of Education. Dr. Mary L. Spencer ultimately became the
13 Director of the Center, which was later known as Project BEAM (Bilingual Education
14 and Assistance in Micronesia), and served from December 1987 through December
15 1991; and

16 **WHEREAS**, in 1985, Dr. Mary L. Spencer was appointed to a tenure track
17 position with the University of Guam as an Assistant Professor of Psychology; in
18 1988, she was then promoted to Associate Professor and awarded tenure; and in 1993,
19 she was promoted to Professor of Psychology, which was later amended to Professor
20 of Psychology and Micronesian Studies; and

21 **WHEREAS**, in 1991, Dr. Mary L. Spencer helped to establish the Micronesian
22 Language Institute at the University of Guam, and she served as its Director until
23 1997, during which time she collaborated and researched the languages of Guam and
24 Micronesia with noted scholars, such as Dr. Rosa Palomo, Marylee P. Palomares,
25 Rosa Huffer Tacheliol, Alvios William and Usha Prasad. During this time, Dr. Mary
26 L. Spencer wrote or edited five (5) books dedicated to the study of the language and

1 orthography of the region, and she also edited ISLA: Journal of Micronesian Studies,
2 and she had submitted several chapters to many other books related to her field of
3 study; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Mary L. Spencer also worked closely with the Guam
5 Department of Education to develop oral language proficiency assessment
6 instruments, and she developed the first FSM National Standardized Tests of
7 Achievement, working with testing and assessment specialists in the Federated States
8 of Micronesia; and

9 **WHEREAS**, in 1997, Dr. Mary L. Spencer was promoted to Dean of the
10 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, which was later renamed to the College of
11 Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, where she served for thirteen (13) years before
12 resigning to return to her faculty position in the Micronesian Language Institute, now
13 located in the Micronesian Area Research Center (MARC); and

14 **WHEREAS**, during her tenure as Dean, Dr. Mary L. Spencer wrote the first
15 NIH-funded Campus Suicide Prevention Grant, and served as its Acting Director
16 during its first year. She also supported numerous programs for students while
17 strengthening the infrastructure and resources within the College. Dr. Mary L. Spencer
18 participated in the development of the new Master of Arts in English, the Graduate
19 Certificate in Micronesian Studies, and the Master of Science in Clinical Psychology
20 degrees; and she had provided continuous support for the College's research
21 conferences, such as the Annual College Research Conference; the Annual Regional
22 Language Arts Conference; and the Annual CHamoru Language Competition; and

23 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Mary L. Spencer continues in her research of the languages of
24 Micronesia; and she contributes to the Center for Excellence in Developmental
25 Disabilities Education, Research & Service (CEDDERS); she is a member of the
26 Editorial Boards of the *Micronesian Educator: A Journal of Research and Practice on*

1 *Education in Guam and Micronesia*, and *Pacific Asia Inquiry*; she supervises several
2 graduate students in Micronesian Studies; and she serves on the Doctoral Dissertation
3 Committee at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania as a Guam scholar, while also
4 maintaining her role on the Advisory Board of ISLA Center for the Arts; now
5 therefore, be it

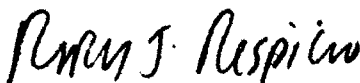
6 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'Trentai Unu Na*
7 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people
8 of Guam, commend and congratulate Dr. Mary L. Spencer on the occasion of her
9 retirement from the University of Guam, where she has served as an exemplary
10 member of the faculty and administration for the past twenty-eight (28) years; and
11 does further extend a most sincere *Un Dångkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'* to Dr. Mary L.
12 Spencer for her outstanding contributions to the academic reputation of the University
13 of Guam, and for her commitment to the people of Guam and Micronesia; and be it
14 further

15 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules
16 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of
17 the same be thereafter transmitted to Dr. Mary L. Spencer; and to the Honorable
18 Edward J.B. Calvo, *I Maga'lahren Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF
I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 28TH DAY
OF SEPTEMBER 2011.**



BENJAMIN J.F. CRUZ
Acting Speaker



RORY J. RESPICIO
Chairperson, Committee on Rules



TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary