

I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
2012 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. 390-31 (LS)

Introduced by:

Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
T. C. Ada
V. Anthony Ada
F. F. Blas, Jr.
B. J.F. Cruz
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Judith P. Guthertz, DPA
Sam Mabini, Ph.D.
T. R. Muña Barnes
Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.
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Aline A. Yamashita, Ph.D.
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Relative to recognizing and honoring Mrs. Oliva Leon Guerrero Untalan Arroyo as she celebrates the one hundred first (101st) year of her life; and to further commending her as a “2012 Senior Citizens Month Centenarian”.

BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN*:

WHEREAS, Mrs. Oliva Leon Guerrero Untalan Arroyo was born in *Agaña*, Guam on October 27, 1911; and is the daughter of +Pedro Cruz Untalan (*familian Casimiro*) and +Rita Garrido Leon Guerrero (*familian Sombrero*); and

WHEREAS, Oliva's husband is +Brigido Aquino Arroyo (1900-2000), a U.S. Navy and Civil Service retiree. Mr. and Mrs. Arroyo have seven (7) children: Ronald Untalan Arroyo, Monsignor Brigido Untalan Arroyo, Alfred Untalan Arroyo, Joseph Untalan Arroyo, +Jesus John Untalan Arroyo, Raymond Untalan Arroyo, and Sister Marian Therese Arroyo; and

WHEREAS, although traditionally young girls at that time were expected to drop out of school at the age of twelve (12), the young Oliva refused to give up on her education. She attended the Guam Intermediate School, where she graduated in 1927, and she then went on to attend the Guam Evening High School. Between 1935 and the outbreak of World War II in 1941, she took correspondence courses from the University of Hawaii and the University of California. These courses were offered on Guam during the summer for teachers pursuing an elementary teaching certificate; and

WHEREAS, after World War II ended, between 1951 and 1956, Oliva took courses offered by the Guam Department of Education for certificate of administrators. These training sessions included extension courses from the Universities of Ohio and California, and were offered throughout the school year, either during the day or in the evening. She had always believed that professionals should continuously upgrade themselves in their areas of specialization; and

WHEREAS, Oliva taught in the pre-war schools in *Agaña* from 1927 to 1941. These schools included the Roy C. Smith School (in *Anigua*), the Althouse School (in *Bilibie*, near the *Paseo de Susanna*), the Leary School (near the *Plaza de España*), the Post Office School, and the Dorn Hall School (also near the *Plaza de España*), where she taught primary grades (pre-primers). Immediately after the recapture of Guam by the Americans, Oliva began teaching at the "compound area" (a concentration camp or shelter for the villagers awaiting clearance to return safely to their homes), in an

area in *Anigua* near the *Pigo* Cemetery. She was the “Teacher Trainer” for the Pacific Islands Teacher Training School (PITTS) in the late 1940s; and

WHEREAS, after the war, Oliva taught upper elementary grades at *Agaña* Elementary School, and then taught at the *Piti* Elementary School (now the Jose L.G. Rios Middle School), and at *Barrigada* Elementary School. She was the first administrator of the new Carbullido Elementary School in the aftermath of Typhoon Karen’s destruction of *Barrigada* Elementary School prior to her retirement in 1972; and

WHEREAS, Oliva accomplished much in her active years of dedicated service. She provided counseling and tutoring services to many students, many of whom became outstanding leaders in the community. When Oliva was a “Teacher Trainer” at the Pacific Islands Training School, she taught and trained students who were selected from around the Pacific. Among her many outstanding students were David Ramarui, who later became the Director of Education in Palau; Amata Kabua, the President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands; and Senator and Speaker Joe T. San Agustin; and

WHEREAS, while serving as the Principal at Carbullido Elementary School, Oliva introduced the *Chamorro* bilingual program into the curriculum. Carbullido’s new school building also was under construction under her tenure. Oliva inaugurated special education classes at *Barrigada* Elementary School, and a remedial reading program at Carbullido Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, Oliva had received numerous awards for her excellent public service in the field of education. In 1970, she received a Gold Medal Award for her public service accomplishments from Governor Carlos Camacho and Lieutenant Governor Kurt Moylan. When she retired in 1972, Governor Camacho, Lieutenant Governor Moylan and Senator Joe San Agustin awarded her with a Certificate of

Appreciation. The Guam Legislature also passed a Resolution congratulating and commending her for her work. The Territorial Board of Education also awarded her in appreciation for her many years of dedicated service to the children and people of Guam. In 1996, Oliva was named to the Guam Educators' Hall of Fame International, sponsored by Phi Delta Kappa Guam Chapter 1302. She was also named to *I Manfayi – Who's Who in Chamorro History*, Vol. II in 1997. At its Spring Commencement in June 2008, the University of Guam awarded Oliva an Honorary Degree for "Distinguished Community Service"; and

WHEREAS, Oliva was also very active in the church community as a member of the *Dulce Nombre de Maria* Cathedral-Basilica, and the St. Anthony-St. Victor Parishes. She had participated in numerous social and church functions, and also served on numerous boards as president, or in some leadership capacity, of the Island-Wide Christian Mothers, the Third Order of St. Francis, and the Parent-Teacher Association of the Academy of Our Lady of Guam. She was recently named as an Honorary Associate of the Sisters of Mercy; and

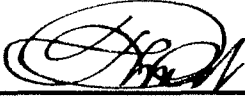
WHEREAS, Oliva's dedication to her family is evident, and she is blessed with twenty-two (22) grandchildren, forty-seven (47) great-grand children, and two (2) great-great grandchildren; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that *I Mina'Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, honor and recognize Mrs. Oliva Untalan Leon Guerrero Arroyo as she celebrates the one hundred first (101st) year of her life; and does further commend her as a "2012 Senior Citizens Month Centenarian", and for her years of dedication and service to the people of Guam; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Mrs.

Oliva Untalan Leon Guerrero Arroyo; and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE 25TH DAY OF APRIL, 2012.



JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.
Speaker



TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary