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<th>Resolution No.</th>
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<tr>
<td>204-32 (LS)</td>
<td>B. J.F. Cruz</td>
<td>Relative to recognizing and extending a warm Dångkolo Na Si Yu’osMa’aseto Claire Gonzalez Virata on her retirement after thirty (30) years observing the island and for the outstanding contributions she has made as a social worker and advocate for our island’s youth, elderly, and persons with disabilities; and to further extend our best wishes for her in future endeavors, on behalf of the people of Guam.</td>
<td>08/19/13 3:39 p.m.</td>
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Relative to recognizing, commending and congratulating Claire Gonzalez Virata on her retirement after thirty (30) years of serving the island, and extending a warm Un Dångkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse' to her for the outstanding contributions she has made as a social worker and advocate for our island’s youth, elderly, and persons with disabilities; and to further extending our best wishes to her in her future endeavors, on behalf of the people of Guam.

BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:
WHEREAS, it is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize those residents of Guam whose lifework and civic endeavors have served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and this great island territory; and

WHEREAS, attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Claire Gonzalez Virata upon the occasion of her retirement after many years of distinguished service to the island; and

WHEREAS, born in the Philippines, Claire Virata graduated from the Assumption College in Makati, Philippines, in 1980, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology, and a minor in Education, with an emphasis in English literature; and

WHEREAS, Claire Virata began her esteemed career with the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation Field Services Unit, serving as a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor for adults with disabilities from 1981 to 1984, where she developed rehabilitation and educational programs to meet clients’ unique needs; and

WHEREAS, from 1984 to 1985, Claire Virata served as a Social Worker for the Department of Public Health and Social Services’ (DPHSS) Adoption and Custody Unit, where she assisted in the adoption process, both in putting children up for adoption and placing orphans in foster or adoptive homes; and she diligently monitored the progress of home placements of infants and minors, and performed court-ordered investigations and reporting; and

WHEREAS, Claire Virata worked as a Caseworker for the non-profit organization, Sanctuary, Inc., from 1985 to 1989; and she developed the Temporary Alternative Placement Program (TAPP), wherein homes are recognized by the Family Court of Guam and DPHSS as official residential alternatives for youth in need of placement outside of their natural home; and
WHEREAS, in 1988, Claire Virata began her service at the Guam Department of Education (GDOE) as a Guidance Counselor at J.P. Torres Elementary School in Santa Rita, where she developed individualized behavior modification programs and coordinated the Saturdays Scholars Program, a supplemental academic delivery project between the United States Navy and GDOE; from 1989 to 1994, she served as a Social Worker for the Emotionally Handicapped Program of the Psychological Services unit of GDOE’s Division of Special Education, where she coordinated the delivery of educational services to special education students during their court-ordered stay at the Department of Youth Affairs (DYA) Juvenile Detention Facility; and from 1994 to 1996, she continued her services as a Social Worker for the Division at John F. Kennedy High School, where she provided consultations to teachers and school personnel regarding special education students; and

WHEREAS, from 1997 to 1999, Claire Virata returned to DPHSS and worked as a Social Worker for the Adult Protective Unit of the Division of Senior Citizens, where she investigated referrals and developed treatment programs and intervention plans to stop and prevent present and further mistreatment of the elderly and adults with disabilities who have been abused, neglected and exploited; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, Claire Virata worked as an Advocate for the Guam Legal Services Corporation, where she provided protection and advocacy services for clients with disabilities alleging abuse, neglect, exploitation and/or denial of rights; and

WHEREAS, after returning to the Philippines and working as a Corporate Secretary for MELCON Development Corporation in Mandaluyong City from 2000 to 2007, Claire Virata entered the private sector as a Social Worker for the American Dialysis Center, before returning to public service as a Social Worker

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for the Child Protective Services Section, and later, the Division of Senior Citizens
of DPHSS’s Bureau of Social Services Administration, where she assiduously
remained dedicated to her work with the elderly until her retirement on August 16,
2013; and

WHEREAS, active in the community, Claire Virata has been affiliated with
numerous organizations, including: the Southern Sunset Jaycees; the Western
Pacific Association for the Disabled; Guma’ Mami; the Community-Based Support
Group for the Visually Impaired on Guam; and the Epileptic Foundation of Guam;
and

WHEREAS, rare indeed is the occurrence of such a compassionate blending of
strength, kindness and commitment as that demonstrated by Claire Virata over a
lifetime of sacrifice and dedication to others; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that I Mina'Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guåhan does hereby, on
behalf of the people of Guam, recognize and congratulate Claire Gonzalez Virata
on her retirement after thirty (30) years for service to the government of Guam;
and does further express heartfelt appreciation and Un Dångkolo Na Si Yu’os
Ma’äse’ to Claire Gonzalez Virata for her exemplary service, and wish her well in
her future endeavors; 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 Claire
Gonzalez Virata; and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, I Maga’lahen Guåhan.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA’TRENTAI DOS NA
LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THIS 19TH DAY OF AUGUST 2013.

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.  TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Speaker Legislative Secretary