

*I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*  
RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE AUTHOR REPORT FILED	NOTES
276-36 (COR)	Amanda L. Shelton Mary Camacho Torres Tina Rose Muña Barnes Joe S. San Agustin	Relative to posthumously recognizing the late Olivia Leola Torres Cruz, M.D. for her service and commitment to the people of Guam as one of the island's foremost medical pioneers; and commemorating her as Guam's first female CHamoru physician during the observance of Women's History Month; and further expressing condolences to her family on her passing.	3/1/22 4:21 p.m.	3/19/22 9:00 a.m.	3/16/22 2:57 p.m.					

Resolution No. 276-36 (COR)

Introduced by:

Amanda L. Shelton  
Mary Camacho Torres  
Tina Rose Motta Barnes  
Jose S. San Augustin

V. Anthony Ada  
Frank Blas Jr.  
Joanne Brown  
Christopher M. Dierias  
James C. Moylan  
Teresa Cruz Nelson  
Selma Flores Perez  
Cynthia E. Radgell  
Teh-T. Tiatague  
Jose "Pedro" Terlaga  
Theresa M. Terlaga



Relative to posthumously recognizing the late Olivia Leola Torres Cruz, M.D. for her service and commitment to the people of Guam as one of the island's foremost medical pioneers; and commemorating her as Guam's first female CHamoru physician during the observance of Women's History Month; and further expressing condolences to her family on her passing.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF *I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN*:

WHEREAS, it is incumbent upon the people of this great island to honor those within our midst who have made enduring contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, from time to time *I Liheslaturan Guahan* takes note of these extraordinary individuals to publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have enhanced the stature of our society and the dignity of our residents; and

WHEREAS, attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, *I Liheslaturan Guahan* is justly proud, during the observance of Women's History Month, to recognize Olivia Leola Torres Cruz, M.D., Guam's first female CHamoru physician; and

WHEREAS, Olivia was born on October 24, 1934, in the village of *Sumay*; and is the daughter of †Ignacio Alcantara Cruz and †Olivia Torres Cruz; and

WHEREAS, from a young age, Olivia was governed by a keen sense of diligence and duty to her family; as the oldest daughter of five (5) girls and four (4) boys, she held many roles in the family's various businesses, from selling her mother's famous baked goods before school each morning to pumping gas at the Cruz Service Station on Route 4; and

WHEREAS, indeed, Olivia's youngest experiences were shaped by her family's strong work ethic and service to the community, such as her mother making food for local baseball games or her father selling fish but giving away as many as he sold; the Cruz family's success continued long after World War II with the establishment of a ferry service which transported passengers and supplies to Rota, the expansion of the Cruz Service Station, and the development of the Cruz Equipment Company, which was founded by Olivia's father and brothers Noel and Eddie; and

WHEREAS, despite having to re-enroll in first (1<sup>st</sup>) grade after World War II, ten (10) year old Olivia quickly excelled in school, taking an exam every six (6) months to elevate her grade level, until, in 1953, Olivia graduated from George Washington High School as one of its Top Ten scholars; and looking back, Olivia's passion for education can be traced to her maternal grandmother, Juana San Nicolas Taitano, who was among Guam's first CHamoru school teachers, and therefore likely influenced Olivia's pursuit of excellence; and

WHEREAS, while studying at George Washington High School, Olivia was encouraged by her advanced mathematics teacher, Ms. Jean E. Brower, to pursue higher education at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, after Olivia's graduation, the government of Guam chartered a special flight to take her and other local students to the United States through Transocean Air Lines, which cost a fraction of the fare charged by Pan American Airways, the regular carrier to and from Guam; and Olivia, who was unexpectedly overcome with homesickness and tears, told her mother that it was too long a time to be away from home and suddenly postponed her trip; and

WHEREAS, this last-minute decision saved Olivia's life, as the chartered plane was tragically lost at sea after leaving Wake Island, claiming the lives of every promising young CHamoru student onboard; and

WHEREAS, one (1) month later, Olivia arrived at the University of Wisconsin; her education was paid for by a partial scholarship from the government of Guam while her mother paid the remainder of her tuition, plus her room and board; and to pay for other needs, on top of all her studies Olivia worked at the school cafeteria and at private homes; and

WHEREAS, in 1957, Olivia graduated from the University of Wisconsin; and although she had wanted to be a doctor, Olivia only applied to two (2) medical schools as she felt her choices were limited by her lack of finances; and

WHEREAS, despite the fact that she was not initially accepted into medical school, Olivia remained undeterred in pursuing a career in medicine; while taking graduate courses in chemistry at the University of Cincinnati, Olivia's research caught the attention of her superior; due to her hard work, dedication, and intelligence, she was asked to consider the Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania and was soon accepted with the assistance of a student loan from the government of Guam and a scholarship from the Military Officer's Wives Club; and

WHEREAS, in 1962, Olivia Leola Torres Cruz joined the mere eight percent (8%) of women who graduated from medical school in the United States and became the first CHamoru woman doctor from Guam; and

WHEREAS, following graduation from medical school, Dr. Cruz interned at Denver General Hospital, and she eventually completed residencies in internal medicine at Denver General Hospital and Herman Houston Hospital, and in pulmonary medicine at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the need to increase her people's access to medical care, Dr. Cruz returned to Guam in 1967 and worked for both the Guam Department of Public Health and the Guam Memorial Hospital; during this time, Dr. Cruz also served as a consultant for the National Institute of Health Research Station, studying *lytgo-bodig*, a neurodegenerative disease endemic to the CHamoru people, and providing valuable assistance in this important research; and



WHEREAS, in addition to working at the Guam Memorial Hospital, Dr. Cruz ran her own private practice, rendering faithful, conscientious, and valuable care to the community; known for her no-nonsense demeanor, Dr. "OC," as she was affectionately known, demonstrated extreme dedication to her patients, often sleeping on tables and couches at the hospital to be near them when they needed her; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Cruz's strength of character was perhaps best illustrated during an incident that occurred on December 28, 1989, when a twenty (20) ton compactor used during the remodeling of the Guam Memorial Hospital toppled over the two hundred (200) foot cliff behind the building, landing at the bottom and leaving the injured operator stranded about twenty-five (25) feet from the top of the cliff; and as there were no male volunteers willing to descend the cliff to rescue the operator who needed medical treatment before he could be moved, without a moment's hesitation, Dr. Cruz immediately climbed twenty-five (25) feet down the face of the cliff, reaching the operator to render first aid, including splinting a broken femur; she then had the patient hoisted up to the surface before she would let herself be brought back up; and thanks to Dr. Cruz's immediate care and presence of mind, all three (3) individuals involved in the incident that evening survived, although according to Dr. Cruz, "the compactor was a total loss"; and

WHEREAS, as a result of her remarkable courage and exemplary valor and heroism, a resolution of commendation was bestowed upon Dr. Cruz by the Twentieth (20<sup>th</sup>) Guam Legislature; and

WHEREAS, despite retiring from government service in 1998, Dr. Cruz continued to work part-time at the Guam Memorial Hospital and run her private clinic, where she often provided care to those who could least afford it, demonstrating her compassion for the island's people and the sense of service her family raised within her so many decades ago; and

WHEREAS, with her throughout her esteemed career and sterling service to the community have been the love of her life, **Dr. Robert Haddock**; their two (2) children, **Michele** and **Ray**, and Ray's wife Carla; and seven (7) grandchildren, Robert, Olivia, Francisco ("Kiko"), Carlos, Gregorio, Stephen, and Jose - all of whom feel privileged to be part of her life and rejoice in her achievements; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Cruz is a living part of Guam's rich history, an inspiration to many young health care professionals who have returned home to serve their community, and an example for all young women who believe that there is power within each and every one of us if you work hard and stay persistent; and

WHEREAS, it is the sense of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* that those who have enhanced the quality of life of this community, and have shown a long and sustained commitment to the progress of our people, certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great island; now therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people of Guam, posthumously recognize Olivia Leola Torres Cruz, M.D. for her service and commitment to the people of Guam as one of the island's foremost medical pioneers; and commemorate her as Guam's first female CHamoru physician during the observance of *Women's History Month*; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the family of the late Dr. Olivia Leola Torres Cruz; and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hagan Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF *I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE 16<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2022.

  
THERESE M. TERLAJE  
Speaker

  
TINA ROSE MUNA BARNES  
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

  
AMANDA LASHELTON  
Legislative Secretary



*Jan Cruz*  
*16 MAR 22*

***I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN***  
**2022 (SECOND) Regular Session**

**Resolution No. 276-36 (COR)**

Introduced by:

Amanda L. Shelton  
Mary Camacho Torres  
Tina Rose Muña Barnes  
Joe S. San Agustin  
V. Anthony Ada  
Frank Blas Jr.  
Joanne Brown  
Christopher M. Dueñas  
James C. Moylan  
Telena Cruz Nelson  
Sabina Flores Perez  
Clynton E. Ridgell  
Telo T. Taitague  
Jose “Pedro” Terlaje  
Therese M. Terlaje

**Relative to posthumously recognizing the late Olivia Leola Torres Cruz, M.D. for her service and commitment to the people of Guam as one of the island’s foremost medical pioneers; and commemorating her as Guam’s first female CHamoru physician during the observance of Women’s History Month; and further expressing condolences to her family on her passing.**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF *I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*:**

**WHEREAS,** it is incumbent upon the people of this great island to honor those within our midst who have made enduring contributions to the quality of life therein; and

1       **WHEREAS**, from time to time *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* takes note of these  
2 extraordinary individuals to publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have  
3 enhanced the stature of our society and the dignity of our residents; and

4       **WHEREAS**, attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing  
5 traditions, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* is justly proud, during the observance of Women's  
6 History Month, to recognize Olivia Leola Torres Cruz, M.D., Guam's first female  
7 CHamoru physician; and

8       **WHEREAS**, Olivia was born on October 24, 1934, in the village of *Sumay*; and  
9 is the daughter of †Ignacio Alcantara Cruz and †Oliva Torres Cruz; and

10       **WHEREAS**, from a young age, Olivia was governed by a keen sense of diligence  
11 and duty to her family; as the oldest daughter of five (5) girls and four (4) boys, she  
12 held many roles in the family's various businesses, from selling her mother's famous  
13 baked goods before school each morning to pumping gas at the Cruz Service Station on  
14 Route 4; and

15       **WHEREAS**, indeed, Olivia's youngest experiences were shaped by her family's  
16 strong work ethic and service to the community, such as her mother making food for  
17 local baseball games or her father selling fish but giving away as many as he sold; the  
18 Cruz family's success continued long after World War II with the establishment of a  
19 ferry service which transported passengers and supplies to Rota, the expansion of the  
20 Cruz Service Station, and the development of the Cruz Equipment Company, which  
21 was founded by Olivia's father and brothers Noel and Eddie; and

22       **WHEREAS**, despite having to re-enroll in first (1<sup>st</sup>) grade after World War II,  
23 ten (10) year old Olivia quickly excelled in school, taking an exam every six (6) months  
24 to elevate her grade level, until, in 1953, Olivia graduated from George Washington  
25 High School as one of its Top Ten scholars; and looking back, Olivia's passion for  
26 education can be traced to her maternal grandmother, Juana San Nicolas Taitano, who

1 was among Guam's first CHamoru school teachers, and therefore likely influenced  
2 Olivia's pursuit of excellence; and

3 **WHEREAS**, while studying at George Washington High School, Olivia was  
4 encouraged by her advanced mathematics teacher, Ms. Jean E. Brower, to pursue higher  
5 education at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, Wisconsin; and

6 **WHEREAS**, after Olivia's graduation, the government of Guam chartered a  
7 special flight to take her and other local students to the United States through  
8 Transocean Air Lines, which cost a fraction of the fare charged by Pan American  
9 Airways, the regular carrier to and from Guam; and Olivia, who was unexpectedly  
10 overcome with homesickness and tears, told her mother that it was too long a time to  
11 be away from home and suddenly postponed her trip; and

12 **WHEREAS**, this last-minute decision saved Olivia's life, as the chartered plane  
13 was tragically lost at sea after leaving Wake Island, claiming the lives of every  
14 promising young CHamoru student onboard; and

15 **WHEREAS**, one (1) month later, Olivia arrived at the University of Wisconsin;  
16 her education was paid for by a partial scholarship from the government of Guam while  
17 her mother paid the remainder of her tuition, plus her room and board; and to pay for  
18 other needs, on top of all her studies Olivia worked at the school cafeteria and at private  
19 homes; and

20 **WHEREAS**, in 1957, Olivia graduated from the University of Wisconsin; and  
21 although she had wanted to be a doctor, Olivia only applied to two (2) medical schools  
22 as she felt her choices were limited by her lack of finances; and

23 **WHEREAS**, despite the fact that she was not initially accepted into medical  
24 school, Olivia remained undeterred in pursuing a career in medicine; while taking  
25 graduate courses in chemistry at the University of Cincinnati, Olivia's research caught  
26 the attention of her superior; due to her hard work, dedication, and intelligence, she was

1 asked to consider the Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania and was soon  
2 accepted with the assistance of a student loan from the government of Guam and a  
3 scholarship from the Military Officer's Wives Club; and

4 **WHEREAS**, in 1962, Olivia Leola Torres Cruz joined the mere eight percent  
5 (8%) of women who graduated from medical school in the United States and became  
6 the first CHamoru woman doctor from Guam; and

7 **WHEREAS**, following graduation from medical school, Dr. Cruz interned at  
8 Denver General Hospital, and she eventually completed residencies in internal medicine  
9 at Denver General Hospital and Herman Houston Hospital, and in pulmonary medicine  
10 at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and

11 **WHEREAS**, recognizing the need to increase her people's access to medical  
12 care, Dr. Cruz returned to Guam in 1967 and worked for both the Guam Department of  
13 Public Health and the Guam Memorial Hospital; during this time, Dr. Cruz also served  
14 as a consultant for the National Institute of Health Research Station, studying lytigo-  
15 bodig, a neurodegenerative disease endemic to the CHamoru people, and providing  
16 valuable assistance in this important research; and

17 **WHEREAS**, in addition to working at the Guam Memorial Hospital, Dr. Cruz  
18 ran her own private practice, rendering faithful, conscientious, and valuable care to the  
19 community; known for her no-nonsense demeanor, Dr. "OC," as she was affectionately  
20 known, demonstrated extreme dedication to her patients, often sleeping on tables and  
21 couches at the hospital to be near them when they needed her; and

22 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Cruz's strength of character was perhaps best illustrated during  
23 an incident that occurred on December 28, 1989, when a twenty (20) ton compactor  
24 used during the remodeling of the Guam Memorial Hospital toppled over the two  
25 hundred (200) foot cliff behind the building, landing at the bottom and leaving the  
26 injured operator stranded about twenty-five (25) feet from the top of the cliff; and as

1 there were no male volunteers willing to descend the cliff to rescue the operator who  
2 needed medical treatment before he could be moved, without a moment's hesitation,  
3 Dr. Cruz immediately climbed twenty-five (25) feet down the face of the cliff, reaching  
4 the operator to render first aid, including splinting a broken femur; she then had the  
5 patient hoisted up to the surface before she would let herself be brought back up; and  
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7 involved in the incident that evening survived, although according to Dr. Cruz, "the  
8 compactor was a total loss"; and

9       **WHEREAS**, as a result of her remarkable courage and exemplary valor and  
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14 where she often provided care to those who could least afford it, demonstrating her  
15 compassion for the island's people and the sense of service her family raised within her  
16 so many decades ago; and

17       **WHEREAS**, with her throughout her esteemed career and sterling service to the  
18 community have been the love of her life, **Dr. Robert Haddock**; their two (2) children,  
19 **Michele** and **Ray**, and Ray's wife Carla; and seven (7) grandchildren, Robert, Olivia,  
20 Francisco ("Kiko"), Carlos, Gregorio, Stephen, and Jose - all of whom feel privileged  
21 to be part of her life and rejoice in her achievements; and

22       **WHEREAS**, Dr. Cruz is a living part of Guam's rich history, an inspiration to  
23 many young health care professionals who have returned home to serve their  
24 community, and an example for all young women who believe that there is power within  
25 each and every one of us if you work hard and stay persistent; and

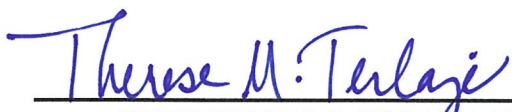


1       **WHEREAS**, it is the sense of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* that those who have  
2 enhanced the quality of life of this community, and have shown a long and sustained  
3 commitment to the progress of our people, certainly have earned the recognition and  
4 applause of all the citizens of this great island; now therefore, be it


5       **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'trentai Sais Na*  
6 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people  
7 of Guam, posthumously recognize Olivia Leola Torres Cruz, M.D. for her service and  
8 commitment to the people of Guam as one of the island's foremost medical pioneers;  
9 and commemorate her as Guam's first female CHamoru physician during the  
10 observance of *Women's History Month*; and be it further

11       **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules  
12 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of  
13 the same be thereafter transmitted to the family of the late Dr. Olivia Leola Torres Cruz;  
14 and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF  
I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 16<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF  
MARCH 2022.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**THERESE M. TERLAJE**  
Speaker

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES**  
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**AMANDA L. SHELTON**  
Legislative Secretary



Office of Senator

**AMANDA L. SHELTON**

*Legislative Secretary & Chairwoman*

Committee on Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education and the  
Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens

*I Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 36<sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature*

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March 16, 2022

**MEMORANDUM**

**To: All Senators**

**36th Guam Legislature**

**From: Senator Amanda L. Shelton** 

**Re: Presentation Notice for Resolution No. 276-36 (COR)**

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Buenas yan Håfa Adai!

**Resolution No. 276-36 (COR) – Amanda L. Shelton / Mary Camacho Torres / Tina Rose Muña Barnes / Joe S. San Agustin** - Relative to posthumously recognizing the late recognizing Olivia Leola Torres Cruz, M.D. for her service and commitment to the people of Guam as one of the island's foremost medical pioneers; and commemorating her as Guam's first female CHamoru physician during the observance of Women's History Month; and further expressing condolences to her family on her passing.

The presentation will take place on Saturday, March 19, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., at the Agana Heights Baptist Church, Agana Heights.

We look forward to your attendance and participation.



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GUAM CONGRESS BUILDING | 163 CHALAN SANTO PAPA | HAGĀTNA, GUAM 96910

[officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org](mailto:officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org) | (671) 969-2574 • (671) 989-2572



# COMMITTEE ON RULES



VICE SPEAKER TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES, CHAIRPERSON

*I Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

*36<sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature*

## COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

**Resolution No. 276-36 (COR) – Amanda L. Shelton, Mary Camacho Torres, Tina Rose Muña Barnes, Joe S. San Agustin–** “Relative to posthumously recognizing the late recognizing Olivia Leola Torres Cruz, M.D. for her service and commitment to the people of Guam as one of the island’s foremost medical pioneers; and commemorating her as Guam’s first female CHamoru physician during the observance of Women’s History Month; and further expressing condolences to her family on her passing.”

	SIGNATURE	DATE	TO ADOPT	TO NOT ADOPT	TO ABSTAIN
Vice Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes Chairperson	E-Vote	03-16-22	✓		
Legislative Secretary Amanda L. Shelton Vice Chairperson		03-16-22	✓		
Speaker Therese M. Terlaje Member					
Senator Telenia Cruz Nelson Member					
Senator Sabina Flores Perez Member	E-Vote	03-16-22	✓		
Senator Clynton E. Ridgell Member					
Senator Joe S. San Agustin Member	E-Vote	03-16-22	✓		
Senator Jose “Pedro” T. Terlaje Member	E-Vote	03-16-22	✓		
Senator Frank F. Blas, Jr. Minority Member	E-Vote	03-16-22	✓		
Senator Mary Camacho Torres Minority Member	E-Vote	03-16-22	✓		
<b>For Sponsor’s Office Use Only</b>					
Sponsor Signature:					
Staff Contact Person:		Roy Quinata			
<b>For COR/Clerk’s Office Use Only</b>					
<u>7</u> Certified _____ Returned _____					
Name:		Camarin L. Breton			
Date:		3/16/22 2:57 P.M.			
Notes:					