

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
381-36 (COR)	Amanda L. Shelton Tina Rose Muña Barnes Frank Blas Jr. Mary Camacho Torres	Relative to recognizing the observance of <i>War Survivor Remembrance</i> Day on June 28, 2022, as part of the celebration of the Seventy-eighth (78th) Year Anniversary of Guam’s Liberation, to pay tribute and commemorate all of the survivors of Guam’s wartime occupation for their immense courage and perseverance; and commending the Guam War Survivors Memorial Foundation for their dedication and service in perpetuating the stories and accounts of the hardships of all those affected during the Japanese occupation of Guam during World War II.	6/8/22 3:22 p.m.	6/28/22 8:00 a.m.	6/21/22 2:04 p.m.					

Resolution No. 381-36 (COR)

Introduced by:

Amanda L. Shelton
Tina Rose Muta Barnes
Frank Blas Jr.
Mary Camacho Torres

V. Anthony Ada
Joanne Brown
Christopher M. Dueñas
James C. Moyn
Tolena Cruz Nelson
Sabina Flores Perez
Clynton E. Radgell
Joe S. San Agustín
Telo T. Taniguchi
Jose "Peto" Terlaje
Therese M. Terlaje



Relative to recognizing the observance of War Survivor Remembrance Day on June 28, 2022, as part of the celebration of the Seventy-eighth (78th) Year Anniversary of Guam's Liberation, to pay tribute and commemorate all of the survivors of Guam's wartime occupation for their immense courage and perseverance; and commending the Guam War Survivors Memorial Foundation for their dedication and service in perpetuating the stories and accounts of the hardships of all those affected during the Japanese occupation of Guam during World War II.

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

WHEREAS, one of the most tragic and horrific events in our island's history occurred during World War II, from December 8, 1941 to August 10, 1944; and the atrocities that the enemy forces inflicted upon the people of Guam have left scars that will never heal. *Chamorus* were enslaved and forced to work for little to no compensation, and many families suffered the loss of personal property and their livelihoods. The rape of women was rampant, and children were unjustly robbed of their innocence. Thousands of *Chamorus* were subjected to physical abuse, detention, and torture, and more than a thousand residents were killed by the Japanese Imperial Army. The heinous actions that resulted in the deaths of many of our native inhabitants were truly devastating and traumatic; and in the end, the peaceful way of life that the *Chamorus* had cherished before the war was lost forever; and

WHEREAS, on November 15, 1945, the U.S. Congress passed Public Law 79-225, the "Meritorious Claims Act of 1945." This Act authorized the Secretary of the Navy to adjudicate and settle claims "for the purpose of granting immediate relief to the residents of Guam by the prompt settlement of meritorious claims." Although Guam had a surviving population of about twenty-one thousand (21,000) residents, only six thousand six hundred forty-six (6,646) claims were filed. The number was significantly lower than expected considering that almost every individual who was on Guam during the occupation was subject to humiliation, beatings, and/or loss of property; and

WHEREAS, as Guam continues to fight for appropriate recognition of those who suffered on Guam during World War II from the U.S. Congress, we must do everything we can here on Guam to honor the memories and the stories of those who endured permanent sufferings. The legacy and heritage of our war survivors, known as our *Greatest Generation*, should be recognized by all of the people of Guam; and *War Survivor Remembrance Day* is an appropriate day to honor the war survivors who have gone before us, to celebrate the lives of those still with us, and to remind all future generations that they must never forget the *Greatest Generation* in our island's history; and

WHEREAS, on June 26, 2015, Guam Public Law 33-56 was enacted declaring that June 28 of each year be observed as *War Survivor Remembrance Day*. June 28 marks an important date in Guam's history, as it was the date that President Harry S. Truman transmitted a request to the U.S. House of Representatives for consideration of an appropriation for the Navy Department to pay claims for death or personal injury to residents on Guam for suffering through the war, and in recognition of the *Chamoru* people who endured one of the most tragic and horrific enemy occupations; and

WHEREAS, to help ensure that the sacrifice and legacy of Guam's war survivors is truly perpetuated for years to come, the Guam War Survivors Memorial Foundation was formed and organizes *War Survivor Remembrance Day* events that cater to all age groups and walks of life. These events include a Memorial Mass that is held every year at the *Dula Nombre de Maria* Cathedral Basilica and a concert series dedicated to the survivors of World War II, featuring the music from that era; and the Foundation has published books featuring the inspiring and heart-wrenching stories of the war survivors and their families; and

WHEREAS, the Guam War Survivors Memorial Foundation also developed a website that is dedicated to allowing war survivors or their families with an outlet to share the hardships they faced during the Japanese occupation. Before the website was created, Senator Frank Blas Jr., President of the Guam War Survivors Memorial Foundation, his senatorial staff, their friends from Expressions Studio, and companies who kindly offered their help, started a weekly series in the Guam edition of the Marianas Variety newspaper called "*Real People. Real Stories*"; and they provided transcribed testimonies from the war survivors who spoke before the Guam War Claims Review Commission in December of 2003. "*Real People. Real Stories*" was created to educate the community about the horrendous experiences of the *Chamoru* people during the war and to remind the U.S. government of its obligation to compensate those who survived the war, and the heirs of those who were killed; and

WHEREAS, the Guam War Survivors Memorial Foundation, in collaboration with the Guam Economic Development Authority, PBS Guam, KUAM Communications, and Shooting Star Productions, presented tributes to Guam's World War II survivors through various productions, such as "*Sentimental Journey: Guam Songs Remembered*" in 2020 which featured songs that were popular during the Japanese occupation of Guam in World War II, and "*Let Your Spirit Dance*" during *War Survivor Remembrance Day* in 2021 which featured Guam's younger generation paying tribute to war survivors through their joy in dancing and nostalgia; 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, recognize the observance of *War Survivor Remembrance Day* on June 28, 2022, as part of the celebration of the Seventy-eighth (78th) Year Anniversary of Guam's Liberation, to pay tribute and commemorate all of the survivors of Guam's wartime occupation for their immense courage and perseverance; and commend the Guam War Survivors Memorial Foundation for their dedication and service in perpetuating the stories and accounts of the hardships of all those affected during the Japanese occupation of Guam during World War II; 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 Senator Frank Blas Jr., President of the Guam War Survivors Memorial Foundation; and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Magsa'bagan Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 21ST DAY OF JUNE 2022.

Therese M. Terlaje
THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker

Amanda L. Shelton
AMANDA L. SHELTON
Acting Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Amanda L. Shelton
AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary



MARK PEREZ

1:34 PM

9-27-22

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

Resolution No. 381-36 (COR)

Introduced by:

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

Relative to recognizing the observance of *War Survivor Remembrance Day* on June 28, 2022, as part of the celebration of the Seventy-eighth (78th) Year Anniversary of Guam’s Liberation, to pay tribute and commemorate all of the survivors of Guam’s wartime occupation for their immense courage and perseverance; and commending the Guam War Survivors Memorial Foundation for their dedication and service in perpetuating the stories and accounts of the hardships of all those affected during the Japanese occupation of Guam during World War II.

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

WHEREAS, one of the most tragic and horrific events in our island’s history occurred during World War II, from December 8, 1941 to August 10, 1944; and the

1 atrocities that the enemy forces inflicted upon the people of Guam have left scars that
2 will never heal. *CHamorus* were enslaved and forced to work for little to no
3 compensation, and many families suffered the loss of personal property and their
4 livelihoods. The rape of women was rampant, and children were unjustly robbed of their
5 innocence. Thousands of *CHamorus* were subjected to physical abuse, detention, and
6 torture, and more than a thousand residents were killed by the Japanese Imperial Army.
7 The heinous actions that resulted in the deaths of many of our native inhabitants were
8 truly devastating and traumatic; and in the end, the peaceful way of life that the
9 *CHamorus* had cherished before the war was lost forever; and

10 **WHEREAS**, on November 15, 1945, the U.S. Congress passed Public Law 79-
11 225, the “Meritorious Claims Act of 1945.” This Act authorized the Secretary of the
12 Navy to adjudicate and settle claims “for the purpose of granting immediate relief to the
13 residents of Guam by the prompt settlement of meritorious claims.” Although Guam
14 had a surviving population of about twenty-one thousand (21,000) residents, only six
15 thousand six hundred forty-six (6,646) claims were filed. The number was significantly
16 lower than expected considering that almost every individual who was on Guam during
17 the occupation was subject to humiliation, beatings, and/or loss of property; and

18 **WHEREAS**, as Guam continues to fight for appropriate recognition of those who
19 suffered on Guam during World War II from the U.S. Congress, we must do everything
20 we can here on Guam to honor the memories and the stories of those who endured
21 permanent sufferings. The legacy and heritage of our war survivors, known as our
22 *Greatest Generation*, should be recognized by all of the people of Guam; and *War*
23 *Survivor Remembrance Day* is an appropriate day to honor the war survivors who have
24 gone before us, to celebrate the lives of those still with us, and to remind all future

1 generations that they must never forget the *Greatest Generation* in our island's history;
2 and

3 **WHEREAS**, on June 26, 2015, Guam Public Law 33-56 was enacted declaring
4 that June 28 of each year be observed as *War Survivor Remembrance Day*. June 28
5 marks an important date in Guam's history, as it was the date that President Harry S.
6 Truman transmitted a request to the U.S. House of Representatives for consideration of
7 an appropriation for the Navy Department to pay claims for death or personal injury to
8 residents on Guam for suffering through the war, and in recognition of the *CHamoru*
9 people who endured one of the most tragic and horrific enemy occupations; and

10 **WHEREAS**, to help ensure that the sacrifice and legacy of Guam's war survivors
11 is truly perpetuated for years to come, the Guam War Survivors Memorial Foundation
12 was formed and organizes *War Survivor Remembrance Day* events that cater to all age
13 groups and walks of life. These events include a Memorial Mass that is held every year
14 at the *Dulce Nombre de Maria* Cathedral Basilica and a concert series dedicated to the
15 survivors of World War II, featuring the music from that era; and the Foundation has
16 published books featuring the inspiring and heart-wrenching stories of the war survivors
17 and their families; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the Guam War Survivors Memorial Foundation also developed a
19 website that is dedicated to allowing war survivors or their families with an outlet to
20 share the hardships they faced during the Japanese occupation. Before the website was
21 created, Senator Frank Blas Jr., President of the Guam War Survivors Memorial
22 Foundation, his senatorial staff, their friends from Expressions Studio, and companies
23 who kindly offered their help, started a weekly series in the Guam edition of the
24 Marianas Variety newspaper called "*Real People. Real Stories*"; and they provided

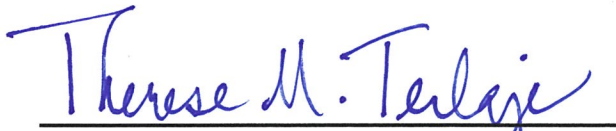
1 transcribed testimonies from the war survivors who spoke before the Guam War Claims
2 Review Commission in December of 2003. “*Real People. Real Stories*” was created to
3 educate the community about the horrendous experiences of the *CHamoru* people
4 during the war and to remind the U.S. government of its obligation to compensate those
5 who survived the war, and the heirs of those who were killed; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the Guam War Survivors Memorial Foundation, in collaboration
7 with the Guam Economic Development Authority, PBS Guam, KUAM
8 Communications, and Shooting Star Productions, presented tributes to Guam’s World
9 War II survivors through various productions, such as “*Sentimental Journey: Guam*
10 *Songs Remembered*” in 2020 which featured songs that were popular during the
11 Japanese occupation of Guam in World War II, and “*Let Your Spirit Dance*” during
12 *War Survivor Remembrance Day* in 2021 which featured Guam’s younger generation
13 paying tribute to war survivors through their joy in dancing and nostalgia; now
14 therefore, be it

15 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'trentai Sais Na*
16 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people
17 of Guam, recognize the observance of *War Survivor Remembrance Day* on June 28,
18 2022, as part of the celebration of the Seventy-eighth (78th) Year Anniversary of
19 Guam’s Liberation, to pay tribute and commemorate all of the survivors of Guam’s
20 wartime occupation for their immense courage and perseverance; and commend the
21 Guam War Survivors Memorial Foundation for their dedication and service in
22 perpetuating the stories and accounts of the hardships of all those affected during the
23 Japanese occupation of Guam during World War II; and be it further

1 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules
2 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of
3 the same be thereafter transmitted to Senator Frank Blas Jr., President of the Guam War
4 Survivors Memorial Foundation; and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I*
5 *Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF
I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 21ST DAY OF
JUNE 2022.**



THERESE M. TERLAJE

Speaker



AMANDA L. SHELTON

Acting Chair, 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 • 36th Guam Legislature

June 23, 2022

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators

36th Guam Legislature

From: Senator Amanda L. Shelton *A. Shelton*

Re: Presentation Notice for Resolution No. 381-36 (COR)

Buenas yan Håfa Adai!

Resolution No. 381-36 (COR) - Amanda L. Shelton - Relative to recognizing the observance of War Survivor Remembrance Day on June 28, 2022, as part of the celebration of the Seventy-eighth (78th) Year Anniversary of Guam's Liberation, to pay tribute and commemorate all the survivors of Guam's wartime occupation for their immense courage and perseverance; and commending the Guam War Survivors Memorial Foundation for their dedication and service in perpetuating the stories and accounts of the hardships of all those affected during the Japanese occupation of Guam during World War II.

The presentation will take place on Tuesday, June 28, 2022, at 8:00 a.m., at the Guam Congress Building.

We look forward to your attendance and participation.





COMMITTEE ON RULES

VICE SPEAKER TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES, CHAIRPERSON

I Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

36th Guam Legislature

COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

Resolution No. 381-36 (COR) -Amanda L. Shelton, Tina Rose Muña Barnes, Frank Blas Jr., Mary Camacho Torres. - "Relative to recognizing the observance of War Survivor Remembrance Day on June 28, 2022, as part of the celebration of the Seventy-eighth (78th) Year Anniversary of Guam's Liberation, to pay tribute and commemorate all of the survivors of Guam's wartime occupation for their immense courage and perseverance; and commending the Guam War Survivors Memorial Foundation for their dedication and service in perpetuating the stories and accounts of the hardships of all those affected during the Japanese occupation of Guam during World War II."

	SIGNATURE	DATE	TO ADOPT	TO NOT ADOPT	TO ABSTAIN
Vice Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes Chairperson	e-Vote	6/21/22	✓		
Legislative Secretary Amanda L. Shelton Vice Chairperson	<i>A. Shelton</i>	6/21/22	✓		
Speaker Therese M. Terlaje Member	e-Vote	6/21/22	✓		
Senator Telena Cruz Nelson Member	e-Vote	6/21/22	✓		
Senator Sabina Flores Perez Member	e-Vote	6/21/22	✓		
Senator Clynton E. Ridgell Member					
Senator Joe S. San Agustin Member	e-Vote	6/21/22	✓		
Senator Jose "Pedro" T. Terlaje Member					
Senator Frank F. Blas, Jr. Minority Member	e-Vote	6/21/22	✓		
Senator Mary Camacho Torres Minority Member	e-Vote	6/21/22	✓		
For Sponsor's Office Use Only					
Sponsor Signature: <i>Amanda L. Shelton</i>					
Staff Contact Person: A-Ichea Yamada					
For COR/Clerk's Office Use Only					
<u>8</u> Certified _____ Returned					
Name: Marie Crisostomo					
Date: 6/21/22 2:04 p.m.					
Notes:					