

**I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2009 (FIRST) REGULAR SESSION**

Resolution No. R164-30 (COR)

Introduced by:

Judith P. Guthertz, DPA

R. J. Respicio

T. C. Ada

F. B. Aguon, Jr.

F. F. Blas, Jr.

E. J.B. Calvo

B. J.F Cruz

J. V. Espaldon

T. R. Muña Barnes

Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.

v.c. pangelinan

M. J. Rector

Telo Taitague

Ray Tenorio

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Relative to recognizing and memorializing the legacy of the late Honorable Corazon C. "Cory" Aquino, eleventh (11th) President of the Republic of the Philippines (1986-1992); and to extending humble and sincere condolences to the Aquino family, the people of the Republic of the Philippines, and the Filipino Community of Guam on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people of Guam.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I**
2 ***MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:***

3 **WHEREAS**, the late Honorable Corazon Cojuangco “Cory” Aquino was
4 born on January 5, 1933, to Jose Cojuangco and the former Demetria
5 Sumulong, and was the sixth (6th) of eight (8) children born into the Cojuangco
6 family of Tarlac, Philippines; and

7 **WHEREAS**, as a young girl, Cory attended grade school at the St.
8 Scholastica’s College in Manila and graduated at the top of her class in 1943,
9 and after World War II, she attended the Assumption Convent in Manila, and
10 later her family moved to the United States; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Cory studied at the Ravenhill Academy in Philadelphia, the
12 Notre Dame Convent School in New York, and the neighboring institute, the
13 College of Mount Saint Vincent, where she obtained her Liberal Arts degree,
14 graduating in 1953 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in French and a minor in
15 Mathematics; and

16 **WHEREAS**, in 1953, Cory returned to the Philippines to take up the
17 study of law at Far Eastern University, and in 1954, met and married the love
18 of her life, Benigno S. “Ninoy” Aquino, Jr.; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the union of Cory and Ninoy was blessed with five (5)
20 children: a son, Benigno Simeon Aquino III, and four (4) daughters, Maria
21 Elena, Aurora Corazon, Victoria Eliza and Kristina Bernadette; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Cory supported her husband’s political ambitions as he
2 successfully sought the office of Mayor of the town of Concepcion, Tarlac, and
3 later he was elected as the Governor of Tarlac Province; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Ninoy was elected to the Philippine Senate in 1967, with
5 Cory remaining in the background as a loving and supportive wife who
6 ensured the domestic front of the Aquino family was maintained; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Ninoy Aquino’s rise in the political scene of the Philippines
8 was dramatic and changed Cory’s destiny, as he became an outspoken critic
9 of then-President Ferdinand Marcos, who had declared martial law in
10 September of 1972, abolishing the Philippine Constitution; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Senator Aquino was arrested and sentenced to death;
12 however, intervention by U.S. President Jimmy Carter allowed the Aquino
13 patriarch to travel the United States for medical treatment, and upon his much
14 heralded return to the Philippines in 1983, Ninoy was shot dead as he
15 disembarked from the aircraft; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Benigno S. “Ninoy” Aquino’s assassination became the
17 impetus for the Filipino people to gather their courage and protest the
18 institution of martial law in favor of restoring the principles of democracy;
19 and

20 **WHEREAS**, Corazon C. “Cory” Aquino emerged from the shadows of
21 her late husband’s legacy and took center stage in world politics, and she

1 eventually became the favored presidential candidate in the 1986 Philippine
2 elections against President Marcos; and

3 **WHEREAS**, despite protests by the United States and the Roman
4 Catholic Church, and allegations of vote rigging, President Marcos, on
5 February 15, 1986, asserted that she was indeed the victor of the election; and

6 **WHEREAS**, disenfranchised by the process of the election, the Filipino
7 citizenry began a “People Power” revolt in the streets of Manila that
8 culminated on February 25, 1986, with the swearing in of both President
9 Marcos and - declared by the masses - President-elect Corazon C. Aquino; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the eventful evening of the 25th, saw the self-proclaimed
11 “plain housewife” become the 11th President of the Republic of the Philippines
12 as the Honorable Corazon “Cory” Aquino etched her mark in history,
13 becoming the first female president of the Philippines, with the departure of
14 disgraced President Ferdinand Marcos into exile; and

15 **WHEREAS**, President Aquino, the celebrated “housewife,” became an
16 icon of democracy the world over; she was selected as Time magazine’s
17 Woman of the Year; and she was nominated to receive the Nobel Peace Prize,
18 among many other international honors from publications and institutions
19 during her service to her country; and

20 **WHEREAS**, President Aquino survived several coup attempts; she
21 instituted the “Freedom Constitution” as the official Philippine Constitution;
22 she led several significant legal reforms that revamped the court systems,

1 inclusive of the Supreme Court; and she would also steward her country
2 through several major natural disasters; and

3 **WHEREAS**, President Aquino served as an invaluable asset in the
4 improvement and development of the Republic of the Philippines' social,
5 economic and political landscape, and she restored and renewed democracy
6 and freedom through the People Power Revolution at EDSA in 1986; and

7 **WHEREAS**, President Aquino concluded her term on June 30, 1992,
8 relinquishing the reigns of power in a relatively peaceful, and most
9 importantly, democratic process; and

10 **WHEREAS**, after her presidency, Cory remained a respected pillar in
11 the Philippines and world politics, receiving honorary degrees, including:
12 Doctor of Humane Letters from the College of Mount Saint Vincent (New
13 York), Ateneo de Manila University, and Xavier University (Philippines);
14 Doctor of Laws from the University of the Philippines; and *Honoris Causa* from
15 Boston University, Fordham University, Waseda University (Tokyo), Eastern
16 University, and the University of Santo Tomas (Manila); as well as a Doctor of
17 Humanities from Stonehill College in Massachusetts; and

18 **WHEREAS**, numerous other awards and distinctions Cory received
19 include the Eleanor Roosevelt Human Rights Award, the United Nations
20 Silver Medal, and the Canadian International Prize for Freedom; in 1994, she
21 was named as one of the *100 Women Who Shaped World History*; in 1996, she
22 received the J. William Fulbright Prize for International Understanding from

1 the Fulbright Association; in August 1999, she was chosen by Time Magazine
2 as one of the Twenty (20) Most Influential Asians of the 20th Century; and in
3 2006, she was honored as one (1) of sixty-five (65) great Asian Heroes; and

4 **WHEREAS**, most recently the European-based "*A Different View*"
5 selected Cory as one (1) of the fifteen (15) Champions of World Democracy,
6 and in 2002, she became the first woman named to the Board of Governors of
7 the Board of the Asian Institute of Management, a leading graduate business
8 school and think tank in the Asia Pacific region, on which she served until
9 2006; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the late Honorable Corazon C. Aquino, a daughter of the
11 Republic of the Philippines, with the support of her family and her fellow
12 Filipinos, and in the aura of her late-husband's legacy, lived her life as a
13 model citizen, committed to home, community, country and faith, and she is
14 also recognized as a devoted housewife, a doting mother, a diligent
15 stateswoman and a staunch woman of faith; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Cory remains a symbol of hope and peace for persons in
17 countries seeking freedom and social equality through a stable and
18 democratic government, illustrating that together people can overcome their
19 current state of affairs no matter how dismal; and

20 **WHEREAS**, Cory remains an important, towering example of the
21 strength, will and determination that can be found within the hearts and souls
22 of women everywhere, and the memories of her successful struggle to carry

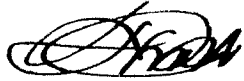
1 the torch of freedom and democracy will continue to inspire all for years to
2 come; now, therefore, be it

3 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'Trenta Na*
4 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the
5 people of Guam, recognize and memorialize the legacy of the late Honorable
6 President Corazon C. "Cory" Aquino, eleventh (11th) President of the Republic
7 of the Philippines; and be it further

8 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'Trenta Na*
9 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the
10 people of Guam extend humble and sincere condolences to the Aquino family,
11 to the people of the Republic of the Philippines, and to Guam's Filipino
12 Community on the occasion of the passing of the late Honorable President
13 Corazon C. "Cory" Aquino; and be it further

14 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on
15 Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and
16 that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Aquino family -
17 Benigno Simeon Aquino III, Maria Elena, Aurora Corazon, Victoria Eliza, and
18 Kristina Bernadette; to Mr. Alex Gagaring, President, Filipino Community of
19 Guam; to the Honorable Olivia V. Palala, Philippine Counsel General on
20 Guam; to the Honorable Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, President of the Republic
21 of the Philippines; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahren*
22 *Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF
I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN ON THE 7TH DAY OF
AUGUST 2009.



JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.
Speaker



RORY J. RESPICIO

Chairperson, Committee on Rules



TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary