

I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2010 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. 490-30 (COR)

Introduced by:

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Judith P. Guthertz, DPA

T. C. Ada

V. Anthony 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

R. J. Respicio

Telo Taitague

Ray Tenorio

Relative to commending and congratulating Mrs. Gloria Camacho Borja Nelson on her induction into the Guam Educators Hall of Fame, *Phi Delta Kappa*, Guam Chapter, 1302; and to recognizing her for her invaluable contributions and lifelong dedication to the education of Guam's youth.

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

3 **WHEREAS,** Gloria Camacho Borja Nelson, a native daughter of Guam
4 who is currently a resident of *Yigo*, has dedicated her life to public service,
5 illuminating not only her lasting contributions to the Guam Department of
6 Education and social reform, but also the issues surrounding the senior
7 citizens of Guam, and their quest for enhanced government services, and
8 respect as a disenfranchised group; and

9 **WHEREAS,** Mrs. Nelson is the daughter of Luis Quitugua Borja and
10 Maria Desa Camacho; she is the wife of the Honorable Theodore "Ted" S.
11 Nelson, former Senator; and the mother of four (4) children: Gwen; Ted, Jr.;
12 Glenn; and Rhonda; and

13 **WHEREAS,** in 1955, Mrs. Nelson graduated from George Washington
14 High School, and shortly thereafter, in 1957, she was the recipient of a
15 Territorial College of Guam Scholarship, and she went on to pursue an
16 Associates of Arts Degree from the Territorial College of Guam; and

17 **WHEREAS,** in 1959, Gloria received her Bachelor of Science Degree
18 from Ohio State University, where she also was a scholarship recipient, and
19 she then continued her pursuit to complete post-graduate studies, to include a
20 Masters of Science Degree from the University of New Mexico; and she also
21 took courses in Educational Law and Statistics at the University of Oregon,
22 and Reading courses at the University of California, Los Angeles; and

1 **WHEREAS**, growing up, Gloria Nelson’s parents were strict, and they
2 repeatedly emphasized hard work and taking responsibility for one’s actions;
3 and they also encouraged their children to be actively involved in the Church
4 to continue to enrich them in the Catholic faith; education was highly valued
5 in her household, and her parents often sacrificed what they had to provide
6 each of their children with the opportunity for educational advancement; and

7 **WHEREAS**, for more than thirty (30) years, Mrs. Nelson’s mission was
8 to improve our children’s education, which began after being hired as a
9 substitute teacher for the elementary schools of the Guam Department of
10 Education; and her dedication and committed efforts led to increasing
11 responsibilities and upward mobility within the school system, as a certified
12 teacher, consultant, principal, deputy director, director, and subsequently an
13 appointed, and then elected school board member; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Gloria Nelson’s insights into the minds of children and the
15 possibilities of providing them with the necessary tools to develop and reach
16 their potential manifested in her relentless drive to develop and implement
17 diverse and original programs to enhance each child’s development in the
18 classroom, making her an educational pioneer on Guam; in addition, Mrs.
19 Nelson has been known to take the initiative to secure resources for our public
20 schools, and to enhance our teachers’ professional stature; and she was
21 instrumental in lobbying for equitable pay and benefits for local teachers; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Gloria challenged autocracy in bureaucratic offices and
2 school buildings alike, arguing for school reform and urging teachers and
3 parents to take action; she believed in community involvement to assist in
4 education reform, and she worked closely with village mayors and parents to
5 motivate and assist the youth; and

6 **WHEREAS**, Gloria Nelson’s vision of the democratic role of the public
7 schools, and the responsibility of teachers as forward thinking citizens, is an
8 inspiration for educators today; this idea was later translated when she was
9 instrumental in putting a stop to the removal of pregnant teachers from
10 working, which at that time was a milestone in women’s rights; and she also
11 advocated for limited-term substitute teachers to gain certification, extending
12 this further by providing opportunities for school aides to attend college to
13 gain certification; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Gloria’s belief that public schools can offer quality
15 education comparable to that offered in a private school has never wavered;
16 during her years as Director and then Board Member, she led a team of deeply
17 dedicated teachers and administrators to prove that caring instructors, an
18 atmosphere of disciplined creativity, and a refusal to accept mediocrity, can
19 transform the lives of all children; this tenet inspired her to provide, without
20 pay, continuous staff development for school administrators, teachers,
21 administrative central office staff, and superintendents; she also initiated

1 volunteers island-wide, to include village mayors, as part of her “Happy
2 Labor Campaign” to assist schools in maintaining a clean environment; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Nelson’s unique brand of discipline provided other
4 outlets for children to be disciplined within the school setting. Rather than
5 suspending or referring problem youth to other governmental agencies,
6 students were given assignments and were supervised; these “Opportunity
7 Classrooms” were created to assist students who faced challenges in their
8 academics; and

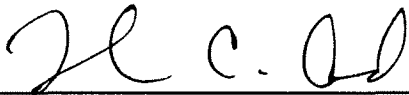
9 **WHEREAS**, Gloria Nelson is a remarkable example of a social reformer
10 and leading advocate in the fight for equity for Guam’s disenfranchised senior
11 citizens; she is a dynamic leader, civic advocate and school reformer. Her
12 staunch beliefs continue to be her model of success born of dedication,
13 passion, and hard work; she articulates an educated, feminist perspective of
14 strong leadership that is truly honorable and has helped her to succeed in a
15 variety of endeavors; now, therefore, be it

16 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina’Trenta Na*
17 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the
18 people of Guam, commend and congratulate Mrs. Gloria Camacho Borja
19 Nelson on the occasion of her induction into the Guam Educators Hall of
20 Fame, *Phi Delta Kappa*, Guam Chapter, 1032; and does further recognize her
21 for her lifelong dedication to the education of Guam’s youth, and for her

1 invaluable contributions as an advocate for Guam's senior citizens; and be it
2 further

3 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on
4 Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and
5 that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Mrs. Gloria Camacho Borja
6 Nelson; to *Phi Delta Kappa*, Guam Chapter, 1302; and to the Honorable Felix P.
7 Camacho, *I Maga'lahren Guåhan*.

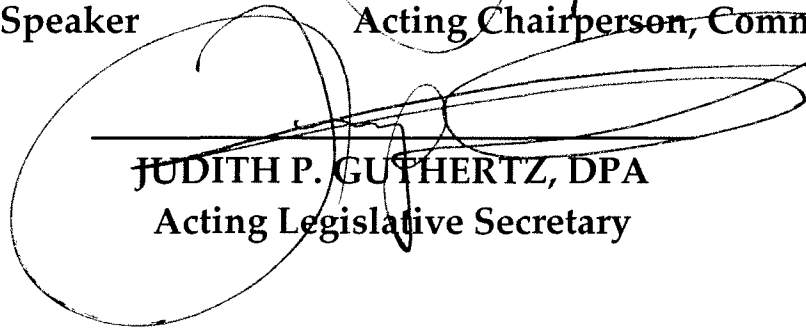
**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES
OF I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 17TH DAY OF
DECEMBER 2010.**



THOMAS C. ADA
Acting Speaker



JUDITH P. GUTHERTZ, DPA
Acting Chairperson, Committee on Rules



JUDITH P. GUTHERTZ, DPA
Acting Legislative Secretary