

**I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2009 (FIRST) Regular Session**

2009 FEB - 9 AM 10:56 AM

Res. No. 40 (COR)

Introduced by:

Judith P. Guthertz, DP
Rory J. Respicio
B.J. Cruz



Relative to remembering and memorializing the Late Joseph Charles Murphy on his legacy as Guam's foremost journalist and columnist, and thanking him for his service to our island and offering condolences to his family.

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

3 **WHEREAS,** the People of Guam lost an icon of journalism on February 5, 2009,
4 when the great columnist, writer, and editor Joseph Charles Murphy passed on; and

5 **WHEREAS,** Joseph Charles Murphy better known as "Joe" to his family, friends,
6 and readers, was born on February 23, 1927 in Appleton, Wisconsin; and

7 **WHEREAS,** Joe Murphy married his high school sweetheart, Marion, 62
8 wonderful years ago and have 7 children: Colleen, Maureen, Shannon, Timothy, Erin,
9 Megan, and Joey; 25 grandchildren, and 17 great grandchildren; and

10 **WHEREAS,** Joe Murphy joined the Navy at the age of 17 during World War II,
11 returned home after WWII to finish high school, eloped with Marion on the night of
12 their high school graduation, and later went on to earn a degree in journalism from the
13 University of Wisconsin at Madison, and worked as a journalist ever since; and

14 **WHEREAS,** Joe Murphy worked as a reporter, editor and columnist in
15 Wisconsin Oregon, and California before taking a job in Guam in 1965; and

16 **WHEREAS,** Joe Murphy arrived on Guam on December 8, 1965, Our Lady of
17 Kamalen Day, and joked that the procession was a welcoming parade just for him, as
18 he knew Guam would be his home for the rest of his life; and

19 **WHEREAS,** Joe Murphy took a job running what was then known as the Guam
20 Daily News, and is now known as the Pacific Daily News, becoming the editor and
21 writer of the column for which he is most well known, "Pipe Dreams," and other daily
22 editorial topics such as new developments, the economy, innovative ideas, and politics,
23 and later traveled around the Pacific to produce more editorials about our region as the
24 issues relate to Guam; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Joe Murphy loved adventure and took advantage of offers to try
2 many different things and write about them, and is the author of two books: “Guam is
3 a Four Letter Word” and “Son of a Four Letter Word;” and

4 **WHEREAS**, Joe Murphy later retired as editor of Pacific Daily News in 1988, but
5 continued to write his column which changed names from “Pipe Dreams” to “Murphy’s
6 Law” after he quit smoking; and

7 **WHEREAS**, upon retirement and raising his children to adulthood, Joe Murphy
8 took his great love, Marion, and traveled the world because of his love for history,
9 geography, culture and politics and was always looking for new ideas that might work
10 on Guam, his beloved home, and he shared those thoughts in his column in the Pacific
11 Daily News; and

12 **WHEREAS**, Joseph Murphy’s legacy lives on in the island of Guam and with it’s
13 people, but most especially his children who have carried on his passion for writing and
14 journalism and have followed in his footsteps and made it their business like their
15 father; and

16 **WHEREAS**, in February 2007, Joe Murphy wrote a column about his 80th
17 birthday where he reflected on his passionate life, wild youth and changing island; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Joe Murphy always believed in equality, pushing his daughters as
19 well as his sons to find their passions and excel in life; he thought highly of island people
20 and together with his wife passed their attitudes about islanders to all those who
21 encountered their presence; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the people of Guam will sorely miss the writings, the thoughts, and
23 the humor that we grew up with and that enriched our lives for nearly four decades as
24 we all mourn the passing of Joseph Charles Murphy, journalist extraordinaire; now,
25 therefore, be it

26 **RESOLVED**, that the committee on rules of *I Mina Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*
27 does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people of Guam grieve over the
28 loss of the Late Joseph Charles Murphy and offer it’s condolences and sympathies to his
29 wife and children; and, be it further

30 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules
31 certify and the Secretary of the Legislature attest the adoption hereof and that copies of
32 the same be transmitted to his wife, Marion Murphy; to his children: Colleen, Maureen,

1 Shannon, Timothy, Erin, Megan and Joey; to Rindraty Celes-Limitiaco, Publisher of the
2 Pacific Daily News; the President and CEO of Gannett Inc., and to the Honorable Felix
3 P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

4 **DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I**
5 **MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE ____ DAY OF FEBRUARY**
6 **2009.**