

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

2009 MAR 26 PM 2:58 EDT

Resolution No. 64(COR)

Introduced by:

B.J.F. Cruz
R.J. Respicio
J.P. Guthertz
T.R. Muña Barnes
A.B. [unclear]
T.C. [unclear]
Matt Re [unclear]

Relative to offering condolences to the family of the late former Speaker Carlos P. Taitano on the occasion of his passing, and memorializing his many unique achievements in the political, economic, and cultural development of Guam.

BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:

WHEREAS, former Speaker Carlos P. Taitano, was born on March 14, 1917, the son of the late Jose San Nicolas Taitano and the late Dolores Diaz Pangelinan of Hagåtña, and peacefully passed away at the age of 92 years at midnight on March 25, 2009 in California; and

WHEREAS, former Speaker Taitano's life encompassed almost a century of important events on Guam and in the world, and he was a participant at the forefront of Guam's birth and growth as an American government and was also an advocate for cultural preservation; and

WHEREAS, former Speaker Taitano was an active participant at events on Guam up until his last days, and was an invaluable resource for historical perspective, advice, and consultation on current Guam matters for public officials, academicians, and cultural groups; and

WHEREAS, as a child, former Speaker Taitano attended the Number One School (later the Governor Leary School), Dorn Hall, the Almacén, Seaton Schroeder, and the Guam Institute before graduating from McKinley High School in Hawaii, and continued his education at the University of Hawaii, where he received his B.S. degree; and

WHEREAS, he was in graduate school and working as a police chemist when the Second World War began; and

WHEREAS, with the nation at war and Guam in enemy hands, Speaker Taitano joined the U.S. Army under Gen. Douglas MacArthur and became one of the first three Chamorros to be commissioned military officers; and

WHEREAS, he participated in the liberation of the Philippines and was sent as part of a special unit assigned to Tagatay Ridge as part of the liberation effort; and

WHEREAS, following an assignment to post-war Manila Army headquarters and Fort Ruger in Hawaii he was stationed in 1946 at Ft. Mead, Maryland, where he married Marian Agueda Johnston and the couple returned home to Guam; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Taitano later graduated from Georgetown Law School and became a practicing attorney and successful businessman; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Taitano served in the pre-Organic Act Guam Congress, where he became known for engineering the historic Guam Congress Walkout on March 5, 1949, protesting 50 years of arbitrary rule under the U.S. military government; and

WHEREAS, this protest led to the enactment of the Guam Organic Act which granted U.S. citizenship and established the beginnings of a democratically elected government for the people of Guam; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Taitano was the only Chamorro present for the signing of the Guam Organic Act by President Harry S Truman in the White House on August 1, 1950; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Taitano served in the Third Guam Legislature, and following his election to the Eighth Guam Legislature, he was chosen Speaker by his colleagues; and

WHEREAS, as Speaker of the Eighth Guam Legislature, he testified before U.S. Congressional Committees in 1965 advocating the creation of the elected offices of Governor of Guam and Delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives, both of which were later achieved; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Taitano has throughout his life championed noble causes, including decolonization, self-determination, and political rights for the people of Guam; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Taitano has long held a passionate interest in Guam's history and culture and has taken active part in the development and promotion of the cultural traditions of the indigenous people of Guam - the *Taotao Tano'* – the People of the Land; and

WHEREAS, included among the many awards and commendations bestowed upon Carlos Taitano are the following: Founder, Historian and Honorary Lifetime Member, *Pa'a Taotao Tano'*; Honorary Doctorate of Laws from the University of Guam; one of the first to serve as President of the Guam Bar Association; Cultural Heritage Award, 50th Anniversary of the Organic Act Commemorative Ceremony; 1994 *Maga'lahi* Award in Special Recognition for Lifetime Cultural Contribution; member, Governor's Council of Elders; and Diplôme D' Honneur presented by the President of French Polynesia; *Haleta* Series "*I Manfayi: Who's Who in Chamorro History,*" and the National Register's "*Who's Who In Executive and Professionals,*" 2004 Edition; and

WHEREAS, among his many cultural achievements and contributions includes: Conceiver and Consultant of "*Guahu Taotao Tano'*" presenting three periods of Marianas history, "*The Taotao Tano', Spanish, and the American*" which was performed in Guam in 1984 and at the Festival of Pacific Arts in Tahiti in 1986; and

WHEREAS, Carlos Taitano's other cultural achievements include: Producer-Director, 1949 Pageant – "History of Guam in Songs and Dances", Guam; Owner, 1957-1962 Micronesian Village Art Gallery and Gift Shop, Guam; Conceiver, Choreographer and Consultant – Performance "*Na'La'La I Taotao Tano'*" Third Annual Pacific Islander Festival of Los Angeles, 1993; Consultant, 1997 – Cultural Authenticity and Presentation – 7th Annual Pacific Islander Festival, Los Angeles; Consultant for various cultural events in Hawaii, Tahiti and the Cook Islands; continuing mentorship for *Pa'a Taotao Tano'* - the umbrella organization for all Chamorro cultural dance groups in Guam, the CNMI, and California; just to name a few of his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Taitano was also the Founder of the Guam Territorial Society in Washington D.C.; Guam Delegate to the South Pacific Conference, New Guinea, 1965; Consultant and Benefactor – 1998 Pacific American Foundation Leadership Center of the Charles Drucker School of Management, Claremont University; Past President of the Guam Bar Association; Past President of the Rotary Club of Guam; Past Chairman, Board of Trustees, Guam Memorial Hospital; Past President, Reserve Officers Association of Guam; among other positions; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Taitano's published works include: manuscript submittals – "Political and Cultural History of the Chamorro People,"

University of the South Pacific, Suva, Fiji and the University of Guam; "Status Tensions Between Guam and the United States: Participant-Observer Accounts," in *Guam History: Perspectives: Volume One 1997*, Micronesia Area Research Center, University of Guam; *Hale'-ta Series "Issues in Guam's Political Development"* Volume 1, 1993, Political Status Education Coordinating Commission, Guam; U.S. Congressional Record: "Commemoration of 100 years of U.S. Rule in Guam," August 6, 1998; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Taitano's children and spouses are Linda Carleen Taitano Reyes and Joaquin Guevara Reyes; Carl William Taitano and Claudia Bast Taitano; and Tyrone Johnston Taitano and Kelly G. Marsh; his grandchildren are: Victor John Lujan II and Lagrimas Flores Lujan, Dana Taitano Lujan and Teresita Paulino Lujan, Carlos Benjamin Taitano, Livia Diana Taitano and Kathryn Agueda Taitano; and he has five great-grandchildren: Joshua Paulino Lujan, Dominic Cheyne Lujan, Adryan Paulino Lujan, Victor John Lujan III and Daryn Paulino Lujan; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Taitano is brother and –in law to the following who have departed this life: Jose Pangelinan Taitano and Darling Makaena Taitano and Nora Goo Taitano, Francisco Pangelinan Taitano and Nani Santos Taitano, Juan Pangelinan Taitano and Trinidad Quinata Taitano, Ramon Pangelinan Taitano and Rosabella Villagomez Taitano, Maria Taitano San Agustin and Candido Sanchez San Agustin, Ana Taitano Javier

and Jose Pangelinan Javier, Enrique Pangelinan Taitano, Rafael Pangelinan Taitano and Maria Guevara Taitano, Rosa P. Taitano, Rita P. Taitano, Joaquin Pangelinan Taitano; and he is also –in law to Mary Estrella Costa Taitano (wife of Joaquin Taitano); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize former Speaker Carlos P. Taitano as a giant figure in the political, economic and cultural development of Guam, a fighter for respect and justice, and a historian of culture; and be it further

RESOLVED, that *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does further wish to express the condolences of the people of Guam to the family of the late Speaker Taitano; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the family of the late Honorable Carlos P. Taitano; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE DAY OF MARCH, 2009.

Judith P. Won Pat
Speaker

Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Senator and Legislative Secretary