

I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
2010 (SECOND) REGULAR SESSION

302-30

Resolution No. ____ (COR)

Introduced by:

B.J.F Cruz
TRUENIUM
RESPIRO AN

2010 JUN 04
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Relative to memorializing and acknowledging the contributions of Father Francis X. Hezel, S.J., to the advancement of education, public health, economic reform, cultural preservation, youth, and spiritual development in Micronesia.

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

WHEREAS, Father Francis X. Hezel, S.J. was born January 29, 1939 and was ordained into the priesthood on June 13, 1969, having earned Bachelor's degrees in classical languages, philosophy, and divinity, and Master's degrees in classical languages, history, and theology; and

WHEREAS, he served as classroom teacher at Xavier High School in Chuuk during his regency through 1966 and returned in 1969 to continue teaching and chair the social studies department; and

WHEREAS, he was named principal of Xavier High School in 1973, at which time he articulated school goals, introduced Chuukese language courses, and further innovated the educational system by implementing annual planning sessions for students and faculty, individualized instruction, electives for enrichment, peer tutoring, community service projects, a media course, and a seven-week long Town Study Project for seniors; and

WHEREAS, he designed and published a theology curriculum for secondary students, humbly entitled, *Some Suggestions for a High School Religion Program in Micronesia*, conducted a training workshop for religion teachers, and remained dedicated to spiritual instruction in Micronesia, directing the revision of the curriculum; and

WHEREAS, as director of the Micronesian Social Studies Program for the Trust Territory Education Department from 1976, he supervised the planning and design of the social studies curriculum and directed workshops toward its execution by secondary school teachers of the Trust Territories; and

1 **WHEREAS**, his directorship of the Program led to the assembly of alumni organizations
2 throughout the individual islands, the establishment of a Board of Directors with decision-
3 making power over school policies and finance, supervised the entire revision of the curriculum,
4 and organized spiritual retreats for junior and seniors; and

5 **WHEREAS**, he served as member of a four-person core team to study education in the
6 Republic of the Marshalls, undertook a yearlong project aimed at improving education in the
7 FSM the RMI, and Palau, served as visiting scholar at PREL to plan the community education
8 program, and published a series of four papers as issues of *Micronesian Counselor*.

9 **WHEREAS**, when named Director of the Micronesian Seminar in 1972, he planned and
10 conducted several major Territory-wide conferences on critical issues in Micronesia such as
11 *Moral Issues in the Political Status Question; Education for What?; Human Development; Youth*
12 *in Micronesia; U.S. Federal Programs; Youth Drinking in Micronesia; and Past Achievements*
13 *and Future Possibilities: Economic Development in Micronesia*, the reports of which he edited
14 and published, disseminating them throughout the Trust Territory and beyond; and

15 **WHEREAS**, he advocated for political, economic, and adult education and good
16 governance by composing case studies for programs on themes such as political status, economic
17 development, and family problems, serving as the public education specialist to promote land
18 registration in the Marshall Islands, conducting a two-month project to study Micronesians living
19 abroad in the U.S. and its Territories, and conducting a series of twenty-four presentations
20 throughout the region on good governance and eight workshops on the current economic status
21 of the Federated States of Micronesia; and

22 **WHEREAS**, he assisted in the FSM government's efforts toward economic reforms,
23 presented an address on reform to the traditional leadership of Pohnpei, delivered the keynote
24 address at the Kosrae Economic Summit, chaired the committee on education at the Pohnpei
25 Economic Summit, and scripted and assisted in the production of two television programs
26 designed to speed economic reforms in FSM; and

27 **WHEREAS**, he served as consultant for Asian Development Bank for a six-month
28 community education project in the FSM on the use of land for investment, undertook a similar
29 education project for the Bank on the Western legal system in the FSM, served as consultant for
30 the Bank of a project aimed at mobilizing land in the Marshall Islands, and published reports and
31 public education materials for these purposes; and

1 **WHEREAS**, he supervised a two-month study of Palauan emigration since 1950, a study
2 of emigration from the FSM to Guam, and co-authored a research article on later data on FSM
3 emigration to Guam; and

4 **WHEREAS**, he served as project coordinator for research on juvenile delinquency in the
5 Trust Territory, supervised a study of alcohol abuse among Micronesian youth, compiled data on
6 more than one thousand suicide cases in Micronesia, and implemented workshops, conferences,
7 and strategies against suicide in the Pacific, studied and published his hypothesis relating suicide
8 to sociocultural changes in island family structures, and directed a yearlong grant to study and
9 combat suicide in Micronesia that is aimed at updating suicide data and producing materials for
10 parenting workshops; and

11 **WHEREAS**, he conducted needs assessments on alcohol and drug use in the FSM and the
12 Republic of the Marshall Islands for U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services
13 Administration and supervised data collection on drug use in these countries and authored final
14 reports.

15 **WHEREAS**, he conducted a summer-long study of child abuse in Chuuk and directed a
16 yearlong study of the same throughout Micronesia and published his findings and conclusions;
17 and further authored a study on mental illness for a Pacific-wide conference held in Honolulu,
18 and directed an epidemiological study of the severely mentally ill throughout Palau, the
19 Marshalls, and the FSM; and

20 **WHEREAS**, he established and supervised “Youth Link” to serve as a liaison between
21 institutions serving youth in Micronesia and produce a regular newsletter and annual conferences
22 for Micronesian youth workers; and

23 **WHEREAS**, he served as member of a select committee formed by the U.S. Institute of
24 Medicine to evaluate and report on health services in the Pacific, directed a three-year program
25 aimed at providing continuing medical education for young island doctors in Micronesia,
26 spurring the development of primary health care in the islands, co-authored a national report on
27 Sustainable Human Development in the FSM, and planned and conducted workshops on
28 parenting to discuss differences between traditional practices and beliefs and present day needs;
29 and

30 **WHEREAS**, he edited a series of occasional papers on topics of interest to counselors for
31 the series *Micronesian Counselor*, which continues to be published to this day; and

1 **WHEREAS**, he produced a monograph of and assisted in the production of books and a
2 film on sunken Japanese fleets in Chuuk, designed a series of twenty-five collections of
3 historical photographs for posting in the Micronesian Seminar website, and initiated a project to
4 collect island music and add approximately one thousand songs to the MicSem resource center;
5 and

6 **WHEREAS**, Fr. Hezel served as curator for and expanded the Micronesian Seminar
7 library to a specialized collection of 18,000 titles on the region with particular strengths in
8 history and anthropology, and organized a photograph collection of approximately 50,000
9 historical images and 500 films on Micronesia; now, therefore, be it

10 **RESOLVED**, *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the
11 people of Guam, recognize and acknowledge the accomplishments and contributions of Father
12 Francis X. Hezel, S.J., to the advancement of education, public health, economic reform, cultural
13 preservation, youth, and spiritual development in Micronesia over the course of a career that
14 spanned nearly fifty (50) years; and be it further

15 **RESOLVED**, that *I Liheslatura* does further extend *un dângkulu na si Yu'us ma'ase* to
16 Father Hezel for the knowledge, kindness, and compassion he has bestowed to the people of our
17 region over the course of a career that spanned nearly fifty (50) years and continues to the
18 present; and be it further

19 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the
20 adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Father Francis X. Hezel,
21 S.J., 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 _____ 2010.**

JUDITH T. WON PAT
Speaker

RORY J. RESPICIO
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Secretary of the Legislature