



I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	NOTES
176-36 (COR)	Mary Camacho Torres Tina Rose Muña Barnes	Relative to posthumously recognizing the late educator and advocate Dr. Richard W. Fee for his immeasurable contributions to the community and for his countless hours working to make Guam a stronger, more just place to live; and to further extending sincere condolences to his family on his passing, on behalf of the People of Guam.	9/22/21 9:21 a.m.	9/25/21 10:00 a.m.						

I MINA'TRENTAI SAIS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2021 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 176-36 (COR)

Introduced by:

Mary Camacho Torres 
Tina Rose Muña Barnes 

Relative to posthumously recognizing the late educator and advocate Dr. Richard W. Fee for his immeasurable contributions to the community and for his countless hours working to make Guam a stronger, more just place to live; and to further extending sincere condolences to his family on his passing, on behalf of the People of Guam.

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

3 **WHEREAS**, it is the sense of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to honor the life and
4 accomplishments of those distinguished citizens of this great island, and

5 **WHEREAS**, is the custom of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to pay tribute to those
6 individuals whose professional lives and civic endeavors have enhanced the basic
7 humanity among us all; and

8 **WHEREAS**, attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing
9 traditions, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* is justly proud to honor the legacy of the late educator
10 and advocate Dr. Richard W. Fee; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Fee was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and lived there
12 until the age of six (6), when he moved to Runnemede, New Jersey where he spent his
13 formative years; upon graduating from Triton High School, he was accepted into and
14 attended the University of Oklahoma; and

1 **WHEREAS**, demonstrating an incomparable commitment to the field of
2 education, Dr. Fee acquired extensive degrees and certifications throughout his lifetime,
3 including a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Oklahoma; a Council on
4 Education of the Deaf (CED) Teacher of Deaf Certificate at Oklahoma University of
5 the Arts and Sciences; a Master of Arts in Educational Administration and Special
6 Education Administration at California State University; a Master of Education in
7 Curriculum at the University of Canberra; an Education Specialist (Ed.S.) degree in
8 Vocational Education with an emphasis in Special Education at the University of Idaho;
9 a Doctor of Philosophy in Special Education and Educational Leadership at the
10 University of Idaho; and a Certified Court Manager certification (CCM) from the
11 Institute of Court Management in Williamsburg, Virginia; and

12 **WHEREAS**, upon graduating from the University of Oklahoma in 1968, Dr. Fee
13 began his illustrious career when he accidentally stumbled into the Sunshine Cottage
14 School for the Deaf in San Antonio, Texas; here, he discovered his calling and received
15 his certification to be a teacher for the Deaf at the school; and

16 **WHEREAS**, this work led him to Hong Kong where he was hired as a private
17 tutor who taught English using the auditory-oral method of instruction; eventually, Dr.
18 Fee made his way to Guam where he taught the Deaf at Piti Middle School, now known
19 as Jose L.G. Rios Middle School; and

20 **WHEREAS**, beginning in 1974, Dr. Fee spent nearly a decade in Australia where
21 he played an invaluable role shaping the education sector as a Researcher for the
22 Australian Schools Commission, Lecturer in Special Education at the University of
23 Western Sydney from 1974-1976, Lecturer in Special Education at the University of
24 South Australia from 1977-1982, and Director at the Shepherd Centre in Sydney,
25 Australia from 1982-1983; and

1 **WHEREAS**, in 1983, recognizing a need for individuals with disabilities and
2 their families to plan for their future, Dr. Fee founded a non-profit organization called
3 the National Institute on Life Planning for Persons with Disabilities, now known as the
4 National Center on Life Planning; this organization provided critical services for
5 parents and professionals on all aspects of life and established a network of life and
6 estate planners specializing in helping families with children, siblings, spouses, and
7 parents with disabilities; and

8 **WHEREAS**, from 1996 to 1999, Dr. Fee served as the Director of Education at
9 the Idaho School for the Deaf and Blind in Gooding, Idaho; he was also Associate
10 Professor of Special Education and Director of Mac Murray College in Jacksonville,
11 Illinois from 1998 to 2001; and

12 **WHEREAS**, from 2001 to 2006, Dr. Fee worked as an Educational Consultant
13 and Director of the Educational Consultant Training Program at the Children’s Hospital
14 of Philadelphia (CHOP) in Pennsylvania; as a member of the Pediatric Cochlear Implant
15 Team, Dr. Fee was an Adjunct Professor on Cochlear Implants at Smith College from
16 2002 to 2006, an Adjunct Professor of Special Education at the College of New Jersey
17 from 2003 to 2004, and an Associate Professor on Communication Disorders and
18 Deafness at Kean University from 2004 to 2005; and

19 **WHEREAS**, to Guam’s great benefit, Dr. Fee returned to Guam in 2006 until
20 2012 to serve as Associate Professor of Special Education at the School of Education at
21 the University of Guam; at the university, Dr. Fee held the Chair for Master of
22 Education, where he successfully modified the master’s program leading to a growth of
23 graduates in the program; unsurprisingly, he was also elected to chair the Graduate
24 Programs Committee and Academic Affairs Committee; and

25 **WHEREAS**, within a span of just three (3) years, Dr. Fee presented major peer
26 reviewed papers at the National Audiology Conference in Pretoria, South Africa; the

1 National Cochlear Implant Conference in Philadelphia; the Council for Exceptional
2 Children Annual Conference in Seattle; the Pacific Educator Conference in Guam; and
3 the Philippine ENT Medical Conference in Manila; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Fee was also actively involved in international education
5 efforts to the benefit of Guam’s special education program; he conducted post-graduate
6 courses at the University of Santo Tomas in Manila and Camarines Sur Provence/
7 University of Neuva Caceras in Naga; as a recipient of the distinguished Fulbright
8 Senior Specialist Award, he hosted two (2) week courses at the University of Santo
9 Tomas and University of the Philippines; additionally, his participation at the Monarch
10 Center at the University of Illinois in Chicago helped the University of Guam develop
11 and improve its special education teacher preparation programs; and

12 **WHEREAS**, in 2012, Dr. Fee accepted a position as Assistant Professor of
13 Education at the Lincoln University, Graduate Center in Philadelphia where he
14 remained until his retirement in late 2014; he then returned to Guam to serve as Base
15 Education Advisor at the Anderson Air Force Base from September 2014 to September
16 2015; and

17 **WHEREAS**, from September 2015 to December 2019, Dr. Fee was Judicial
18 Educator for the Judiciary of Guam, administering education and professional
19 development programs for the judges and all four hundred and fifty (450) court
20 employees; and

21 **WHEREAS**, most notable was Dr. Fee’s creation of the education programs that
22 led to each law enforcement officer in the Judicial Branch becoming fully compliant
23 with the Guam Peace Officer Standards & Training Law, which set the minimum
24 standards for the training and certification for each classification of peace officer across
25 each branch of the Government of Guam; and

1 **WHEREAS**, beloved by the Courts for his leadership, Dr. Fee’s retirement from
2 the Judiciary included a special send-off by the men and women of the Marshal Services
3 and Probation Services divisions; and

4 **WHEREAS**, despite his formal retirement, Dr. Fee remained an important voice
5 in the community, often opining on a number of issues facing the island and continuing
6 to educate and seek to improve the recruitment, training, and regulation of local law
7 enforcement; and

8 **WHEREAS**, for all his efforts, Dr. Fee has received commendations by both the
9 Guam Legislature and the Judiciary of Guam for his outstanding contributions to
10 preparation of special education teachers for Guam and the community at large; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Fee passed away on August 28, 2021; he is survived by his
12 loving wife **Julie**, his children and their partners **Danielle** and John, **James** and
13 Virginia, **Andrew** and Amanda, and **Ashlie**, and his grandchildren **Beatrix**, **William**,
14 **Ace**, and **Adelaide**; and our island joins them in the mourning of his passing; and

15 **WHEREAS**, rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for
16 the benefit of others which Dr. Richard W. Fee has displayed throughout his life; and

17 **WHEREAS**, it is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of
18 such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be
19 celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great island; now, therefore, be it

20 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'trentai Sais Na*
21 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, posthumously
22 recognize the late educator and advocate Dr. Richard W. Fee for his immeasurable
23 contributions to the community and for his countless hours working to make Guam a
24 stronger, more just place to live; and to further extending sincere condolences to his
25 family on his passing, on behalf of the People of Guam; and be it further

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1 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chair of the Committee on Rules certify,
2 and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same
3 be thereafter transmitted to the family of Dr. Richard W. Fee; and to the Honorable
4 Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I
MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE DAY
OF MONTH 2021.**

THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker

AMANDA L. SHELTON
Acting Chair, Committee on Rules

AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary