

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE AUTHORS REPORT FILED	NOTES
289-37 (COR)	Chris Barnett	Relative to recognizing Science is Fun and Awesome (SiFA) Learning Academy on their Sixth (6th) Year Anniversary; and commending them for their commitment to education and the significant impact they have made in educating Guam's students in Science-Technology-Engineering-Arts-Mathematics (STEAM).	1/9/24 4:28 p.m.	1/13/24 12:30 p.m.	1/11/24 2:57 p.m.					

Resolution No. 289-37 (COR)

Introduced by

Chris Barnett

Frank Blas, Jr	Sabina Flores Perez
Joanne Brown	Rio A. B. Quinata
Christopher M. Duenas	Joe S. San Agustin
Thomas J. Fisher	Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas
Jesse A. Lujan	Amanda L. Shelton
Tina Rose Muna Barnes	Ichko I. Taitague
William A. Parkinson	Therese M. Terlaje



[Handwritten signature]
1/22/24
3:04 pm

Relative to recognizing Science is Fun and Awesome (SiFA) Learning Academy on their Sixth (6th) Year Anniversary; and commending them for their commitment to education and the significant impact they have made in educating Guam's students in Science-Technology-Engineering-Arts-Mathematics (STEAM).

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN:

WHEREAS, Science is Fun and Awesome (SiFA) is a non-profit organization that was organized by Dr. Anthony Jay Sunga, Ph.D. in 2013; and it was built on a love of learning related to the Science-Technology-Engineering-Arts-Mathematics (STEAM) fields; and

WHEREAS, the mission of SiFA is to inspire STEAM education for the island's students as it approaches STEAM education through hands-on activities and innovative projects; and

WHEREAS, the SiFA Learning Academy Charter School was established to meet the purpose of the Guam Academy Charter School Act of 2009 and to provide Guam's middle school students with the best learning experience in the region with a strong focus on STEAM; and

WHEREAS, SiFA has grown from an enrollment of ninety-nine (99) students in School Year 2018-2019 to four hundred thirty (430) students in School Year 2023-2024; and

WHEREAS, SiFA's vision is to be the pinnacle of excellence in STEAM-based education on the island of Guam, where academic rigor intertwines seamlessly with the joy of learning; and

WHEREAS, SiFA's mission is to provide a transformative educational experience that equips our middle school students with the knowledge, skills, and character necessary to excel academically and thrive as conscientious global citizens; and SiFA believes in the power of education to shape lives, communities, and the world, and they are dedicated to instilling a love for learning that extends beyond the classroom; and

WHEREAS, through immersive and engaging STEAM content, SiFA cultivates a strong foundation in critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration. SiFA's curriculum is designed to inspire curiosity and a thirst for knowledge, connecting classroom learning to real-world applications; and by integrating STEAM, SiFA enables its students to explore the interconnectedness of these disciplines and develop a holistic understanding of the world; and

WHEREAS, SiFA's goals are to provide an effective, innovative, and challenging teaching and learning environment using STEAM as a platform; to prepare students to meet the challenges of today's world by helping them achieve their full potential; and to create a close-knit community by engaging students and their families in all aspects of the charter school; and

WHEREAS, SiFA's motto is "Building a Community of Innovative Learners Committed to Excellence"; and

WHEREAS, the first official project of SiFA was organizing a Science Symposium for *Tamuning* Elementary School in 2013, where one hundred eighty (180) third (3rd) grade students learned concepts in science that helped to improve their SAT scores, going from being ranked one of the lowest in the nation to being ranked at second the following year in elementary scores for science; and

WHEREAS, SiFA is an official regional partner of the First LEGO® League, and they are the only organization on Guam that can organize an officially-sanctioned championship robotics tournament; and they hosted the First LEGO® League Regional Championships in January 2017; and

WHEREAS, SiFA has conducted numerous robotics training programs throughout the island with elementary, middle, and high school students; and the success of the SiFA projects is evident in the growing interest from other islands, such as the CNMI, Palau, American Samoa and FSM, to incorporate SiFA-designed programs into their education system; and

WHEREAS, SiFA students have received major accolades, to include winning, placing, and receiving special awards in the Scripps Regional Spelling Bee, the National History Day Competition, the Guam Child Care Art Contest, the MathCounts Chapter Competition, the Guam Contractors Association's Pizza Pop and Power Tools Competition, the Island-wide Science Fair, the First LEGO® League Competition, the i-Civics COVID-19 Educational Challenge, the Pacific Territories Geography Bee, and the National Geography Bee; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guahan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guahan* and the people of Guam, recognize Science is Fun and Awesome (SiFA) Learning Academy on their Sixth (6th) Year Anniversary; and commend them for their commitment to education and the significant impact they have made in educating Guam's students in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Science is Fun and Awesome (SiFA) Learning Academy; and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hagan Guahan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF *I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN* ON THE 11TH DAY OF JANUARY 2024.

[Signature of Therese M. Terlaje]
THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker

[Signature of Chris Barnett]
CHRIS BARNETT
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

[Signature of Amanda L. Shelton]
AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary



I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2024 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. 289-37 (COR)

Introduced by:

Chris Barnett
Frank Blas, Jr.
Joanne Brown
Christopher M. Dueñas
Thomas J. Fisher
Jesse A. Lujan
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
William A. Parkinson
Sabina Flores Perez
Roy A. B. Quinata
Joe S. San Agustin
Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas
Amanda L. Shelton
Telo T. Taitague
Therese M. Terlaje

Relative to recognizing Science is Fun and Awesome (SiFA) Learning Academy on their Sixth (6th) Year Anniversary; and commending them for their commitment to education and the significant impact they have made in educating Guam's students in Science-Technology-Engineering-Arts-Mathematics (STEAM).

- 1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF *I***
2 ***MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:***
3 **WHEREAS, Science is Fun and Awesome (SiFA) is a non-profit organization**
4 **that was organized by Dr. Anthony Jay Sunga, Ph.D. in 2013; and it was built on a love**

1 of learning related to the Science-Technology-Engineering-Arts-Mathematics
2 (STEAM) fields; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the mission of SiFA is to inspire STEAM education for the island’s
4 students as it approaches STEAM education through hands-on activities and innovative
5 projects; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the SiFA Learning Academy Charter School was established to
7 meet the purpose of the Guam Academy Charter School Act of 2009 and to provide
8 Guam’s middle school students with the best learning experience in the region with a
9 strong focus on STEAM; and

10 **WHEREAS**, SiFA has grown from an enrollment of ninety-nine (99) students in
11 School Year 2018-2019 to four hundred thirty (430) students in School Year 2023-
12 2024; and

13 **WHEREAS**, SiFA’s vision is to be the pinnacle of excellence in STEAM-based
14 education on the island of Guam, where academic rigor intertwines seamlessly with the
15 joy of learning; and

16 **WHEREAS**, SiFA’s mission is to provide a transformative educational
17 experience that equips our middle school students with the knowledge, skills, and
18 character necessary to excel academically and thrive as conscientious global citizens;
19 and SiFA believes in the power of education to shape lives, communities, and the world,
20 and they are dedicated to instilling a love for learning that extends beyond the
21 classroom; and

22 **WHEREAS**, through immersive and engaging STEAM content, SiFA cultivates
23 a strong foundation in critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration. SiFA’s curriculum
24 is designed to inspire curiosity and a thirst for knowledge, connecting classroom
25 learning to real-world applications; and by integrating STEAM, SiFA enables its

1 students to explore the interconnectedness of these disciplines and develop a holistic
2 understanding of the world; and

3 **WHEREAS**, SiFA’s goals are to provide an effective, innovative, and
4 challenging teaching and learning environment using STEAM as a platform; to prepare
5 students to meet the challenges of today’s world by helping them achieve their full
6 potential; and to create a close-knit community by engaging students and their families
7 in all aspects of the charter school; and

8 **WHEREAS**, SiFA’s motto is: “Building a Community of Innovative Learners
9 Committed to Excellence”; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the first official project of SiFA was organizing a Science
11 Symposium for *Tamuning* Elementary School in 2013, where one hundred eighty (180)
12 third (3rd) grade students learned concepts in science that helped to improve their SAT
13 scores, going from being ranked one of the lowest in the nation to being ranked at
14 second the following year in elementary scores for science; and

15 **WHEREAS**, SiFA is an official regional partner of the First LEGO® League,
16 and they are the only organization on Guam that can organize an officially-sanctioned
17 championship robotics tournament; and they hosted the First LEGO® League Regional
18 Championships in January 2017; and

19 **WHEREAS**, SiFA has conducted numerous robotics training programs
20 throughout the island with elementary, middle, and high school students; and the
21 success of the SiFA projects is evident in the growing interest from other islands, such
22 as the CNMI, Palau, American Samoa and FSM, to incorporate SiFA-designed
23 programs into their education system; and

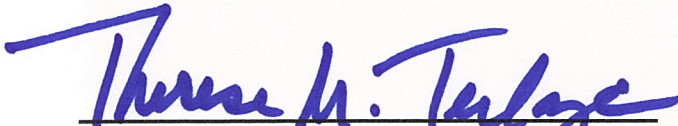
24 **WHEREAS**, SiFA students have received major accolades, to include winning,
25 placing, and receiving special awards in the Scripps Regional Spelling Bee, the National
26 History Day Competition, the Guam Child Care Art Contest, the MathCounts Chapter

1 Competition, the Guam Contractors Association’s Pizza Pop and Power Tools
2 Competition, the Island-wide Science Fair, the First LEGO® League Competition, the
3 i-Civics COVID-19 Educational Challenge, the Pacific Territories Geography Bee, and
4 the National Geography Bee; now therefore, be it

5 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'trentai Siette Na*
6 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people
7 of Guam, recognize Science is Fun and Awesome (SiFA) Learning Academy on their
8 Sixth (6th) Year Anniversary; and commend them for their commitment to education
9 and the significant impact they have made in educating Guam’s students in Science,
10 Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM); and be it further

11 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules
12 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of
13 the same be thereafter transmitted to the Science is Fun and Awesome (SiFA) Learning
14 Academy; and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF
I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 11TH DAY
OF JANUARY 2024.**




THERESE M. TERLAJE

Speaker



CHRIS BARNETT

Chairperson, Committee on Rules



AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary



COMMITTEE ON RULES


Chris Barnett, Chairperson, Committee on Rules

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

37th Guam Legislature

COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

Resolution No. 289-37 (COR) - Chris Barnett. - "Relative to recognizing Science is Fun and Awesome (SiFA) Learning Academy on their Sixth (6th) Year Anniversary; and commending them for their commitment to education and the significant impact they have made in educating Guam's students in Science-Technology-Engineering-Arts-Mathematics (STEAM)."

	INITIAL	DATE	TO ADOPT	TO NOT ADOPT	TO ABSTAIN
Senator Chris Barnett Chairperson	DCB	1/11/24	✓		
Senator Sabina Flores Perez Vice Chairperson	evote	1/11/24	✓		
Speaker Therese M. Terlaje Member					
Vice Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes Member					
Legislative Secretary Amanda L. Shelton Member	evote	1/11/24	✓		
Senator William A. Parkinson Member					
Senator Roy A. B. Quinata Member	evote	1/11/24	✓		
Senator Joe S. San Agustin Member	evote	1/11/24	✓		
Senator Dwayne T. D. San Nicolas Member	evote	1/11/24	✓		
Senator Joanne Brown Minority Member	evote	1/11/24	✓		
Senator Christopher M. Dueñas Minority Member	evote	1/11/24	✓		
Senator Thomas J. Fisher Minority Member					
Senator Telo T. Taitague Minority Member	evote	1/11/24	✓		
For Sponsor's Office Use Only					
Sponsor Signature: 					
Staff Contact Person: Erin M. Grajek					
For COR/Clerk's Office Use Only					
<u>9</u> Certified _____ Returned					
Name: Donaven-ray Mantanona					
Date: January 11, 2024 at 2:57 p.m.					
Notes:					



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 12, 2024

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media
From: Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett
Re: PRESENTATION NOTICE for Resolution No. 289-37 (COR)

Håfa adai:

The presentation of **Resolution No. 289-37 (COR)** “*Relative to recognizing Science is Fun and Awesome (SiFA) Learning Academy on their Sixth (6th) Year Anniversary; and commending them for their commitment to education and the significant impact they have made in educating Guam’s students in Science-Technology-Engineering-Arts-Mathematics (STEAM),*” will take place on Saturday, January 13, 2024 at 12:30 pm. The presentation will be held at the Micronesia Mall.

We look forward to your attendance and participation.