

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE AUTHORS REPORT FILED	NOTES
585-37 (COR)	Amanda L. Shelton	Relative to posthumously recognizing the late †Toni "Malia" Ramirez for her contributions toward the protection, preservation, promotion, and perpetuation of CHamoru history, culture, and language; and commemorating her enduring legacy of community advocacy and advancement throughout our island; and to further express sincere condolences to her family on behalf of the people of Guam.	11/7/24 12:55 p.m.	11/11/24 1:00 p.m.						

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

Resolution No. 585-37 (COR)

Introduced by:

Amanda L. Shelton 

Relative to posthumously recognizing the late †Toni “Malia” Ramirez for her contributions toward the protection, preservation, promotion, and perpetuation of CHamoru history, culture, and language; and commemorating her enduring legacy of community advocacy and advancement throughout our island; and to further express sincere condolences to her family on behalf of the people of Guam.

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

3 **WHEREAS**, it is the sense of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to recognize the life and
4 accomplishments of those distinguished citizens of this great island, and it is the custom
5 of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to commend those who have devoted themselves faithfully
6 serving in the best interests of this community and the needs of its residents; and

7 **WHEREAS**, †Toni “Malia” Ramirez was born to Florencio Torres “Larry”
8 Ramirez Jr. and Josephine Sablan Leon Guerrero Ramirez on June 13, 1951. After
9 returning from attending school in Hawaii and finding other Pacific Islanders who knew
10 more about their history than she did hers, Malia was empowered to learn more about
11 the CHamoru heritage and began speaking to the elders about the Guam’s history; and

12 **WHEREAS**, since returning to Guam, †Toni “Malia” Ramirez recognized the
13 importance of knowing familial ties and collected oral histories from elders to lay the

1 foundation of the CHamoru cultural renaissance and movement for language
2 revitalization today; and

3 **WHEREAS,** †Toni Malia Ramirez published “Los Ehemplus Chamorritus,” a
4 book of CHamoru proverbs, and “La Sangri Yama,” a personal genealogical account of
5 first encountering the CHamoru phrase “la sangri yama,” which means “the blood
6 calls.” She specialized in CHamoru genealogy, and through her work displayed the deep
7 connections that run through CHamoru bloodlines. Malia also published many articles
8 of CHamoru elders who had witnessed the changing of the colonial flag on the island
9 over the course of their lives; and

10 **WHEREAS,** †Toni Malia Ramirez was one of the delegates for Literary Arts
11 representing Guam for the Festival of Pacific Arts in Hawaii, helping to make
12 connections from one generation of storytellers to the next; and

13 **WHEREAS,** †Toni Malia Ramirez was regularly invited by the community to
14 be part of Guam’s celebrations, commemorations, and milestones, sharing her
15 knowledge of CHamoru traditions and rituals to make every occasion more meaningful
16 and as a way of passing on lessons, knowledge, and values; and

17 **WHEREAS,** †Toni Malia Ramirez has shown her dedication to ensuring that the
18 CHamoru language, culture, and heritage will be preserved, but more importantly
19 celebrated through the preservation of historic sites, the offering of opportunities for
20 cultural education and practice, and the inspiration of our youth to explore our cultural
21 identity; and

22 **WHEREAS,** †Toni Malia Ramirez’s vast knowledge of Guam’s different
23 historical periods was a priceless resource for the whole community, often being called
24 upon to validate facts or theories of the CHamoru culture, language, locations, and
25 practices of Guam by families, the Government of Guam, and all branches of the
26 military; and

1 **WHEREAS,** †Toni Malia Ramirez lent her time and expertise to a number of
2 nonprofit, volunteer, and advocacy organizations participating in organizations like the
3 Pacific Islands Bilingual Bicultural Association and as the board secretary for Para I
4 Probechu'n I Taotao-ta Inc. to promote the preservation of the CHamoru language and
5 culture and umbrellas recognized Guma' on Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern
6 Marianas Islands, the United States, and Japan; and

7 **WHEREAS,** †Toni Malia Ramirez's commitment to public service extends
8 above and beyond as is evident through her extensive service, work ethic, and
9 unwavering dedication; and she stands out as an unparalleled example of hard work,
10 attentiveness, dedication, and bravery, and she will be dearly remembered as such; now,
11 therefore be it

12 **RESOLVED,** that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'trentai Siette Na*
13 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guahan* and the people
14 of Guam, posthumously recognize the late †Toni "Malia" Ramirez for her contributions
15 toward the protection, preservation, promotion, and perpetuation of CHamoru history,
16 culture, and language; and commemorate her enduring legacy of community advocacy
17 and advancement throughout our island; and to further express sincere condolences to
18 her family on behalf of the people of Guam; and be it further

19 **RESOLVED,** that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules
20 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of
21 the same be thereafter transmitted to the family of †Toni Malia Ramirez and the
22 Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guererro, *I Maga'hagan Guahan*.

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

THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker

CHRIS BARNETT
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary