

I MINA'TRENTAI KU'ATTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GU'AHAN
RESOLUTION STATUS

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	NOTES
187-34 (COR)	Fernando Barcinas Esteves	Relative to posthumously commemorating and distinguishing the accomplishments and dedication of the late Honorable Angel (Sonny) Lujan Orsini, former Senator and true public servant, who fought for social justice and was a voice for the voiceless and powerless; and to further extending the sincere condolences of the people of Guam and I Liheslaturan Gu'ahan to the Orsini family on his passing.	8/2/17 1:17 p.m.	08/04/17						

I MINA'TRENTAI KUÁTTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
2017 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. ¹⁸⁷34 (COR)

Introduced by:

Fernando Barcinas Esteves ^{F.B.E}

Relative to posthumously commemorating and distinguishing the accomplishments and dedication of the late Honorable Angel (Sonny) Lujan Orsini, former Senator and true public servant, who fought for social justice and was a voice for the voiceless and powerless; and to further extending the sincere condolences of the people of Guam and *I Liheslaturan Guáhan* to the Orsini family on his passing.

2017 AUG -2 PM 1:17
F.B.E

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

3 **WHEREAS**, the late Honorable Angel (Sonny) Lujan Orsini was born on
4 December 14, 1968, and was the son of the late †Cecilia Lujan (*familian Capili yan*
5 *familian Lazaro*) of Barrigada and the late †Angel B. Orsini of Bicol, Philippines; and

6 **WHEREAS**, Sonny was called to his eternal rest on July 25, 2017 at forty-eight
7 (48) years of age and is survived by his loving wife of twenty-one (21) years,
8 Kimberly and his children and granddaughter, Joshua (Jacqueline), Leonardo, and
9 Isabella; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Sonny attended P.C. Lujan Elementary School, San Vicente
11 Catholic School, and Untalan Middle School; and in 1985, he graduated from George
12 Washington High School at the age of sixteen (16). Sonny first pursued his interest in

1 policymaking in the eleventh (11th) Guam Youth Congress and twelfth (12th) Guam
2 Youth Congress, in which he served as Speaker; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Sonny studied Political Science at the University of Guam and
4 served his peers in the Student Government Association. He later transferred to
5 Bennington College in Vermont where he studied politics under his tutor and former
6 Ambassador to the United Nations Mansour Farhang, and pursued his studies in
7 Political Economy of Development with Michael Rock and Andrew Pienkos, two
8 distinguished development economists; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Sonny was one of the first of a generation of leaders to be trained
10 in the art and craft of contemporary politics under the tutelage of his mentor, the late
11 †Governor Ricardo J. Bordallo; and

12 **WHEREAS**, Sonny worked for the late †Senator Elizabeth P. (Belle) Arriola as
13 staff assistant, for then-Senator Carl T.C. Gutierrez as budget analyst for the
14 Committee on Ways and Means, and for then-Senator Madeleine Z. Bordallo as press
15 assistant during her historic 1990 gubernatorial campaign as the first female candidate
16 for governor of Guam; and

17 **WHEREAS**, in 1991, Sonny moved on to serve the late U.S. †Senator Edward
18 M. (Ted) Kennedy, Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human
19 Resources, addressing issues of education, health care, and labor at the national level;
20 and

21 **WHEREAS**, in 1993, Sonny answered the call to serve the people of Guam and
22 returned home from his studies to run for senator. He was elected to the *I Mina'bente*
23 *Tres Liheslatura* (23rd Guam Legislature), at the age of twenty-four (24) and sworn in
24 at the age of twenty-five (25), becoming the youngest senator elected to the Guam
25 Legislature; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Sonny, as a freshman senator, was entrusted and selected by his
2 colleagues to serve as Chairperson of the powerful and coveted Committee on Rules
3 in *I Mina'bente Tres Liheslatura* (23rd Guam Legislature); and

4 **WHEREAS**, Sonny successfully implemented an aggressive legislative agenda.
5 Within a single term, he reduced operating costs by eliminating the accrual of sick
6 leave for senators, as well as foresaw new industries such as aquaculture and provided
7 for its development. Sonny also recognized the importance of preserving our island
8 paradise and established the Islandwide Beautification Task Force. Further, Sonny
9 provided legal redress for people denied their tax refunds from the government; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Sonny, after serving the people of Guam as a senator, returned to
11 the mainland to serve the finest smoked meats as a smoke master, founding Orsini's
12 BBQ in Burlington, Vermont and learned and mastered the culinary arts, one of his
13 first passions; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Sonny, in his ultimate homecoming, returned to Guam with his
15 family, and established Åsu Smokehouse with his brother Cecil (Buddy) Orsini at the
16 Chamorro Village in Hagåtña, Guam in 2013, an award-winning smokehouse
17 distinguished by its use of fresh, local, and organic products, the immense amount of
18 time and exceptional care and attention given to smoking its Certified Angus Beef, its
19 specialty cuts, and its business motto "Passion before profit;" and

20 **WHEREAS**, Sonny, in addition to his extensive intellect, political acumen,
21 charisma, and unparalleled oratory skills, had a hopeful view of the world and saw the
22 good in everyone. He had an innate ability to empathize with others and effectively
23 communicate their needs; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Sonny compassionately worked to lift up the oppressed and
25 disadvantaged because he recognized, with profound wisdom and perception, the

1 inequity that exists between the powerful and the powerless that society has
2 systemically reinforced throughout history and its institutions; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Sonny was a principled public servant and statesman who lived
4 his life with the guiding principle that it is not what you do when people are watching
5 that matters, rather it is what you do when no one is around. He honored his word and
6 commitments and was a man of faith who cherished his family above all else; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Sonny, even in the years after his time in public office, continued
8 to advocate for what is in the best interests for the people of Guam and inspired
9 incumbent and aspiring leaders to do the same making the impact he has left in our
10 world vast and immeasurable. His spirit and legacy will live on in each person he has
11 touched; now, therefore, be it

12 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'Trentai Kuåttro Na*
13 *Lihe slaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Lihe slaturan Guåhan* and the people
14 of Guam, posthumously commemorate and distinguish the accomplishments and
15 dedication of the late Honorable Angel (Sonny) Lujan Orsini, former Senator and true
16 public servant who fought for social justice and was a voice for the voiceless and
17 powerless; and to further extend the sincere condolences of the people of Guam and *I*
18 *Lihe slaturan Guåhan* to the Orsini family on his passing; 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 and children of the late Honorable
22 Angel (Sonny) Lujan Orsini; to the Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam Delegate
23 to the United States Congress; to Chief Justice Robert J. Torres, Judiciary of Guam;
24 and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF
I MINA'TRENTAI KUÁTTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN ON THE
DAY OF AUGUST 2017.**

BENJAMIN J.F. CRUZ
Speaker

RÉGINE BISCOE LEE
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

RÉGINE BISCOE LEE
Legislative Secretary