

I MINA'TRENTAI KUÁTTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
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
269-34 (COR)	FRANK B. AGUON JR.	Relative to recognizing and congratulating Maria Artero Catholic Preschool and Kindergarten (MACPK) and the local Mercedarian Missionaries of Berriz (MMB) on the special occasion of their Golden Jubilee; and to further expressing Un Dangkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'áse' to the staff for continuing to strive to educate our children by providing an enriched learning environment so that they may develop their talents and a lifelong desire for learning and service to others.	10/13/17 1:09 p.m.	10/21/17 10:00 a.m.						

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

Resolution No. *269-34(COR)*

Introduced by:

FRANK B. AGUON, JR.



Relative to recognizing and congratulating Maria Artero Catholic Preschool and Kindergarten (MACPK) and the local Mercedarian Missionaries of Berriz (MMB) on the special occasion of their Golden Jubilee; and to further expressing *Un Dângkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'áse'* to the staff for continuing to strive to educate our children by providing an enriched learning environment so that they may develop their talents and a lifelong desire for learning and service to others.

OCT 13 PM 1:09

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

3 **WHEREAS,** The Mercedarian Missionaries of Berriz are a Catholic missionary
4 community of religious sisters who have been in the Mariana Islands since 1928,
5 working first on Saipan and then on Guam beginning in 1962; and

6 **WHEREAS,** in the 1920's, one of the nuns of the cloistered Mercedarian convent
7 of Berriz in Vizcaya, Spain, Margarita Lopez de Maturana, was inspired to support the
8 Catholic overseas missions. Besides encouraging prayers for the missions, Sr. Margarita
9 organized fund raising efforts and sent cards and material assistance to the missions;
10 and

11 **WHEREAS,** in 1928, Mother Margarita sent the first Mercedarian missionaries
12 to Saipan, their first Pacific mission. Later that same year, a second Pacific mission was
13 opened in Pohnpei. In 1936, the sisters began a mission in Chuuk. After World War II,
14 the Mercedarians resumed their work which spread to other islands in Micronesia; and

1 **WHEREAS**, in 1962, the Mercedarian sisters came to Guam to open a house for
2 Mercedarians in transit and for the sisters needing medical attention on Guam. These
3 sisters, who lived in a house in Sinajana, were Maria Camino Julia, Teresa
4 Pagazaortundua, and Justa Izaguirre. That same year the island was hit by Typhoon
5 Karen which damaged their home and they had to leave Guam; and

6 **WHEREAS**, in 1966, they returned to the island when they were given a house
7 in Agana Heights. It was the gift of the late owner, Maria Cruz Artero. When the sisters
8 asked Bishop Baumgartner how they could serve the church on Guam, he told them that
9 there was a need for Catholic Pre-schools. The sisters then used the ground floor of the
10 Artero house as a pre-school and so in gratitude to their benefactor and her memory
11 they named it in honor of their benefactor. On October 17, 1967, the nursery opened its
12 doors in Agana Heights. Sisters Mary Louise Balzarini and Cecilia Tudela were the first
13 to open the nursery. The nursery has expanded in size and enrollment over the years;
14 and

15 **WHEREAS**, in 1968, the Maria Artero Nursery had their first graduation, with
16 the children in white caps and gowns; and

17 **WHEREAS**, in 1976, Typhoon Pamela destroyed the Convent and the school,
18 which was later rebuilt to the existing building; and

19 **WHEREAS**, in May 2003, it incorporated and amended its name to Maria Artero
20 Catholic Preschool and Kindergarten; and

21 **WHEREAS**, MACPK started with only two (2) staff and fifty-five (55) students.
22 The school currently has a staff of four (4) staff, (3) nuns and (1) lay person. Throughout
23 the fifty years, more than ten thousand children have graduated from the school; and

24 **WHEREAS**, over the years, they have been fortunate enough to have Parents
25 who are very supportive, generous, and much involved in all the schools' activities; and

1 **WHEREAS**, their Parent Teachers Association have organized mini fundraisers
2 such as Spaghetti Night, MC Teacher’s Night, Bake Sales, Car washes, Read-A-Thons,
3 Tupperware and Avon Fundraisers, Yard Sales, and Pizza nights to raise money for
4 student activities; and

5 **WHEREAS**, every school year they usually have three to four field trips
6 depending on lessons learned; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the house has been the regional leadership center for the
8 Micronesian area. Mercedarian sisters living in the Agana Heights convent have also
9 worked or taught at the University of Guam, the Micronesian Area Research Center,
10 Father Duenas Memorial School, and Bishop Baumgartner Memorial School. One
11 Sister was Director of Religious Education for the Diocese and nearly every Sister
12 stationed on Guam has assisted at Catholic Campus Ministry at the University of Guam.
13 Many Sisters at the Parish of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament in Agana Heights have
14 served as Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) teachers, lectors, Eucharistic
15 Ministers, and in youth ministry. Some have also taught in the University of Maryland
16 Anderson Air Force Base program. To date there are about fifty (50) Mercedarian sisters
17 working in Micronesia; and now therefore, be it

18 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'Trentai Kuåttro Na*
19 *Liheſlaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheſlaturan Guåhan* and the people
20 of Guam, recognize and congratulate Maria Artero Catholic Preschool and
21 Kindergarten (MACPK) and the Mercedarian Missionaries of Berriz (MMB) on the
22 special occasion of their Golden Jubilee; and to further expressing *Un Dangkolo Na Si*
23 *Yu'os Ma'ase'* to the school for continuing to strive to educate our children by providing
24 an enriched learning environment so that they may develop their talents and a lifelong
25 desire for learning and service to others; and be it further

1 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules
2 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of
3 the same be thereafter transmitted to Sister Anotia Addy, MMB, Principal, Maria Artero
4 Catholic Preschool and Kindergarten; and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, *I*
5 *Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

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

BENJAMIN J.F. CRUZ
Speaker

RÈGINE BISCOE LEE
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

RÈGINE BISCOE LEE
Legislative Secretary