

I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2012 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. 604-31 (LS)

Introduced by:

Aline A. Yamashita, Ph.D.

Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.

B. J.F. Cruz

V. Anthony Ada

T. C. Ada

F. F. Blas, Jr.

Chris M. Dueñas

Judith P. Guthertz, DPA

Sam Mabini, Ph.D.

T. R. Muña Barnes

Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.

V. C. Pangelinan

R. J. Respicio

M. Silva Taijeron

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Relative to commending and congratulating Lydia Diaz Tenorio on the occasion of her retirement from the government of Guam after thirty-one (31) years of service at the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services; and to further thanking her for her dedication to the many lives she has touched in so many ways.

BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*:

WHEREAS, Lydia Diaz Tenorio is the daughter of the late Jose Tanaka Diaz and Lourdes Salas Diaz, and along with her eight (8) siblings, was raised in the village of *Tamuning*. She is married to Joseph Payne Tenorio, and they have

1 two (2) children: Joseph and Stephanie; and now lives in the village of *Agana*
2 *Heights* with her beautiful family; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Lydia Diaz Tenorio is an “everyday hero” who makes a
4 difference, acts courageously, and demonstrates qualities which many of us only
5 aspire to; and

6 **WHEREAS**, Lydia Diaz Tenorio does things routinely in the course of a
7 “typical day on the job,” as she champions the needs and rights of our most
8 vulnerable children; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Lydia Diaz Tenorio manages to lead from a place of calm,
10 inner strength and grace, where we would find ourselves uncomfortable, fearful, or
11 overwhelmed with situations that Lydia has addressed with during her tenure at the
12 Bureau of Social Services Administration (BOSSA) of the Guam Department of
13 Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS); and

14 **WHEREAS**, Lydia Diaz Tenorio leads by example, never trying to draw
15 attention to herself or her many accomplishments; she is a true collaborator, a
16 resourceful problem solver, and is organized and accountable; and

17 **WHEREAS**, in 1982, Lydia Diaz Tenorio began her government of Guam
18 career working as a DPHSS Social Worker, and she has assumed increased
19 responsibilities in various positions, now serving as the Administrator of the
20 Department of Public Health and Social Services Bureau of Social Services
21 Administration (BOSSA); and

22 **WHEREAS**, Lydia Diaz Tenorio has exhibited outstanding leadership in the
23 field of child welfare and human services on Guam throughout her years of
24 service, always advocating for solutions and working out of the “silos” to complex
25 children, youth and family problems; and

26 **WHEREAS**, many task forces, councils and inter-disciplinary teams have
27 benefited from the commitment and dedication of Lydia Diaz Tenorio over the

1 years, including the Military Family Advocacy Committee, the Sexual Assault
2 Response Team Steering Committee and the Healing Hearts Center, serving for
3 over twenty (20) years; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Lydia Diaz Tenorio is a founding member of the Foster
5 Families Association, ensuring support and promoting the mission of the
6 organization to help recruit foster families and support the children while in foster
7 care; and

8 **WHEREAS**, there have been many partnerships forged through the efforts
9 of Lydia Diaz Tenorio, for and on behalf of BOSSA, with community and
10 nonprofit organizations to promote civic participation in the care of children, such
11 as the Kiwanis Club, who sponsor Easter activities annually; the over twenty-five
12 (25) years of sponsorship with the Sugar Plum Tree, who give gifts to our
13 *manhoben* and our *manamko* on Christmas; the Harvest Christian Church, who
14 collaborate on foster care recruitment; and with Sanctuary, Incorporated and
15 Catholic Social Service, who provide emergency shelter and residential care for
16 homeless, abused and neglected children; and

17 **WHEREAS**, understanding the importance and professional responsibility
18 to be participatory in policy, Lydia Diaz Tenorio has been active in the crafting of
19 bills that support program and policies that will strengthen a comprehensive and
20 responsive continuum of services for children and youth, such as the child care
21 standards legislation; the elimination of the statutes of limitation for the reporting
22 of sexual assault against child victims; the establishment of a sexual assault
23 prevention education curriculum in all public schools; and the revision of Juvenile
24 Justice Codes, including the Family Court and Child Protective Services Acts; and

25 **WHEREAS**, exhibiting good teamwork values and embracing the system of
26 care concepts, Lydia Diaz Tenorio assisted and contributed to the drafting and
27 implementation of major federal grants, such as the grant from the Substance

1 Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to the Department
2 of Mental Health and Substance Abuse to serve adolescents with serious emotional
3 disturbances; and a second grant to the Department of Public Health of Social
4 Services to develop Guam's Early Childhood System of Care, where she served as
5 Interim Project Director providing much-needed leadership to ensure the
6 infrastructure was in place and in compliance with grant requirements; and

7 **WHEREAS**, on January 3, 2012, the United States Department of Health
8 and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth and Families wrote to
9 inform Lydia Diaz Tenorio that she was selected to receive the Commissioner
10 Bryan Samuels Award for exceptional contributions to the prevention and
11 treatment of child abuse and neglect on Guam; and

12 **WHEREAS**, because of Lydia Diaz Tenorio's consistent and remarkable
13 work for Guam's children and families, depicting a high standard of service and
14 deep commitment to her island, she is an inspiration to her staff, her colleagues,
15 and the many community partners she has worked with over the years locally,
16 regionally and nationally; and

17 **WHEREAS**, Lydia is a positive force on Guam, contributing to significant
18 reforms in child welfare, early childhood, and systems of care. Despite the many
19 demands for her time and the often serious nature of her work, Lydia maintains a
20 fun-loving nature, a sense of humor, and the ability to enjoy the moment; and she
21 has touched many lives in many ways, and Guam is a better place because of her;
22 now therefore, be it

23 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does
24 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, highly recognize and congratulate Lydia
25 Diaz Tenorio on the occasion of her retirement from the government of Guam, and
26 for her thirty-one (31) years of service with the Guam Department of Public Health
27 and Social Services; and does further thank her for her extraordinary leadership

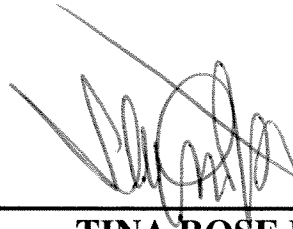
1 and selfless contributions to the children, youth and families of Guam, and
2 commend her on receiving the national award recognizing her for her leadership in
3 the prevention of child abuse and neglect; and be it further

4 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify and the Legislative Secretary attest to,
5 the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Lydia
6 Diaz Tenorio; and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, *I Maga'lahren Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA
LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THIS 20TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2012.**



JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed. D.
Speaker



TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary