

I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2011 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 49.31 (LS) (~~COR~~)

Introduced by:

M. Silva Taijeron

F.F. Blas, Jr.

R.J. Respicio

Relative to commending and congratulating Notre Dame High School, Inc. on the celebration of its 2nd Annual Gala, and further recognizing the school's forty-three years of quality, Catholic education and community contributions in Guam.

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

WHEREAS, Notre Dame High School, Inc. (NDHS) was established by the School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND) in 1968 as an all-female institution; and

WHEREAS, Notre Dame High School, Inc. is a Catholic, co-educational high school that prepares students not only for college, but for lifelong learning by empowering the whole person; and

WHEREAS, in 1970, the first commencement exercise was presided over by the late Archbishop Felixberto C. Flores D. D., and took place at the Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral-Basilica in Agana. Fifty (50) girls received their diploma under the guidance of Principal Sister Mary Romauld Nedwecka, SSND; and

WHEREAS, the SSND opened a dormitory in 1970, to accommodate female NDHS students from other islands including Rota, Tinian, Saipan, Yap and Chuuk; and

1 **WHEREAS**, through the efforts and contributions of SSND Regional leader,
2 Sister Mary Antonice Murawski, and numerous parents and students a cafeteria-
3 gymnasium with six classrooms on the second floor was built in 1974. Additionally,
4 major contributions were received from the Milwaukee Province and the SSND
5 Generalate in Rome, as well as other provinces of the SSND in North America,
6 Europe and Japan; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the NDHS Royal Alma Mater was composed by the talented
8 Dorothy Perez (Harris) and the late Louise Baza in 1977; and

9 **WHEREAS**, NDHS received its first full, six-year accreditation from the
10 Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) under the helm of principal
11 Sister Jean Ann Crisostomo, SSND in 1980. The school has received subsequent
12 WASC accreditation in 1986, 1992, 1998 and 2004; and

13 **WHEREAS**, during the school year 1979-1980, NDHS became a full, four-
14 year high school by accepting ninth grade students; and.

15 **WHEREAS**, in 1995, twenty-seven (27) years after opening its doors to young
16 women, Notre Dame High School, Inc. became Guam's first Catholic, co-educational
17 high school when it welcomed thirty-six (36) young men into the freshmen and
18 sophomore classes. The last all-female NDHS graduating class received their
19 diplomas in 1997 and the school's first co-educational class graduating the following
20 year; and

21 **WHEREAS**, in 2004, NDHS held its grand opening for the Gerhardinger
22 Center, a building that consists of a cafeteria on the lower level, and four (4)
23 classrooms on the second floor; and

24 **WHEREAS**, in the summer of 2009, the school reached a significant milestone
25 when the SSND Milwaukee Province team reviewed the school's model of

1 governance and guided NDHS through the process of becoming a Sponsored
2 Institution; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the current school year 2010-2011 has been busy with preparation
4 for the Second Annual Gala. Additionally, Notre Dame High School, Inc. is in the
5 process of obtaining its sixth (6th) accreditation from WASC and its first-ever
6 accreditation from the Western Catholic Educational Association; and

7 **WHEREAS**, this year's gala theme, "A Legacy of Tradition," captures the
8 spirit of the Royal journey from its early beginnings to today's many
9 accomplishments and improvements. This time last year, Notre Dame's Parent-
10 Alumni Advisory Board held its first annual Royal Gala. The Gala was a successful
11 event, and is soon to become a new Royal tradition; and

12 **WHEREAS**, according to its mission and vision statements, Notre Dame High
13 School, Inc. "encourages collaboration, instills leadership, promotes dedication to
14 service, and inspires passion for justice and peace in the spirit of Jesus Christ. A
15 Notre Dame graduate is a person instilled with Gospel values, empowered
16 academically and vocationally to be an active and transforming member of society.";
17 now, therefore, be it

18 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*, does hereby,
19 on behalf of the people of Guam, commend and congratulate Notre Dame High
20 School, Inc. on its 2nd Annual Gala: "A Legacy of Tradition"; and be it further

21 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*, does hereby,
22 on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize Notre Dame High School, Inc. for
23 providing forty-three (43) years of quality, Catholic education in Guam, as well as
24 their invaluable contributions to the people of Guam; and be it further

25 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to,
26 the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Mariesha

1 Cruz-San Nicolas, Principal, Notre Dame High School, Inc.; Sister Jean Ann
2 Crisostomo, SSND, President, Notre Dame High School, Inc.; Sister Debra Sciano,
3 SSND, Provincial Leader; and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, *I Maga'låhen*
4 *Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE *I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA*
LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE ____ DAY OF _____ 2011.**

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.
Speaker

TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary