

I Mina' Trentai Dos Na Lihelaturan Guåhan

Resolutions Log Sheet

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Referred	Committee / Ofc Referred	Date Adopted
153-32 (LS)	Vicente (ben) C. Pangelinan	Relative to recognizing, honoring and memorializing Manny Ikea Sikau for his dedication and commitment to the people of Guam and the revitalization of traditional seafaring.	5/28/13 8:53 a.m.	07/16/32 6:30 p.m.			05/28/13

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2013 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 153-32 (LS)

Introduced by:

Vicente (ben) C. Pangelinan

T. C. Ada

V. Anthony Ada

Frank B. Aguon, Jr.

B. J.F. Cruz

Chris M. Dueñas

Michael T. Lintiacó

Brant T. McCreadie

Tommy Morrison

T. R. Muña Barnes

R. J. Respicio

Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.

Michael F. Q. San Nicolas

Aline A. Yamashita, Ph.D.

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Relative to recognizing, honoring and memorializing the late Manny Ikea Sikau for his dedication and commitment to the people of Guam, and the revitalization of traditional seafaring.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN***
2 ***GUÅHAN*:**

3 **WHEREAS,** Manny Ikea Sikau holds the title of Master Navigator and Carver
4 for the Traditions About Seafaring Islands (TASI), Guam's first traditional navigation
5 and canoe-building society; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Manny’s service as a master navigator, teacher and mentor to the
2 people of Guam in the revival of seafaring and canoe building is unmatched; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the ancient people of Guam and Micronesia are now known to
4 have been great navigators and seafarers possessing the ability to navigate and voyage
5 using only the stars, the sea, and marine life to guide them to islands, hundreds of
6 miles apart; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the people of Guam had not practiced traditional seafaring
8 navigation or long distance voyaging in the ancient ways in the Marianas in over 200
9 years; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Manny was raised and rooted in the practice of traditional
11 seafaring navigation and voyaging, and canoe building, and he dedicated this
12 knowledge to the revitalization of Guam’s ancient practice and tradition of seafaring;
13 and

14 **WHEREAS**, in 2008, Manny, with the assistance of members of TASI, built
15 the 32-foot voyaging vessel *Saina*, the first traditional *Chamorro sakman* (large
16 voyaging canoe) in over 200 years; and

17 **WHEREAS**, on May 19, 2009, Manny served as the captain and navigator on
18 the *Saina* for the inaugural voyage from Guam to Rota; and

19 **WHEREAS**, over a course of a few weeks prior to the voyage to Rota, Manny
20 spent a lot of time at the University of Guam’s Planetarium studying and monitoring
21 the night skies for optimal navigational conditions; and

22 **WHEREAS**, Manny is a 7th generation *Pwo* (Master Navigator) from the island
23 of Polowat, Chuuk Islands; and is the grandson of the renown Chuuk *Pwo*, the late
24 Ikuliman; and

25 **WHEREAS**, an integral aspect of Manny’s *Merek Heki* (formal navigation
26 training) is the Star Compass; and

1 **WHEREAS**, on a voyage, the navigator is positioned in the center of the
2 compass that is divided into segments of 32 uneven compass points, based on the
3 rising (tan) and setting (tolon) of stars; and

4 **WHEREAS**, an island falls under one point of each segment of the voyage and
5 the navigator, even with overcast skies, is able to find his way based on his knowledge
6 of the wind, current, and the reef and marine life of each island in a process of dead
7 reckoning and position estimation that includes a technique called *etak* (moving
8 islands in Polowatese); and

9 **WHEREAS**, with this knowledge Manny was successful in voyaging with
10 TASI, as the captain and navigator, to Rota and back to Guam in May of 2009; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Manny spent many years on Guam lecturing, teaching and
12 publishing his lifelong knowledge about traditional seafaring, to include canoe and
13 canoe-house building, and navigation; and

14 **WHEREAS**, as a young child, Manny voyaged numerous times between 1958
15 and 1965 aboard the *Santiago* with his grandfather as the captain and navigator, and
16 aboard the *Michael* with Ikefai (1966 & 1968) and Tawerhu (1967), respectively, as
17 the captain and navigator; and

18 **WHEREAS**, at the young age of five, Manny began Ikulman's training in
19 traditional navigation and the traditional system of voyage called *etak*, where the
20 direction of a voyage is divided into segments relative to the sun and stars, sea swells,
21 the directionality of stars in relation to each island, the paths of land-roosting birds,
22 and about the reef and marine life around each island; and

23 **WHEREAS**, Manny then began his formal training in canoe building a few
24 years later, at the age of eight, from his father, Orhailam; and

1 **WHEREAS**, as an adolescent, Manny spent his days building model proas and
2 spent his summers learning formal navigation and seafaring from his grandfather, and
3 learning to repair canoes at sea by Mwari; and

4 **WHEREAS**, from the age of 12 to 17, Manny, along with only four other
5 youths, joined formal adult classes in traditional navigation, canoe building, rope
6 making, and Carolinian martial arts; and

7 **WHEREAS**, from 1966 to 1987, Manny participated in multiple round-trip
8 proa voyages from Polowat to other neighboring islands (Houg, Satawal, Pikelot and
9 Guam) as a sailor and apprentice navigator with his father, grandfather and Ikefai
10 serving as the captain and navigator; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Manny first came to Guam as a sailor and apprentice navigator
12 aboard the *Santiago* in 1972, with his grandfather as captain and navigator. The
13 voyage took over a week due to inclement weather that made for difficult sailing; and
14 this trip was one of the first voyages to revitalize seafaring in and between the
15 Micronesia-Marianas regions; and

16 **WHEREAS**, in 1974, Manny assisted in the construction of the *Lokoti*, the
17 large voyaging canoe that was featured in the Dr. Eric Metzgar documentary, “Spirits
18 of the Voyage”; and

19 **WHEREAS**, by 17 years of age, Manny had begun to hone his canoe building
20 skills by building a one-man paddling canoe in 1975; he then assisted in building the
21 two to three-man sailing canoe with two of his cousins in 1976; and he constructed a
22 one- to two-man proa for his brother-in-law in 1977; and

23 **WHEREAS**, in the late 1970s and 1980s, Manny assisted in the reconstruction
24 and the construction of canoe houses in Polowat; and

25 **WHEREAS**, in 1979, Manny graduated from Truk High School, where he held
26 the title of President of his senior class; and

1 **WHEREAS**, in the mid-1980s, Manny began his *Merek Heki* with Ikefai; and
2 by the late 1980s, he was trained by his father to repair proas, and by Kalisto and
3 William Onopey to upright capsized canoes; and

4 **WHEREAS**, in 1987, Manny assisted his father in the construction of a four-
5 man proa, called the *Quest*; and in 1994, he assisted in the construction of the *Omwar*;
6 and

7 **WHEREAS**, throughout the 1980s and into the early 1990s, Manny voyaged as
8 a sailor and apprentice navigator from Polowat to Pikelot and Houg aboard the
9 *Halametaw*, *Omwar*, *Maielai*, *Teenage* and the *Quest*; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the vessels *Halametaw*, and the *Quest* have sailed the Marianas
11 going from Polowat to Saipan and Guam, respectively; and

12 **WHEREAS**, in 2001, Manny was the fleet captain and navigator on the 505
13 mile, seven day voyage aboard the *Halametaw* and the *Quest* from Polowat to Guam;
14 and

15 **WHEREAS**, upon reaching Guam, the vessels took three and a half days to
16 voyage to Saipan, and then the *Halametaw* sailed back to Polowat; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the *Quest*, captained and navigated by Manny, returned to Guam
18 where the University of Guam's Traditional Seafaring Society (TSS) purchased the
19 vessel; and

20 **WHEREAS**, subsequent to the voyage, Manny directed the construction of the
21 original canoe house at the *Paseo de Susanna* in *Hagåtña* for the *Quest*; and

22 **WHEREAS**, in 2006 after receiving typhoon damage, Manny re-constructed
23 the canoe house at *Paseo de Susanna*, the *Sahyan Tasi Fache Mwan*; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Manny served as master carver and master navigator for TASI,
2 carving the sakman, *Saina*, and the proa, *Geftao*; and served as the captain and
3 navigator for voyages to Rota, Saipan, and Pagan; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Manny taught HI450-G *Special Topics in Pacific History*;
5 *Traditions about Seafaring Islands* in 1999, with Dr. Vince M. Diaz; and in 2007,
6 with Dr. Lawrence J. Cunningham at the University of Guam; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Manny is an appointed *Manggachong* (partner) with the Richard
8 F. Taitano Micronesian Area Research Center (MARC); and

9 **WHEREAS**, during the University of Guam's Spring 2010 commencement
10 ceremony, Manny was given the first Honorary Master of Micronesian Traditional
11 Knowledge Degree; and

12 **WHEREAS**, Manny has been given numerous awards as a Master Navigator,
13 Master Canoe Builder and Canoe-House Builder; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Manny has published and lectured throughout the island and the
15 region on the significance of the intricacies on all aspects of traditional seafaring; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Manny Ikea Sikau was a man of integrity and was very generous
17 with his time and his great knowledge; and he was an outstanding ambassador for
18 Polowat, Chuuk, Guam, and all of Micronesia; now therefore, be it

19 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,
20 on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize, honor and commemorate the late Manny
21 Ikea Sikau for his dedication, commitment and undaunting service in the perpetuation
22 of the indigenous cultures of Micronesia; and that his knowledge and practices will
23 not be forgotten, but shared with future generations; and be it further

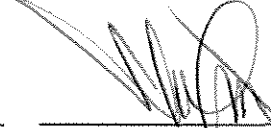
24 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to,
25 the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the family

- 1 of the late Manny Ikea Sikau; to Dr. Lawrence J. Cunningham; to the Traditions
- 2 About Seafaring Islands; to the University of Guam and the Micronesian Area
- 3 Research Center; and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, *I Maga' låhen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE 28TH DAY OF MAY, 2013.



JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.
Speaker



TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary