

I Mina Trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Resolutions Log Sheet

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Referred	Committee / Ofc Referred	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	Date Adopted
420-33 (COR)	Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.	Relative to recognizing and honoring the late <i>Siñot</i> Eddie Leon Guerrero Benavente for his dedication and commitment to promoting Chamorro language and culture, and for being a staunch advocate for Chamorro rights; and to further expressing deepest condolences and appreciation of his lifetime of work to his family upon his passing.	07/19/16 9:54 a.m	07/20/16 10:00 a.m					07/19/16

I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
2016 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. 420-33 (COR)

Introduced by:

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.
B. J.F. Cruz
T. R. Muña Barnes
R. J. Respicio
T. C. Ada
V. Anthony Ada
FRANK B. AGUON, JR.
Frank F. Blas, Jr.
James V. Espaldon
Brant T. McCreadie
Tommy Morrison
Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
Mary Camacho Torres
N. B. Underwood, Ph.D.

Relative to recognizing and honoring the late *Siñot* Eddie Leon Guerrero Benavente for his dedication and commitment to promoting Chamorro language and culture, and for being a staunch advocate for Chamorro rights; and to further expressing deepest condolences and appreciation of his lifetime of work to his family upon his passing.

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

3 **WHEREAS, *Siñot* Eddie Leon Guerrero Benavente, fondly known as “Ed,”**
4 **was born on August 4, 1956, in *Tamuning*; and is the son of Dolores Leon Guerrero**
5 **(*familian Lale*) and Christobal Benavente (*familian Chedu*). He was a resident of**
6 ***Mangilao*, where he shared his life with his wife, Julie Quichocho-Benavente, and**

1 their (2) daughters, Amber Benavente-Sanchez and Tasi Quichocho Benavente; and
2 was also blessed with five (5) grandchildren, Ha'ani Benavente-Sanchez, Sinahi
3 Benavente-Sanchez, Na'ina Benavente, Rai Benavente-Sanchez, and Nina'i Fu'una
4 Benavente-Sanchez; and

5 **WHEREAS**, *Siñot* Eddie Leon Guerrero Benavente graduated from the Guam
6 Vocational Technical High School with a focus on Electrical Studies; and he attended
7 the University of Guam, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in
8 Criminal Justice, as well as attaining a Chamorro Teaching Degree in Secondary
9 Education from the Chamorro Teaching Degree Institute (CTDI) at the University of
10 Guam; and

11 **WHEREAS**, from 1989 to 1992, *Siñot* Eddie Leon Guerrero Benavente
12 produced *Programan Konbetsasion*, a Chamorro talk show on KUAM radio, which
13 provided a discussion forum for the concerns and issues of the Chamorro people; and

14 **WHEREAS**, *Siñot* Eddie Leon Guerrero Benavente actively promoted the
15 Chamorro language and its resilience daily; and most notably during his time serving
16 as a teacher at John F. Kennedy High School and at *Inarajan* High School, where he
17 taught and dedicated a decade of his life to educating and immersing students in the
18 Chamorro language; and later, he served as an instructor at the University of Guam
19 and the Guam Community College, where he taught History of Guam courses; and

20 **WHEREAS**, *Siñot* Eddie Leon Guerrero Benavente was an engaging Chamorro
21 activist leader, and he was a member of *Nasion Chamoru* – an organization that
22 focuses on the protection of Chamorro rights, and rights to land and native resources,
23 culture, language; and which has been instrumental in promoting the consciousness of
24 decolonization and of the Chamorro people today; and

25 **WHEREAS**, from 1995 to 2003, *Siñot* Eddie Leon Guerrero Benavente served
26 as *Maga'låhi* of *Nasion Chamoru* and, along with the late Senator Angel Leon

1 Guerrero Santos, played a big part in the movement for the implementation of the
2 Chamorro Land Trust Act of 1975, and the establishment of the Ancestral Lands
3 Commission; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the Commission on Decolonization was also established from the
5 lobbying efforts of *Nasion Chamoru* during *Siñot* Eddie Leon Guerrero Benavente’s
6 tenure as *Maga’lāhi* of the organization; and

7 **WHEREAS**, *Siñot* Eddie Leon Guerrero Benavente was a recipient of the
8 esteemed Alston Bannerman Sabbatical Fellowship – a fellowship awarded to activists
9 who are devoted to helping their communities organize for racial, social, economic
10 and environmental justice; and

11 **WHEREAS**, in 2003, because of his knowledge and dedication to issues
12 surrounding Chamorro self-determination and indigenous rights to land, *Siñot* Eddie
13 Leon Guerrero Benavente was appointed to serve as Executive Director of the Guam
14 Ancestral Lands Commission, as well as the Commission on Decolonization; and

15 **WHEREAS**, together with his family, friends, and fellow advocates for the
16 perpetuation of the indigenous Chamorro culture, *Siñot* Eddie Leon Guerrero
17 Benavente worked collectively to establish *I Sagan Kotturan Chamorro*, a center for
18 Chamorro cultural education, where he provided lessons in weaving, the Chamorro
19 language, and Chamorro history; and

20 **WHEREAS**, *Siñot* Eddie Leon Guerrero Benavente shall be affectionately
21 remembered for his resolute efforts; for his generosity of knowledge; and for his
22 unwavering dedication to educate the community and future generations, and to
23 empower the native people of Guam to realize their inherent connection to the land
24 and sovereign rights; and

25 **WHEREAS**, *Siñot* Eddie Leon Guerrero Benavente will continue to inspire the
26 people of Guam, even after his passing; and he once articulated the following

1 statement: “I may not see decolonization in my lifetime, but I can leave this world
2 knowing the next generation will continue to fight for the rights of our people”; now
3 therefore, be it

4 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'Trentai Tres Na*
5 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people
6 of Guam, recognize and honor the late *Siñot* Eddie Leon Guerrero Benavente for his
7 dedication and commitment to promoting Chamorro language and culture, and for
8 being a staunch advocate for Chamorro rights; and does further express deepest
9 condolences and appreciation of his lifetime of work to his family upon his passing;
10 and be it further

11 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules
12 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of
13 the same be thereafter transmitted to the family of the late Eddie Leon Guerrero
14 Benavente - Julie Quichocho-Benavente, Amber Benavente-Sanchez and Tasi
15 Quichocho Benavente; to *I Nasion Chamoru*; and to the Honorable Edward J.B.
16 Calvo, *I Maga'låhen Guåhan*.

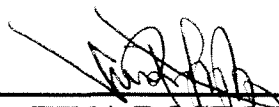
**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF
I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 19TH DAY
OF JULY 2016.**



JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.
Speaker



THOMAS C. ADA
Acting Chairperson, Committee on Rules



TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary

