

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
481-33 (COR)	Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.	Relative to recognizing and Congratulating The Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, South Central Community on Guam on their seventieth (70th) Anniversary of its Founding on Guam; and to further extending a warm and sincere <i>Un Dångkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'</i> to them for seventy (70) years of fulfilling the mission of Mother Catherine McAuley.	09/30/16 4:26 p.m.	11/05/16 3:30 p.m.					10/04/16

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

**Resolution No. 481-33 (COR)**

Introduced by:

Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.

R. J. Respicio

FRANK B. AGUON, JR.

T. C. Ada

V. Anthony Ada

Frank F. Blas, Jr.

B. J.F. Cruz

James V. Espaldon

Brant T. McCreddie

Tommy Morrison

T. R. Muña Barnes

Michael F.Q. San Nicolas

Mary Camacho Torres

N. B. Underwood, Ph.D.

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

**Relative to recognizing, commending, and congratulating the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, South Central Community on Guam on the Seventieth (70<sup>th</sup>) Year Anniversary of its founding on Guam; and to further extending a warm and sincere *Un Dångkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'* to them for fulfilling the mission of Mother Catherine McAuley on Guam, the Mariana Islands, and Micronesia for the past seventy (70) years.**

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

3           **WHEREAS,** the Sisters of Mercy are inspired by the courageous and  
4 compassionate example of their foundress, Catherine McAuley. The Sisters of Mercy on  
5 Guam are involved in various ministries, to include: education, pastoral work, prayer  
6 ministry, and social work; and

1           **WHEREAS**, on November 5, 1946, three (3) pioneer Mercy Sisters, Sister Mary  
2 Inez Underwood, RSM, Sister Mary Louise Wiensenforth, and Sister Mary Annette  
3 McBennett of the Sisters of Mercy from Belmont, North Carolina, made up the first  
4 group of Mercy Sisters that arrived on Guam; and Bishop Baumgartner asked that the  
5 Mercy Sisters establish Guam’s first permanent Catholic School; and

6           **WHEREAS**, on December 12, 1946, the first group of local girls, which consisted  
7 of ten (10) novices, entered the Sisters of Mercy and started their postulancy. On  
8 December 6, 1947, the small trio of Mercy Sisters continued to recruit young local  
9 women into the Mercy community, and accepted twenty (20) local candidates into the  
10 Mercy community in *Hagåtña*. In just a year’s time, the growing number of vocations  
11 warranted the building of a second convent in *Tai* to accommodate another ten (10)  
12 novices who entered in 1948; and

13           **WHEREAS**, in 1949, the Mercy Sisters extended their ministry to the southern  
14 villages of Guam by opening the *Inarajan* Convent, which enabled the Sisters to teach  
15 catechism in the parishes of *Inarajan*, *Malojloj*, *Merizo*, and *Umatac*; and Sister  
16 Redempta Thomas became the first Superior at the *Inarajan* Convent. During the same  
17 year, the Academy of Our Lady of Guam (AOLG) and Cathedral Grade School both  
18 opened, and AOLG is still in operation to this day; and

19           **WHEREAS**, during the years 1950 through 1960, the Santa Barbara Catholic  
20 School was established in *Dededo*, which remains open to this day; the permanent *Tai*  
21 Convent and Novitiate, and the Infant of Prague Nursery were established; the first Final  
22 Profession was made; and the new *Agaña* Convent was dedicated; and

23           **WHEREAS**, in 1960, Sister Callista Camacho was appointed as Superior; and  
24 Saint Anthony School opened in *Tamuning* with Sister Bernadette Marie serving as the  
25 first Principal of the School, which is still in operation and very active to this day; and the  
26 Juniorate was established, and Sister Redempta Thomas became the first Directress; and

1           **WHEREAS**, in 1962, Sister Redempta returned to Belmont, North Carolina; and  
2 Sister Margaret Mary Lujan succeeded her as the new Juniorate Directress. During that  
3 year, there also was a tragedy as Super Typhoon Karen, a known Category 5 storm,  
4 struck Guam and greatly damaged the *Tai* Convent, which then needed significant  
5 renovations; and

6           **WHEREAS**, in 1963, the late Sister Mary John Madden was appointed to serve as  
7 Regional Superior of Guam, a position she held for four (4) years. She was influenced to  
8 serve others by her aunt, Mother Mary Raphael Doyle, who was a Sister of Mercy. Sister  
9 Mary John entered the Sisters of Mercy in 1930 at the age of sixteen (16); and she  
10 received her Bachelor's Degree in History from Belmont Abbey College, and a Master's  
11 Degree in History from St. John's University in New York; and

12           **WHEREAS**, in 1965, several Junior professed sisters were sent to Belmont, North  
13 Carolina for college and teacher training; and Sister Mary Louise Weinsenforth returned  
14 to Belmont after serving on Guam for nineteen (19) years. Also, the *Oka Tamuning*  
15 Convent opened at the location where the Guam Memorial Hospital now stands, and one  
16 of its purposes was to serve as the Aspiranture, or residence, for new candidates in the  
17 community; and

18           **WHEREAS**, in 1967, Sister Mary Mark Martinez was appointed as the Regional  
19 Superior, the Aspiranture closed, and the *Tai* property was deeded to the Sisters of  
20 Mercy; and

21           **WHEREAS**, in 1971, the Sisters of Mercy-Guam region celebrated its Twenty-  
22 Fifth (25<sup>th</sup>) Year Anniversary, and had the First Regional Assembly; and

23           **WHEREAS**, in 1972, Sister Evelyn Muña was the first elected Regional Superior  
24 of the Sisters of Mercy. Sister Evelyn Muña, Sister Mary Cabrini Taitano, and Sister  
25 Angela Perez, Mercy Sisters from Guam, had also served at the Belmont headquarters as  
26 councilors to the Belmont leadership at different times; and

1           **WHEREAS**, in 1975, the Convent and Nursery moved to a new building in  
2 Perezville, *Oka Tamuning*, where it stands today; and

3           **WHEREAS**, in 1980, Sister Francis Jerome Cruz was elected as Regional  
4 Superior; and

5           **WHEREAS**, in 1981, the *Inarajan* Convent reopened; and it was also the year of  
6 the celebration of the One Hundred Fiftieth (150<sup>th</sup>) Year Anniversary of the Sisters of  
7 Mercy worldwide; and

8           **WHEREAS**, in 1983, Sister Evelyn Muña was elected to the North Carolina  
9 Regional Council; and

10           **WHEREAS**, in 1986, the Mercy Sisters assumed responsibility for Bishop  
11 Baumgartner Middle School in *Sinajaña*. The school, which was originally called Saint  
12 Jude School, began in 1955 under the guidance of the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual  
13 Adoration, in partnership with the Saint Jude parish; and

14           **WHEREAS**, in 1986, the first two (2) candidates from Chuuk entered the Sisters  
15 of Mercy; and

16           **WHEREAS**, in 1988, Sister Mary Cabrini Taitano was elected as Regional  
17 Superior, and the Mercy Associates Program was inaugurated; and

18           **WHEREAS**, in 1989, the Rota Mission opened and Sister Mary Benedict San  
19 Nicolas, Sister Mary Carmelita Peredo, and Sister Mary Veronica Chargualaf were sent  
20 there; and Sister Mary Benedict San Nicolas, a Mercy Sister and native of Rota, founded  
21 the *Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja* on that island. Several Mercy Sisters had staffed  
22 that school for a number of years until it was turned over to another administration; and

23           **WHEREAS**, in 1991, the Mercy Convent in Saipan opened; and the Institute of  
24 the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas had a founding event in Buffalo, New York; and

25           **WHEREAS**, in 1992, the Mercy Heights Nursery was renovated, and the Infant of  
26 Prague Nursery was severely damaged by Typhoon Omar; and

1           **WHEREAS**, in 1994, the Belmont-Guam Task Force Study was completed, and  
2 the new *Inarajan* Convent was dedicated; and

3           **WHEREAS**, in 1995, the Cathedral Grade School merged with Bishop  
4 Baumgartner Middle School and moved from *Agaña* to *Sinajaña*, and the new entity was  
5 renamed as the Bishop Baumgartner Memorial School; and

6           **WHEREAS**, in 1996, Sister Angela Perez was elected as Region President and the  
7 Sisters of Mercy-Guam region celebrated its Golden Jubilee; Sister Mary Underwood  
8 returned to Guam; and the Chuuk Mission opened with Sister Mary Cabrini Taitano and  
9 Sister Grace Joseph serving as the first Mercy Sisters there; and

10          **WHEREAS**, in 1997, the Golden Jubilee of the first group of Sisters from the  
11 Guam community was celebrated; and

12          **WHEREAS**, in March 1998, Sister Mary Underwood passed away; and

13          **WHEREAS**, in 2000, the Fiftieth (50<sup>th</sup>) Year Anniversary of Santa Barbara  
14 Catholic School and the Infant of Prague Nursery/Kindergarten was celebrated; and

15          **WHEREAS**, in 2001, the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the America's Tenth  
16 (10<sup>th</sup>) Year Anniversary was celebrated with initial conversations around re-imagination  
17 and reconfiguration of new communities in the Institute; and

18          **WHEREAS**, in 2002, Mercy sponsored Ministries, Mercy Action Marianas, Ltd.,  
19 and two (2) nurseries incorporated in the Saipan and Rota Missions closed; and

20          **WHEREAS**, in 2003, the Mercy Care Center opened and the Mercy Sisters took  
21 over the *Alee* Shelter Ministry; and

22          **WHEREAS**, in 2004, Sister Mary Cabrini Taitano was elected as Guam Region  
23 President, and the Institute Justice Solidarity Retreat was held in Chuuk and Guam; and

24          **WHEREAS**, in 2005, Saint Anthony School celebrated its Forty-Fifth (45<sup>th</sup>) Year  
25 Anniversary; and

1           **WHEREAS**, in 2006, the emerging “South Central Community” (Baltimore,  
2 Cincinnati, Guam, Jamaica, North Carolina, and St. Louis) was named at the Joint  
3 Leadership Team meeting held in Nashville, Tennessee; and

4           **WHEREAS**, on November 5, 2006, the Sisters of Mercy-Guam Region celebrated  
5 its Sixtieth (60<sup>th</sup>) Year Anniversary with a Eucharistic celebration at the *Dulce Nombre*  
6 *De Maria* Cathedral-Basilica with special guest, Sister Mary Waskowiak, Institute  
7 President; and

8           **WHEREAS**, on November 11, 2006, the Sisters of Mercy worldwide celebrated  
9 its One Hundred Seventy-Fifth (175<sup>th</sup>) Year Anniversary with the promotion for the cause  
10 of the beatification of their Foundress, Venerable Catherine McAuley; and

11           **WHEREAS**, in September 2008, the Sisters of Mercy South Central Community  
12 was formed, and is made up of the former regional communities of Baltimore,  
13 Cincinnati/Jamaica, St. Louis, and North Carolina/Guam. The Sisters of Mercy of the  
14 Americas, South Central Community unites more than seven hundred (700) sisters in the  
15 Institute; and

16           **WHEREAS**, the work of the Mercy Sisters extends throughout Micronesia. They  
17 have ministered in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as  
18 administrators and teachers at Mt. Carmel School; and they currently work in Chuuk,  
19 Federated States of Micronesia, at the Saramen Chuuk Academy. In the past, the Mercy  
20 Sisters have worked for the Caroline Islands Diocese; and some *Chamorro* Sisters have  
21 also worked in the U.S. mainland; today, there are four (4) Mercy Sisters from Guam  
22 working there. On Guam, the Mercy Sisters have worked extensively in Catholic schools  
23 and parishes as administrators and teachers. They are involved in several offices of the  
24 Archdiocese of *Agaña*, and they hold various positions at local institutions, to include the  
25 University of Guam, the Guam Community College, Guam Memorial Hospital, Catholic  
26 Social Service, *Alee* Shelter, the Guam Department of Education, and the Senior Citizens  
27 Division of the Department of Public Health and Social Services. At one time, the

1 number of Sisters serving with the Sisters of Mercy in the Guam region was around sixty-  
2 six (66), and today there are some forty-five (45) Sisters in the region; now therefore, be  
3 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 of  
6 Guam, recognize, commend, and congratulate the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas,  
7 South Central Community on Guam on the Seventieth (70<sup>th</sup>) Year Anniversary of its  
8 founding on Guam; and does further extend a warm and sincere *Un Dångkolo Na Si*  
9 *Yu'os Ma'åse'* to them for fulfilling the mission of Mother Catherine McAuley on Guam,  
10 the Mariana Islands, and Micronesia for the past seventy (70) years; and be it further

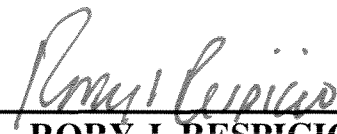
11 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules  
12 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the  
13 same be thereafter transmitted to Sister Marian Therése Arroyo, RSM, Guam Mercy  
14 Administrator, Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, South Central Community on Guam;  
15 and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, *I Maga'låhen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I  
MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF  
NOVEMBER 2016.**



JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.

Speaker



RORY J. RESPICIO

Chairperson, Committee on Rules

  
TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES  
Legislative Secretary





# COMMITTEE ON RULES

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## COMMITTEE VOTING SHEET

Resolution No. 481-33 (COR) - Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr., R. J. Respicio, and FRANK B. AGUON, JR. - "Relative to recognizing, commending, and congratulating the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, South Central Community on Guam on the Seventieth (70<sup>th</sup>) Year Anniversary of its founding on Guam; and to further extending a warm and sincere *Un Dângkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'* to them for fulfilling the mission of Mother Catherine McAuley on Guam, the Mariana Islands, and Micronesia for the past seventy (70) years."

	SIGNATURE	DATE	TO ADOPT	TO NOT ADOPT	TO ABSTAIN
Senator Rory J. Respicio Chairperson	<i>[Signature]</i>	11/4/16	✓		
Senator Thomas C. Ada Vice-Chairperson	<i>[Signature]</i>	11/5/16	✓		
Speaker Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D. Member	<i>[Signature]</i>	11/4/16	✓		
Vice-Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz Member	<i>[Signature]</i>	11/4/16	✓		
Legislative Secretary Tina Rose Muña Barnes Member	<i>[Signature]</i>	11/4/16	✓		2016 NOV - 7 AM 9:45
Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr. Member					
Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Member	<i>[Signature]</i>	11/4/16	✓		
Senator Michael F.Q. San Nicolas Member					
Senator Nerissa B. Underwood, Ph.D. Member					
Senator V. Anthony Ada Minority Leader					
Senator Mary Camacho Torres Minority Member					

### For Sponsor's Office Use Only

Sponsor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

*[Signature]*  
*Joseph Mesonzo*

### For CDR/Clerk's Office Use Only

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Certified \_\_\_\_\_ Returned \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

*Chun hui Chan*  
 11.07.16  
 Adopted 11.04.16