

MINA' BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2007 (FIRST) Regular Session

F.C.

Resolution No. 34

Introduced by:

T.R. Muña Barnes *TRMB*
V.C. Pangelinan
R.J. Respicio *[Signature]*

Relative to recognizing and congratulating Ms Lourdes "Lou" Leon Guerrero for receiving the U.S. Small Business Administration's "2007 Small Business Awards, Women In Business Champion of the Year" for her exceptional achievements, and her civic contributions to the community of Guam.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA' BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN**
2 **GUÅHAN:**

3 WHEREAS, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) was
4 established in 1953 to provide financial, technical, and management
5 assistance to spur the number of small business start-ups, encourage their
6 expansion and sustain growth throughout the nation's states and
7 territories; and

8 WHEREAS, America's estimated 25.8 million small businesses
9 employ more than half of the nation's private work force, generate more
10 than half of the nation's gross domestic product, and are the principal
11 source of new jobs in the U.S. economy; and

12 WHEREAS, Guam's estimated 3,000 business establishments with
13 employment, contribute 41 percent to the island's total monthly payroll,
14 accounting for nearly 43,000 individuals in private sector employment; and

15 WHEREAS, the SBA first opened its Guam Branch Office in 1962, and
16 it provides loan guarantees to participating lending institutions in Guam
17 for the island's small businesses, which ensures the needed working

18 capital, inventory financing, and capital improvements to maintain the
19 viability of small business concerns, adding to our island's local tax base,
20 providing employment opportunities, and whose owners participate and
21 support community activities as good corporate citizens; and

22 WHEREAS, since 1990 the SBA Guam Branch Office has participated
23 in the annual, nationwide SBA "Small Business Awards" program,
24 recognizing the achievements of Guam's small business owners and the
25 accomplishments of advocates of small business in Guam, and providing
26 aspiring island entrepreneurs with successful role models to follow; and

27 WHEREAS, this year's "2007 Guam Women In Business Champion of
28 the Year," Lourdes "Lou" Leon Guerrero, is presently the President and
29 Chief Executive Officer of the Bank of Guam; and

30 WHEREAS, as a five-term Senator of the Guam Legislature, through
31 either Legislative or regulatory action, she has been a strong advocate for
32 women's rights and has advocated opportunities for women in health,
33 education, and business; and

34 WHEREAS, as a Senator, she also championed issues that affected the
35 indigent, the disabled, the elderly, and the Chamorros in their fight for
36 equality; and

37 WHEREAS, she has supported efforts to allow persons with
38 disabilities to become self-sufficient entrepreneurs, as well as supported
39 efforts to diversify the island's economy using Guam's natural resources;
40 and

41 WHEREAS, she has been involved with various women's
42 organizations in Guam such as the Soroptimist International of the
43 Marianas, and the government's Family Violence Task Force; and

44 WHEREAS, her recent involvement and partnership with the Guam
45 Small Business Development Center (SBDC) in continuing the Women In

46 Business Program has provided many financial opportunities to women in
47 business in obtaining a healthy business beginning; and

48 WHEREAS, Ms Leon Guerrero deserves recognition for her
49 achievements in her individual and professional capacity, truly
50 representing an outstanding example of Guam's small business citizenry
51 demonstrating the resiliency and the entrepreneurial spirit to prosper in an
52 economic climate of challenges and circumstances; now, therefore, be it

53 RESOLVED, that *I Mina' Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* hereby
54 congratulates Lourdes "Lou" Leon Guerrero for receiving the U.S. Small
55 Business Administration's "2007 Small Business Awards, Women In
56 Business Champion of the Year," and for her exceptional achievements and
57 her civic contributions to the community of Guam; and be it further

58 RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify to, and the Secretary of the
59 Legislature attest the adoption hereof, and copies of the same be thereafter
60 transmitted to Lourdes "Lou" Leon Guerrero, to the Bank of Guam, to the
61 Small Business Administration, and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I*
62 *Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF *I MINA' BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE 21ST
DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2007.