

***I MINA'BENTE OCHO LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN***  
**2006 (SECOND) Regular Session**

**Resolution No. 124(LS)**

Introduced by:

A. R. Unpingco <sup>6</sup>  
L. F. Kasperbauer *LFK*

**Relative to congratulating and commending Colonel John Ray Taitano, MD, MSS, FACP on his retirement from the Guam Army National Guard and to express our sincere gratitude for his twenty-three years of military service and dedication to the people of Guam.**

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

3        **WHEREAS**, Colonel John Ray Taitano, MD, MSS, FACP, graduated from  
4        John F. Kennedy High School in 1965 where he received the Top Ten Award and  
5        then completed his college degree on a full scholarship from the University of  
6        Guam in 1968 where he received the National Land Grant College Award, was  
7        named Best All – Around Student and Most Likely to Succeed; and

8        **WHEREAS**, Dr. John Ray Taitano was commissioned Second Lieutenant in  
9        1970 after completing the United States Army Engineer Officer Candidate School  
10       in Fort Belvoir, Virginia and served in Vietnam in 1971 – 1972 as a Transportation  
11       Officer; and

12       **WHEREAS**, Dr. Taitano was the First Chamorro to graduate from the  
13       University of Hawaii School of Medicine in 1977 where he was the recipient of a  
14       Professional / Technical Award (Scholarship); and

15       **WHEREAS**, Dr. Taitano was commissioned as Captain of the Guam  
16       National Guard in 1983 and became the First State Surgeon. He was Advisor to  
17       eight (8) Adjutant Generals on all medical matters of the command and ensured

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1 that all 800 plus personnel are medically qualified for deployment worldwide. He  
2 eventually became the Senior Medical Officer of the command; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Taitano was the first Commander of the Medical  
4 Command from 1999 – 2000 and was responsible for the personnel management of  
5 physicians, nurses and allied health personnel of the medical detachment. He was  
6 tasked with quality assurance and quality control of physical examinations and  
7 immunizations for 800 plus personnel. He established the first unit PT program for  
8 MEDCOM apart from the command PT program; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Col. Taitano was the first Chamorro physician to attend the  
10 United States Army War College in Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania where he  
11 served as the seminar chair and was Mayor of Bouquet village responsible for 12  
12 US War College families. He was also inducted into the Engineer OCS Hall of  
13 Fame while at the War College and completed a Masters in Strategic Studies on  
14 June 9, 2001.

15 **WHEREAS**, Col. Taitano published and conducted an Officer Professional  
16 Development presentation on Anthrax, Weapon of Mass Destruction. He also  
17 submitted newspaper articles on medical issues such as Diabetes, Hypertension,  
18 Sexually Transmitted Diseases and HIV; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Col. Taitano willingly responded to the call of duty by serving  
20 in Iraq as a Medical Corp Officer with the 199<sup>th</sup> Troop Medical Clinic of the 256  
21 Brigade Combat Team, Louisiana Army National Guard; and

22 **WHEREAS**, Col. Taitano championed the elimination of smoking inside all  
23 buildings of the Guam Army National Guard to eliminate the adverse effects of  
24 second hand smoking on non-smokers, children and pregnant soldiers; and

1           **WHEREAS**, Col. Taitano fought for the parity of CME funding for  
2 OCONUS States and Territories which allowed additional funding for exorbitant  
3 airfare costs to attend CONUS CME's to offset funding ceiling; and

4           **WHEREAS**, Col. Taitano was an Ambassador for the Guam National  
5 Guard on overseas deployment to Iraq and to the National Guard Bureau; and

6           **WHEREAS**, for bravery and outstanding performance, Col. Taitano  
7 received numerous awards and / or recognition including Meritorious Service  
8 Medal (2<sup>nd</sup> award), Army Forces Reserve Medal with M device, Army Superior  
9 Unit Award, National Defense Service Medal (3<sup>rd</sup> award), Global War on  
10 Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with 2 bronze service  
11 stars, Army Service Ribbon, Army Achievement Medal, Humanitarian Service  
12 Medal, Guam Commendation Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement  
13 Medal Award, Faithful Service Medal and the Republic of Vietnam  
14 Commendation Medal with 60 device; now therefore be it

15           **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guahan* does  
16 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, commend and congratulate Colonel John  
17 Ray Taitano for his twenty-three years of service to the people of Guam and  
18 expresses sincere gratitude for his contributions to the Guam Army National  
19 Guard; and be it further

20           **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify to, and the Secretary of the  
21 Legislature attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter  
22 transmitted to Col. John Ray Taitano; and the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I*  
23 *Maga'lalen Guahan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN* ON THE \_\_\_\_ DAY OF MARCH 2006.**

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**MARK FORBES**  
Speaker

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**EDWARD J.B. CALVO**  
Senator and Secretary of the  
Legislature