

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

Resolution No. 124 (LS)

As amended.

Introduced by:

A. R. Unpingco

L. F. Kasperbauer

Mike Cruz

F. B. Aguon, Jr.

J. M.S. Brown

Edward J.B. Calvo

B. J.F. Cruz

Mark Forbes

R. Klitzkie

L. A. Leon Guerrero

J. A. Lujan

A. B. Palacios

R. J. Respicio

Ray Tenorio

J. T. Won Pat

Relative to congratulating and commending Colonel John Ray Taitano, MD, MSS, FACP on his retirement from the Guam Army National Guard, and to expressing our sincere gratitude for his twenty-three (23) 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**
4 **from John F. Kennedy High School in 1965, where he received the Top Ten**
5 **(10) Award and then completed his college degree on a full scholarship, from**
6 **the University of Guam in 1968, where he received the National Land Grant**

1 College Award and was named Best All – Around Student and Most Likely to
2 Succeed; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Dr. John Ray Taitano was commissioned Second Lieutenant
4 in 1970 after completing the United States Army Engineer Officer Candidate
5 School in Fort Belvoir, Virginia and served in Vietnam from 1971 to 1972 as a
6 Transportation Officer; and

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

10 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Taitano was commissioned as Captain of the Guam
11 National Guard in 1983 and became the first State Surgeon. He was Advisor to
12 eight (8) Adjutant Generals on all medical matters of the command and
13 ensured that all eight hundred (800) plus personnel are medically qualified for
14 deployment worldwide. He eventually became the Senior Medical Officer of
15 the command; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Taitano was the first Commander of the Medical
17 Command from 1999 to 2000 and was responsible for the personnel
18 management of physicians, nurses and allied health personnel of the medical
19 detachment. He was tasked with quality assurance and quality control of
20 physical examinations and immunizations for eight hundred (800) plus
21 personnel. He established the first unit PT program for MEDCOM apart from
22 the command PT program; and

23 **WHEREAS**, Colonel Taitano was the first *Chamorro* physician to attend
24 the United States Army War College in Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, where
25 he served as the seminar chair and was Mayor of Bouquet Village responsible

1 for twelve (12) US War College families. He was also inducted into the
2 Engineer OCS Hall of Fame while at the War College and completed a
3 Masters in Strategic Studies on June 9, 2001; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Colonel Taitano published and conducted an Officer
5 Professional Development presentation on Anthrax, Weapon of Mass
6 Destruction. He also submitted newspaper articles on medical issues such as
7 Diabetes, Hypertension, Sexually Transmitted Diseases and HIV; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Colonel Taitano willingly responded to the call of duty by
9 serving in Iraq as a Medical Corps Officer with the 199th Troop Medical Clinic
10 of the two hundred fifty-six (256) Brigade Combat Team, Louisiana Army
11 National Guard; and

12 **WHEREAS**, Colonel Taitano championed the elimination of smoking
13 inside of all the buildings of the Guam Army National Guard to eliminate the
14 adverse effects of second-hand smoke on non-smokers, children and pregnant
15 soldiers; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Colonel Taitano fought for the parity of CME funding for
17 OCONUS States and Territories which created additional funding for
18 exorbitant airfare costs to attend CONUS CME's; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Colonel Taitano was an Ambassador for the Guam
20 National Guard on overseas deployment to Iraq and to the National Guard
21 Bureau; and


22 **WHEREAS**, for bravery and outstanding performance, Colonel Taitano
23 received numerous awards and/or recognition, including the Meritorious
24 Service Medal (2nd award), Army Forces Reserve Medal with M device, the

1 Army Superior Unit Award, the National Defense Service Medal (3rd award),
2 the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Vietnam Service
3 Medal with two (2) Bronze Service Stars, the Army Service Ribbon, the Army
4 Achievement Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, the Guam
5 Commendation Medal, the Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal
6 Award, the Faithful Service Medal and the Republic of Vietnam
7 Commendation Medal with sixty (60) device; now, therefore, be it

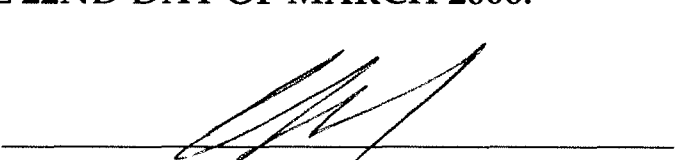
8 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina' Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,
9 on behalf of the people of Guam, commend and congratulate Colonel John
10 Ray Taitano for his twenty-three (23) years of service to the people of Guam
11 and expresses sincere gratitude for his contributions to the Guam Army
12 National Guard; and be it further

13 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the
14 Legislature attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be
15 thereafter transmitted to Colonel John Ray Taitano, MD, MSS, FACP; and to
16 the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 22ND DAY OF MARCH 2006.



MARK FORBES
Speaker



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