

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

**Resolution No. 176 (EC)**

Introduced by:

Mark Forbes  
F. B. Aguon, Jr.  
J. M.S. Brown  
Edward J.B. Calvo  
B. J.F. Cruz  
Mike Cruz  
L. F. Kasperbauer  
R. Klitzkie  
J. A. Lujan  
A. B. Palacios, Sr.  
R. J. Respicio  
Ray Tenorio  
A. R. Unpingco  
J. T. Won Pat

Relative to recognizing the accomplishments and dedication of the late Honorable Ernesto Mercader Espaldon, M.D., F.A.C.S., former Senator, and to extend sincere condolences to his family on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people of Guam.

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

3        **WHEREAS**, the late Honorable Ernesto Mercader Espaldon was born on  
4 November 11, 1926 to his proud parents, the late Cipriano Acuña Espaldon  
5 and the late Claudia Cadag Mercader; and

6        **WHEREAS**, Ernesto was married to the former Leticia Virata and they  
7 were blessed with six (6) wonderful children: Arlene, Vivian, James, Diane

1 Marie, Karl and Ernesto Jr.; fourteen (14) grandchildren and two (2) great-  
2 grandchildren; and

3 **WHEREAS**, at the age of five (5), his mother ran her fingers through  
4 Ernesto's hair and with words of wisdom said "I wish you become a doctor  
5 when you grow up"; and

6 **WHEREAS**, at the age of sixteen (16), Ernesto became a freedom fighter  
7 in the defense of his homeland and joined the Sulu Area Command Guerrilla  
8 Organization Movement, and at the age of eighteen (18), he was the youngest  
9 ever to be promoted to Commander; and

10 **WHEREAS**, after the war, Ernesto joined the Philippine Army and was  
11 appointed the Assistant Adjutant for the 61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment; and

12 **WHEREAS**, in 1947, Ernesto completed his high school education at  
13 Zamboanga High School; and

14 **WHEREAS**, in 1954, Ernesto completed his medical education at the  
15 University of Santo Tomas in Manila, Philippines, earning a degree in  
16 Doctorate of Medicine; and

17 **WHEREAS**, while walking with a friend and picking up a newspaper,  
18 Dr. Espaldon showed the friend an article on a surgeon working on plastic  
19 and reconstructive work and said "that was the medical specialty he wanted";  
20 and

21 **WHEREAS**, in 1959, Dr. Espaldon attended the University of Oklahoma  
22 and completed his General Surgery Residency; and

23 **WHEREAS**, in 1961, Dr. Espaldon completed his plastic surgery and  
24 reconstructive surgical training at the Washington University School of  
25 Medicine and Barnes Hospital Group in St. Louis, Missouri and, after passing

1 the American Board of Plastic Surgery, he went back to his homeland to serve  
2 his people; and

3       **WHEREAS**, Guam was devastated by Typhoon Karen and a world  
4 wide appeal for doctors was made and in the name of humanitarian aid, he  
5 and his wife Leticia came to Guam, fell in love with the island and its people  
6 and called Guam their home; and

7       **WHEREAS**, after establishing medical practice on Guam, Dr. Espaldon  
8 opened up the Espaldon Clinic; and

9       **WHEREAS**, in 1965, Guam Memorial Hospital received its first full  
10 accreditation by the Joint Commission on Hospital Accreditation, and Dr.  
11 Ernesto M. Espaldon was the Chief of Surgery and President of the Medical  
12 Staff; and

13       **WHEREAS**, in 1974, was elected Senator to the Thirteenth Guam  
14 Legislature and also served in the Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Nineteenth,  
15 Twentieth and Twenty-first Guam Legislatures; and

16       **WHEREAS**, from 1974 to 1980, as a Senator, he chaired the Committee  
17 on Health, Welfare and Ecology and the Committee on Ethics and Standards;  
18 and

19       **WHEREAS**, while Dr. Espaldon served as a Senator and Chairman of  
20 the Committee on Health, Welfare, and Ecology, the Guam Memorial Hospital  
21 maintained its accreditation by the Joint Commission Hospital Accreditation;  
22 and

23       **WHEREAS**, as a Senator, he introduced legislation that became Public  
24 Laws for the betterment of Guam and her people; and

1           **WHEREAS**, he continued to help the people in Guam, the  
2 Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, the Micronesian islands and his  
3 beloved homeland the Philippines, by offering humanitarian aid to the less  
4 fortunate; and

5           **WHEREAS**, The Honorable Espaldon served as a board member or  
6 officer in such organizations as the American Cancer Society, the Health  
7 Planning Council, the American Red Cross, the Pacific Basin Medical Council,  
8 and the Parent Teachers Association; and

9           **WHEREAS**, Dr. Ernesto M. Espaldon was featured in Publications such  
10 as "Who's Who in America" 1990 to 1991 and 1991 to 1992, "Profiles of  
11 Notable Filipino Americans", "Public Affairs", "Filipino Achievers in the USA  
12 and Canada", "Profiles in Excellence and Politics", and "*I Manfâyi*"; and

13           **WHEREAS**, because of all his unselfish humanitarian deeds, many  
14 rewards were bestowed upon him, such as the "Most Outstanding Filipino  
15 American of Guam", "Outstanding Filipino Overseas Award", "Most  
16 Outstanding University of Santo Tomas Alumni Achievers Award for Public  
17 Service", "Raja Baguinda Award for Humanitarian Services", "6<sup>th</sup> Centennial  
18 Celebration of Islam in the Philippines", "Man of the Year Award for  
19 Humanitarian Endeavors", and the "Thomas Jefferson Outstanding Public  
20 Service Award"; and

21           **WHEREAS**, as a Senator in the Thirteenth Guam Legislature he  
22 introduced bills that became: **Public Law 13-22**, "AN ACT MAKING AN  
23 APPROPRIATION FROM THE HOSPITAL CONSTRUCTION FUND FOR A  
24 HOSPITAL; **Public Law 13-43**, "AN ACT TO ADD NEW SECTION 9705,  
25 9705.1, THROUGH 9705.24, TO CHAPTER VI, TITLE X OF THE

1 GOVERNMENT OF GUAM CODE RELATIVE TO THE GUAM, FOOD,  
2 DRUG AND COSMETIC ACT”; and **Public Law 13-116**, “AN ACT TO ADD  
3 A NEW CHAPTER TO XV TO TITLE X OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM  
4 CODE OF GUAM TO PROVIDE PROMPT MEDICAL MALPRACTICE  
5 REFORM”; and

6 **WHEREAS**, as a Senator in the Fourteenth Guam Legislature, he  
7 introduced bills that became: **Public Law 14-22**, “AN ACT TO REPEAL AND  
8 RE-ENACT CHAPTERS VI AND VII OF TITLE LXI OF THE GOVERNMENT  
9 CODE OF GUAM, TO RENUMBER CHAPTER VII OF TITLE LXI AND TO  
10 AMEND SECTION 57004 OF THE GOVERNMENT CODE, RELATIVE TO  
11 GUAM PESTICIDES ACT”; **Public Law 14-29**, “AN ACT TO REPEAL  
12 CHAPTER 1 OF TITLE XLVII OF THE GOVERNMENT CODE, TO REPEAL  
13 SECTION ONE OF PART III OF PUBLIC LAW 13-149, TO REPEAL SECTION  
14 9 OF PUBLIC LAW 13-116, TO ENACT A NEW CHAPTER I OF TITLE XLVII  
15 RELATIVE TO CREATING, A NEW PUBLIC CORPORATION AND  
16 SEPARATE INSTRUMENTALITY OF THE GOVERNMENT TO BE KNOWN  
17 AS ‘THE GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY’, AND FURTHER  
18 TO REPEAL SECTION 49225 OF CHAPTER III, TITLE XLVII OF THE  
19 GOVERNMENT CODE OF GUAM”; **Public Law 14-31**, “AN ACT TO ADD  
20 NEW CHAPTER X TO TITLE LXI OF THE GOVERNMENT CODE OF  
21 GUAM RELATIVE TO CREATING A CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT  
22 FOR OPERATING PERSONNEL OR WASTE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS  
23 AND WASTE WATER FACILITIES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”; **Public**  
24 **Law 14-37**, “AN ACT TO REPEAL AND RE-ENACT CHAPTER VIII OF  
25 TITLE LXI OF THE GOVERNMENT CODE OF GUAM RELATIVE TO SOLID

1 WASTE MANAGEMENT AND TO REPEAL SECTIONS 9660.5, 9660.8  
2 THROUGH 9660.11, AND 9660.13 THROUGH 9660.16 OF SUBCHAPTER Q,  
3 CHAPTER VI, TITLE X AND SECTION 57170, 57171, AND 57172 OF  
4 CHAPTER VIII OF PUBLIC LAW 12-1891"; **Public Law 14-38**, "AN ACT TO  
5 CONSTRUCT A SOLID WASTE TRANSFER STATION IN YIGO/DEDEDO,  
6 UMATAC, MERIZO, INARAJAN AREAS AND TO APPROPRIATE  
7 NECESSARY FUNDS"; **Public Law 14-91**, "AN ACT TO AMEND CERTAIN  
8 SECTION OF THE GUAM HEALTH ACT OF 1977"; **Public Law 14-118**,  
9 "AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$1,311,589 TO GUAM  
10 MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY FOR OPERATING AND MOVING  
11 COSTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1978"; AND **Public Law**  
12 **14-150**, "AN ACT TO REPEAL CHAPTER VIII OF TITLE X OF THE  
13 GOVERNMENT CODE AND TO REPLACE IT WITH A NEW CHAPTER VII  
14 PROVIDING FOR A TERRITORIAL HEALTH PLANNING PROGRAM  
15 INCLUDING CERTIFICATE OF NEED FOR CONSTRUCTION OR  
16 MODIFICATION OF HEALTH CARE FACILITIES AND INSTITUTIONAL  
17 SERVICES"; and

18 **WHEREAS**, as a Senator in the Fifteenth Guam Legislature, he  
19 introduced bills that became: **Public Law 15-26**, "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW  
20 ARTICLE V TO CHAPTER II OF TITLE I OF THE CIVIL CODE RELATIVE  
21 TO CONCILIATION OF TROUBLED MARRIAGES"; **Public Law 15-35**, "AN  
22 ACT TO ADD SUBSECTION E TO CHAPTER II, TITLE X OF THE  
23 GOVERNMENT OF GUAM CODE TO THE FOOD STAMP PROGRAM";  
24 **Public Law 15-90**, "AN ACT AMENDING SECTION IN CHAPTER IV OF  
25 TITLE X OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM CODE RELATIVE TO VITAL

1 STATISTICS”; **Public Law 15-99**, “AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE  
2 GOVERNOR OF GUAM TO DESIGNATE TEN HECTARES OF  
3 GOVERNMENT LAND IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF YIGO FOR  
4 RECREATIONAL PURPOSES”; and

5 **WHEREAS**, as a Senator in the Nineteenth Guam Legislature, he  
6 introduced a bill that became: **Public Law 19-46**, “AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE  
7 THE APPLICATION OF THE HEALTH CARE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT  
8 ACT OF 1986 TO GUAM”; and

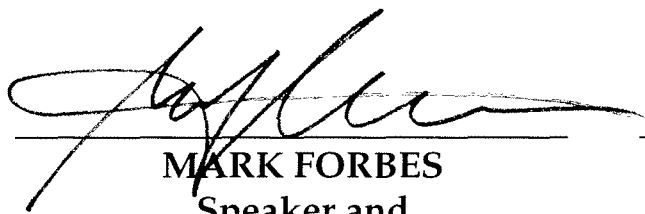
9 **WHEREAS**, as a Senator in the Twenty-First Guam Legislature, he  
10 introduced bills that became: **Public Law 21-11**, “AN ACT EXTENDING TO  
11 THE GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE THE REQUIREMENT FOR  
12 REPORTING TRUANCY TO THE COURT”; **Public Law 21-66**, “AN ACT TO  
13 APPROPRIATE FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS TO PROVIDE  
14 TRANSACTION SERVICES FOR DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS”;  
15 AND **Public Law 21-139**, “AN ACT TO REGULATE SMOKING WITHIN  
16 PUBLIC PLACES AND PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT”; now, therefore, be it

17 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina’Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,  
18 on behalf of people of Guam, recognize the outstanding contributions, legacy  
19 and services of the late Honorable Dr. Ernesto Mercader Espaldon, M.D.,  
20 F.A.C.S., former Senator, and extends sincere condolences to the Espaldon  
21 family; and be it further

22 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina’Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* is hereby  
23 authorized to pay for the funeral expenses for the late Honorable Dr. Ernesto  
24 Mercader Espaldon, M.D., F.A.C.S., former Senator, *not to exceed* Ten  
25 Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00); and be it further

1           **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the  
2 Legislature attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be  
3 thereafter transmitted to his wife Leticia Virata Espaldon, M.D.; to his children  
4 Arlene, Vivian, James, Diane Marie, and Ernesto, Jr.; and to the Honorable  
5 Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'BENTE OCHO NA  
LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 14TH DAY OF AUGUST 2006.**



**MARK FORBES**  
Speaker and  
Chairman, Executive Committee



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