

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

Resolution No. 50 (LS)

Introduced by:

Ray Tenorio 

Relative to recognizing and congratulating Maria Grace B. Gagaring for her achievement as Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guam's Mentor of the Year, 2006.

104-101
10/1/07

1 **WHEREAS**, Maria Grace Baet Gagaring, known as "Grace" to her
2 friends was born on February 16, 1970, to Mr. Pastor Balquedra Gagaring
3 and Gertrudes Madrideojos Baet Gagaring, as the second of three
4 children. She was born in a small outlying hospital near the town of
5 Paete, Laguna, Philippines. During her preschool years, the family
6 including her older brother spent almost six years in Vientiane, Laos
7 where their father was stationed as an airline planning engineer. The
8 Gagaring Family was able to leave the city three weeks before the
9 Vietnam War spilled onto its neighboring country's Capital, and in June,
10 1975, moved to Guam; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Maria Grace Baet Gagaring's innate sophistication,
12 talent and organizational skills were apparent at an early age. Aside
13 from excelling in school she was accepted into the GATE (Gifted And
14 Talented Education) Program, received numerous awards and

1 recognition such as the National Honor Society, Who's Who Among
2 American High School Students, participating in competitions such as
3 the Math Olympiad for Wettengel Elementary School placing in the top
4 ten islandwide, she was the Team Captain for Math Count Competition
5 for Dededo Middle School for which her team won the islandwide
6 competition, and received a Special Congressional Recognition for her
7 accomplishments, all while maintaining a high grade point average; and,

8 **WHEREAS**, Maria Grace Baet Gagaring graduated from Simon
9 Sanchez High School in 1988 with a very competitive class whose grade
10 point average was calculated to the thousandth. She ranked sixth with
11 an estimated grade point average of 4.10 of a possible 4.0 and received a
12 Merit Award for a four-year full scholarship at the University of Guam;
13 and,

14 **WHEREAS**, Maria Grace Baet Gagaring, graduated as Magna Cum
15 Laude with a BBA of Business Administration, Majoring in Marketing in
16 1992. Her college life was just as impressive as her life in high school.
17 She continually made the President's List and Dean's List. She was a
18 Regent Scholar and a member of Chi Omicron Honor Society. She
19 pursued her studies at the University of Guam and earned her Masters
20 Degree in of Business Administration in 1997.

21 **WHEREAS**, Maria Grace Baet Gagaring, in 2001, was the first
22 graduate of Westpac Institute of Management earning her American

1 Bankers Association General Banking Diploma. The process of learning
2 has not taken a back seat in her priorities as she is currently enrolled at
3 Citibank's Compliance and Control e-University; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Maria Grace Baet Gagaring has been an employee of
5 Citibank Guam since February 1998 starting as an Administrative
6 Assistant, working her way up the career ladder as a Collections Officer,
7 Credit Acceptance and Loan Processing Assistant Manager, Mortgage
8 Specialist, and today is the Insurance Processing Unit Manager; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Maria Grace Baet Gagaring has been a volunteer for
10 many years for organizations such as St. Anthony's Church's Music
11 Ministry, Laguna Association of Guam, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of
12 Guam; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Maria Grace Baet Gagaring received the Mentor of the
14 Year Award for 2006 from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guam which was
15 presented, to her surprise, in January 2007 at a luncheon held at the
16 Hyatt Regency Guam. She participated as a Big Sister at Tamuning
17 Elementary School since 2005.

18 **WHEREAS**, Maria Grace Baet Gagaring's "Little" was a shy third
19 grader who spoke very highly of her. He said that, "Grace was always
20 there for him, not missing any of their weekly lunch times." With Grace's
21 guidance, he has learned many things such as comprehending his
22 homework better, play board games, puzzles and thought provoking

1 games as well as conversations on current events and story-telling.
2 There was a period of three weeks during Christmas break in 2006 that
3 the pair did not see each other and when they finally met again, it was a
4 very happy reunion with tears of joy; now therefore, be it

5 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does
6 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, express our heartfelt
7 appreciation, congratulate Maria Grace Baet Gagaring as Big Brothers
8 Big Sisters of Guam's Mentor of the Year for 2006; and be it further

9 **RESOLVED** that the Speaker and the Secretary of *I Mina'bente*
10 *Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* attest to the adoption hereof and that
11 copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Ms. Maria Grace Baet
12 Gagaring; Ms. Erika Vaughan, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guam
13 Executive Director; Mr. Madhu Seshadri, Citigroup Country Officer,
14 Guam; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*
15 (Governor of Guam).

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE ____ DAY OF MAY
2007.**

Mark Forbes
Speaker

Ray Tenorio
Senator and
Secretary of the Legislature