

**I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE AUTHORS REPORT FILED	NOTES
238-37 (LS)	Therese M. Terlaje Tina Rose Muña Barnes Chris Barnett Frank Blas, Jr. Christopher M. Dueñas Jesse A. Lujan William A. Parkinson Sabina Flores Perez Roy A. B. Quinata Joe S. San Agustin Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas Amanda L. Shelton Telo T. Taitague	Relative to posthumously recognizing the late Honorable †Joaquin Guerrero Topasna, former Mayor of the Municipality of <i>Hågat</i> , for his dedication to the island and people of Guam, and commemorating his legacy of service; and expressing condolences to his family on his passing, on behalf of the people of Guam.	10/30/23 10:18: a.m.	11/4/23 10:00 a.m.	10/30/23					

Resolution No. 238-37 (LS)

Introduced by:

- Therese M. Terlaje
- Tina Rose Muña Barnes
- Chris Barnett
- Frank Blas, Jr.
- Christopher M. Dueñas
- Jesse A. Lujan
- William A. Parkinson
- Sabrina Flores Perez
- Roy A. B. Quinata
- Joe S. San Agustin
- Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas
- Amanda L. Shelton
- Telo T. Tautague
- Thomas J. Fisher
- Joanne Brown



Relative to posthumously recognizing the late Honorable ¶Joaquin Guerrero Topasna, former Mayor of the Municipality of Hågat, for his dedication to the island and people of Guam, and commemorating his legacy of service; and expressing condolences to his family on his passing, on behalf of the people of Guam.

BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:

WHEREAS, the late ¶Honorable ¶Joaquin Guerrero Topasna was born on February 16, 1936, in *Tutujan, Sinajana*, he is the middle son of the late ¶Jesus Aguin Topasna and ¶Dolores Tenorio Guerrero; and his maternal grandparents are ¶Ignacio Leon Guerrero Guerrero and ¶Rosa Duenas Tenorio (*famihan Korincho*); and

WHEREAS, the late ¶Joaquin Topasna grew up along with his siblings Jose, Francisco, Ana, Margarita, Rosa, Pedro, and Ignacio in *Tutujan* during the Japanese occupation; and

WHEREAS, the late ¶Joaquin Topasna's father Jesus and two (2) of his siblings, Pedro and Ignacio, did not survive the Japanese occupation; and sometime after the Liberation of Guam in World War II, Joaquin's mother Dolores Guerrero Topasna married David Pangelinan, and the family remained in *Tutujan*; and

WHEREAS, the late ¶Joaquin Topasna was not able to complete his high school education, and in December 1953, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps (USMC) at the age of seventeen (17) and went through his basic training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, California. In July 1954, he reported to the Weapons Company, Second (2nd) Battalion, Seventh (7th) Marine Regiment, First (1st) Marine Division in Korea; and in July 1956, he was assigned to the Marine Barracks at Naval Base Subic Bay in the Philippines; and

WHEREAS, in 1957, the late ¶Joaquin Topasna returned home to Guam to finish his remaining military obligation and separated from the U.S. Marine Corps with the rank of Lance Corporal. Later that year, he married Maria Carbullido Pinaula of Hågat, and they lived in *Agaña Heights* until the onslaught of Super Typhoon Karen in 1962, which severely damaged their home. They moved to Hågat in 1963, where they built their home and raised ten (10) children - Jesse, Kenneth, Franklin, Michael, George, Edward, David, Geraldine, Barbara, and Doreen; and

WHEREAS, after serving in the military, the late ¶Joaquin Topasna worked at the U.S. Naval Station Public Works Center (PWC), and he sometimes worked as a part-time security guard. He later worked at the U.S. Naval Station Ship Repair Facility (SRF) and served as a federal civil servant for nearly three (3) decades; and

WHEREAS, the late ¶Joaquin Topasna was an active member of the community of Hågat. He coached the Hågat Esso and Hågat Town House Little League teams; and in 1971, he was an Assistant Coach for the Guam Little League Championship Team, representing the United States at the Far East Tournament in Taiwan; and

WHEREAS, the late ¶Joaquin Topasna was the Scoutmaster for the Hågat Boy Scout Troop 30 and supported the Hågat Cub Scout pack; and he also supported the Mount Carmel Church Altar Boys program, with seven (7) of his sons serving in the program. He was a Mount Carmel Parish Council member for many years, a member of the Knights of Columbus, and a Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Commander for Post No. 2917; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, another disaster, Super Typhoon Pamela, struck Guam; and again his family lost nearly everything, but the late ¶Joaquin Topasna did not let this situation keep him down, and after a short stay at the Hågat teachers' housing, he and his children built a temporary home using recycled wood and corrugated roofing materials until a new one was built; and in 1978, they moved into their new home that still stands today; and

WHEREAS, serving the island and the people of Guam for many years with the Guam Police Reserve, the late ¶Joaquin Topasna retired in 1988 as a Major. After his dedicated service with the U.S. Navy SRF, the late ¶Honorable ¶Joaquin Topasna pursued a career in government and politics; and in 1993, he was elected to serve as the Vice Mayor of the Municipality of Hågat; and in 1996, he was elected to serve as the Mayor of the Municipality of Hågat, where he served until 1997. In 1995, he participated in the U.S. Naval Base Ship Repair Facility Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process. After his tenure as Vice Mayor and Mayor of the Municipality of Hågat, he retired from the Government of Guam in 2002; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, the late ¶Joaquin Topasna lost his wife of forty-nine (49) years, Maria Carbullido Pinaula; and besides their ten (10) children, they were blessed with forty-nine (49) grandchildren, eighty-five (85) great-grandchildren, and eleven (11) great-great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, the late ¶Honorable ¶Joaquin Topasna married Gemmalyn Bicos, and they have a son, Jokin Topasna, and a stepson, Gabriel Mempin; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that I Mina Trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, posthumously recognize the late ¶Honorable ¶Joaquin Guerrero Topasna, former Mayor of the Municipality of Hågat, for his dedication to the island and people of Guam, and commemorate his legacy of service; and express condolences to his family on his passing, on behalf of the people of Guam; and be it further


RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Gemmalyn B. Topasna and the family of the late ¶Honorable ¶Joaquin Guerrero Topasna; and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, I Maga'hågan Guåhan.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 30TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2023.


 THERESE M. TERLAJE
 Speaker


 AMANDA L. SHELTON
 Legislative Secretary



 11/3/23
 8:30am

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2023 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 238-37 (LS)

Introduced by:

Therese M. Terlaje
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Chris Barnett
Frank Blas, Jr.
Christopher M. Dueñas
Jesse A. Lujan
William A. Parkinson
Sabina Flores Perez
Roy A. B. Quinata
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Relative to posthumously recognizing the late Honorable †Joaquin Guerrero Topasna, former Mayor of the Municipality of *Hågat*, for his dedication to the island and people of Guam, and commemorating his legacy of service; and expressing condolences to his family on his passing, on behalf of the people of Guam.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN***
2 ***GUÅHAN*:**
3 **WHEREAS**, the late Honorable †Joaquin Guerrero Topasna was born on
4 February 16, 1936, in *Tutujan, Sinajana*; he is the middle son of the late †Jesus Aguon

1 Topasna and †Dolores Tenorio Guerrero; and his maternal grandparents are †Ignacio
2 Leon Guerrero Guerrero and †Rosa Duenas Tenorio (*familian Korincho*); and

3 **WHEREAS**, the late †Joaquin Topasna grew up along with his siblings Jose,
4 Francisco, Ana, Margarita, Rosa, Pedro, and Ignacio in *Tutujan* during the Japanese
5 occupation; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the late †Joaquin Topasna's father Jesus and two (2) of his siblings,
7 Pedro and Ignacio, did not survive the Japanese occupation; and sometime after the
8 Liberation of Guam in World War II, Joaquin's mother Dolores Guerrero Topasna
9 married David Pangelinan, and the family remained in *Tutujan*; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the late †Joaquin Topasna was not able to complete his high school
11 education, and in December 1953, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps
12 (USMC) at the age of seventeen (17) and went through his basic training at the Marine
13 Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, California. In July 1954, he reported to the Weapons
14 Company, Second (2nd) Battalion, Seventh (7th) Marine Regiment, First (1st) Marine
15 Division in Korea; and in July 1956, he was assigned to the Marine Barracks at Naval
16 Base Subic Bay in the Philippines; and

17 **WHEREAS**, in 1957, the late †Joaquin Topasna returned home to Guam to finish
18 his remaining military obligation and separated from the U.S. Marine Corps with the
19 rank of Lance Corporal. Later that year, he married Maria Carbullido Pinaula of *Hågat*,
20 and they lived in *Agaña Heights* until the onslaught of Super Typhoon Karen in 1962,
21 which severely damaged their home. They moved to *Hågat* in 1963, where they built
22 their home and raised ten (10) children - Jesse, Kenneth, Franklin, Michael, George,
23 Edward, David, Geraldine, Barbara, and Doreen; and

24 **WHEREAS**, after serving in the military, the late †Joaquin Topasna worked at
25 the U.S. Naval Station Public Works Center (PWC), and he sometimes worked as a

1 part-time security guard. He later worked at the U.S. Naval Station Ship Repair Facility
2 (SRF) and served as a federal civil servant for nearly three (3) decades; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the late †Joaquin Topasna was an active member of the community
4 of *Hågat*. He coached the *Hågat* Esso and *Hågat* Town House Little League teams; and
5 in 1971, he was an Assistant Coach for the Guam Little League Championship Team,
6 representing the United States at the Far East Tournament in Taiwan; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the late †Joaquin Topasna was the Scoutmaster for the *Hågat* Boy
8 Scout Troop 30 and supported the *Hågat* Cub Scout pack; and he also supported the
9 Mount Carmel Church Altar Boys program, with seven (7) of his sons serving in the
10 program. He was a Mount Carmel Parish Council member for many years, a member
11 of the Knights of Columbus, and a Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Commander for
12 Post No. 2917; and

13 **WHEREAS**, in 1976, another disaster, Super Typhoon Pamela, struck Guam;
14 and again his family lost nearly everything, but the late †Joaquin Topasna did not let
15 this situation keep him down, and after a short stay at the *Hågat* teachers' housing, he
16 and his children built a temporary home using recycled wood and corrugated roofing
17 materials until a new one was built; and in 1978, they moved into their new home that
18 still stands today; and

19 **WHEREAS**, serving the island and the people of Guam for many years with the
20 Guam Police Reserve, the late †Joaquin Topasna retired in 1988 as a Major. After his
21 dedicated service with the U.S. Navy SRF, the late Honorable †Joaquin Topasna
22 pursued a career in government and politics; and in 1993, he was elected to serve as the
23 Vice Mayor of the Municipality of *Hågat*; and in 1996, he was elected to serve as the
24 Mayor of the Municipality of *Hågat*, where he served until 1997. In 1995, he
25 participated in the U.S. Naval Base Ship Repair Facility Base Realignment and Closure

1 (BRAC) process. After his tenure as Vice Mayor and Mayor of the Municipality of
2 *Hågat*, he retired from the Government of Guam in 2002; and

3 **WHEREAS**, in 2006, the late †Joaquin Topasna lost his wife of forty-nine (49)
4 years, Maria Carbullido Pinaula; and besides their ten (10) children, they were blessed
5 with forty-nine (49) grandchildren, eighty-five (85) great-grandchildren, and eleven
6 (11) great-great-grandchildren; and

7 **WHEREAS**, in 2018, the late Honorable †Joaquin Topasna married Gemmalyn
8 Bicos, and they have a son, Jokin Topasna, and a stepson, Gabriel Mempin; now
9 therefore, be it

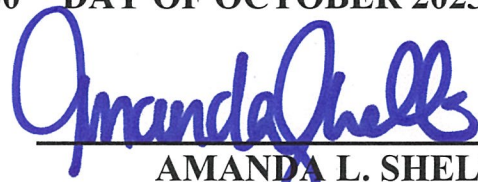
10 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,
11 on behalf of the people of Guam, posthumously recognize the late Honorable †Joaquin
12 Guerrero Topasna, former Mayor of the Municipality of *Hågat*, for his dedication to the
13 island and people of Guam, and commemorate his legacy of service; and express
14 condolences to his family on his passing, on behalf of the people of Guam; and be it
15 further

16 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the
17 adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Gemmalyn B.
18 Topasna and the family of the late Honorable †Joaquin Guerrero Topasna; and to the
19 Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 30TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2023.



THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker



AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary



Office of the Speaker
THERESE M. TERLAJE

I Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 37th Guam Legislature
Committee on Health, Land, Justice, and Culture

November 3, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders

From: Speaker Therese M. Terlaje *TMT*

Subject: **Notice of Presentation - Resolution No. 238-37 (LS)**

Buenas yan Håfa Adai!

Please join us for the presentation of Resolution No. 238-37 (LS) - "**Relative to posthumously recognizing the late Honorable +Joaquin Guerrero Topasna, former Mayor of the Municipality of Hågat for his service to the island and the people of Guam; and expressing condolences to his family on his passing, on behalf of the people of Guam.**"

Resolution No. 238-37 (LS) will be presented on **Friday, November 4, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., at the Guam Congress Building, Speaker Antonio R. Unpingco Legislative Session Hall, Chalan Santo Papa, Hågatna.**

We look forward to your participation.

Please note the Committee on Rules has waived the 24-Hour notice.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse'!

Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

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**For transmittal of official Messages & Communications to the Guam Legislature to be distributed to all Senators, please send to: speaker@guamlegislature.org*