

**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
353-37 (COR)	Therese M. Terlaje Sabina Flores Perez Chris Barnett Joanne Brown Jesse A. Lujan Frank Blas, Jr. Tina Rose Muña Barnes Christopher M. Dueñas William A. Parkinson Roy A. B. Quinata Joe S. San Agustin Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas Amanda L. Shelton Telo T. Taitague	Relative to recognizing Melvin Won Pat-Borja for serving the people of Guam and strengthening healthy relationships in our island community; and congratulating him as the recipient of the "2024 National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Guam Chapter Public Citizen Award."	3/15/24 12:24 p.m.	3/15/24 7:30 p.m.	3/13/24 3:58 p.m.					

Resolution No. 353-37 (COR)

Introduced by:

Therese M. Terlaje
Sabina Flores Perez
Chris Barnett
Joanne Brown
Jesse A. Lujan
Frank Blas, Jr.
Tina Rose Muth Barnes
Christopher M. Ductus
William A. Parkinson
Roy A. B. Qumata
Joe S. San Agustin
Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas
Amanda L. Shelton
Telo T. Taitague
Thomas J. Fisher



Relative to recognizing Melvin Won Pat-Borja for serving the people of Guam and strengthening healthy relationships in our island community; and congratulating him as the recipient of the "2024 National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Guam Chapter Public Citizen Award."

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:

WHEREAS, it is the sense of I Liheslaturan Guåhan to recognize the life and accomplishments of those distinguished citizens of this great island who have demonstrated exceptional commitment, tireless dedication, and selfless service to our community and the needs of our people; and

WHEREAS, the recipient of the Public Citizen of the Year award has consistently exhibited exemplary leadership, compassion, and generosity, making a meaningful difference in the lives of others; and

WHEREAS, Melvin Won Pat-Borja is a spoken word poet, slam poet, hip hop artist, and teacher. He currently serves as the President of the Department of CHamoru Affairs; and WHEREAS, Melvin Won Pat-Borja was born on Guam in 1981 to Melvin B. Borja and former Senator and Speaker, the Honorable Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D., and is a proud father to two (2) children, Kai'isa and Ma'ina; and

WHEREAS, his passion for slam poetry began with his love for hip-hop music, and he has been competing in poetry slams since 2003. Melvin's poetry often reflects social justice, education, and identity issues. His journey from writing rap lyrics to becoming an influential spoken word artist was shaped by his desire to represent Guam well and awaken minds through his words; and

WHEREAS, a 1999 graduate of Southern High School in Santa Rita, Sumai, Melvin went on to graduate from the University of Hawai'i-Manoa in 2006, where he majored in Secondary Education; and

WHEREAS, he delved into Hawai'i's history, uncovering echoes in Guam's historical tapestry, both woven with the tribulations of their native peoples. His insights into these parallel narratives, intertwined with his encounters with societal inequities, fueled a poetic fervor. With a pen poised, ready to awaken the apathetic, he found inspiration to create poetry that could shape a more aware present and a flexible future; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, Melvin co-founded Pacific Tongues / Youth Speaks Hawai'i and Sinangon-ta Youth Movement - both non-profit organizations that have uplifted, inspired countless youth, and provided a creative haven for at-risk Indigenous youth to speak about complex issues that could not otherwise be expressed, if not through poetry; and

WHEREAS, Melvin Won Pat-Borja has been an educator in the public school system for over a decade and most recently served at Southern High School. A compassionate educator who fostered a positive learning environment and helped students thrive through understanding, patience, kindness, and the ability to connect with all students. Under his mentorship, his guidance and influence have led students to positive personal growth; and

WHEREAS, his unwavering commitment to social justice, equality, and the welfare of others has served as an inspiration to all those around him, fostering a spirit of unity, empathy, and solidarity. As an educator, his countless acts of kindness, generosity, and altruism have had a profound and lasting impact, touching the hearts and minds of numerous individuals, and making our community a better place for all; and

WHEREAS, a fundamental principle of social work is the pursuit of social justice. For Guam, the pivotal social justice concern is decolonization. As the Executive Director of the Commission on Decolonization and the President of the Department of CHamoru Affairs, Melvin is a leading figure in the decolonization campaign. He articulates that colonization affects not only the land but also the essence and identity of its inhabitants; and

WHEREAS, he has been a staunch proponent for Guam's interests at the United Nations, championing Indigenous rights and the pursuit of self-determination to rectify past and persistent wrongs against Guam's populace. His leadership has been pivotal in crafting 'Haha Mo'ne: A Self-Determination Study for Guåhan,' which will serve as the educational campaign for the community of Guam; and

WHEREAS, Melvin's exemplary service and dedication to the betterment of society exemplifies the true essence of citizenship, embodying the principles of compassion, integrity, and civic responsibility; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Committee on Rules of I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan does hereby, on behalf of I Liheslaturan Guåhan and the people of Guam, recognize Melvin Won Pat-Borja for serving the people of Guam and strengthening healthy relationships in our island community; and congratulate him as the recipient of the "2024 National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Guam Chapter Public Citizen Award;" and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Melvin Won Pat-Borja, and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, I Maga'pagan Guåhan.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 15TH DAY OF MARCH 2024.


THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker


CHRIS BARNETT
Chairperson, Committee on Rules


AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary



Alana Ungacha
clara ungacha
3/15/24

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2024 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. 353-37 (COR)

Introduced by:

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

Relative to recognizing Melvin Won Pat-Borja for serving the people of Guam and strengthening healthy relationships in our island community; and congratulating him as the recipient of the “2024 National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Guam Chapter Public Citizen Award.”

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF *I***
2 ***MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*:**

3 **WHEREAS**, it is the sense of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to recognize the life and
4 accomplishments of those distinguished citizens of this great island who have
5 demonstrated exceptional commitment, tireless dedication, and selfless service to our
6 community and the needs of our people; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the recipient of the Public Citizen of the Year award has
2 consistently exhibited exemplary leadership, compassion, and generosity, making a
3 meaningful difference in the lives of others; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Melvin Won Pat-Borja is a spoken word poet, slam poet, hip hop
5 artist, and teacher. He currently serves as the President of the Department of *CHamoru*
6 Affairs; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Melvin Won Pat-Borja was born on Guam in 1981 to Melvin B.
8 Borja and former Senator and Speaker, the Honorable Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D., and is
9 a proud father to two (2) children, *Ka'isa* and *Ma'ina*; and

10 **WHEREAS**, his passion for slam poetry began with his love for hip-hop music,
11 and he has been competing in poetry slams since 2003. Melvin's poetry often reflects
12 social justice, education, and identity issues. His journey from writing rap lyrics to
13 becoming an influential spoken word artist was shaped by his desire to represent Guam
14 well and awaken minds through his words; and

15 **WHEREAS**, a 1999 graduate of Southern High School in *Santa Rita-Sumai*,
16 Melvin went on to graduate from the University of *Hawai'i-Manoa* in 2006, where he
17 majored in Secondary Education; and

18 **WHEREAS**, he delved into *Hawai'i's* history, uncovering echoes in Guam's
19 historical tapestry, both woven with the tribulations of their native peoples. His insights
20 into these parallel narratives, intertwined with his encounters with societal inequities,
21 fueled a poetic fervor. With a pen poised, ready to awaken the apathetic, he found
22 inspiration to create poetry that could shape a more aware present and a flexible future;
23 and

24 **WHEREAS**, in 2005, Melvin co-founded Pacific Tongues / Youth Speaks
25 *Hawai'i* and *Sinangân-ta* Youth Movement - both non-profit organizations that have
26 uplifted, inspired countless youth, and provided a creative haven for at-risk Indigenous

1 youth to speak about complex issues that could not otherwise be expressed, if not
2 through poetry; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Melvin Won Pat-Borja has been an educator in the public school
4 system for over a decade and most recently served at Southern High School. A
5 compassionate educator who fostered a positive learning environment and helped
6 students thrive through understanding, patience, kindness, and the ability to connect
7 with all students. Under his mentorship, his guidance and influence have led students
8 to positive personal growth; and

9 **WHEREAS**, his unwavering commitment to social justice, equality, and the
10 welfare of others has served as an inspiration to all those around him, fostering a spirit
11 of unity, empathy, and solidarity. As an educator, his countless acts of kindness,
12 generosity, and altruism have had a profound and lasting impact, touching the hearts
13 and minds of numerous individuals, and making our community a better place for all;
14 and

15 **WHEREAS**, a fundamental principle of social work is the pursuit of social
16 justice. For Guam, the pivotal social justice concern is decolonization. As the Executive
17 Director of the Commission on Decolonization and the President of the Department of
18 *CHamoru* Affairs, Melvin is a leading figure in the decolonization campaign. He
19 articulates that colonization affects not only the land but also the essence and identity
20 of its inhabitants; and


21 **WHEREAS**, he has been a staunch proponent for Guam's interests at the United
22 Nations, championing Indigenous rights and the pursuit of self-determination to rectify
23 past and persistent wrongs against Guam's populace. His leadership has been pivotal in
24 crafting '*Huha Mo'na: A Self-Determination Study for Guåhan,*' which will serve as
25 the educational campaign for the community of Guam; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Melvin’s exemplary service and dedication to the betterment of
2 society exemplifies the true essence of citizenship, embodying the principles of
3 compassion, integrity, and civic responsibility; now therefore, be it

4 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'trentai Siette Na*
5 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people
6 of Guam, recognize Melvin Won Pat-Borja for serving the people of Guam and
7 strengthening healthy relationships in our island community; and congratulate him as
8 the recipient of the “2024 National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Guam
9 Chapter Public Citizen Award;” and be it further

10 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules
11 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of
12 the same be thereafter transmitted to Melvin Won Pat-Borja; and to the Honorable
13 Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF
I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 15TH DAY
OF MARCH 2024.**



THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker



CHRIS BARNETT
Chairperson, Committee on Rules



AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary



COMMITTEE ON RULES

Chris Barnett, Chairperson, Committee on Rules

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

37th Guam Legislature

COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

Resolution No. 353-37 (COR) – Therese M. Terlaje, Sabina Flores Perez, Chris Barnett, Joanne Brown, Jesse A. Lujan, Frank Blas, Jr., Tina Rose Muña Barnes, Christopher M. Dueñas, William A. Parkinson, Roy A. B. Quinata, Joe S. San Agustin, Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas, Amanda L. Shelton, Telo T. Taitague. – “Relative to recognizing Melvin Won Pat-Borja for serving the people of Guam and strengthening healthy relationships in our island community; and congratulating him as the recipient of the ‘2024 National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Guam Chapter Public Citizen Award.”

	INITIAL	DATE	TO ADOPT	TO NOT ADOPT	TO ABSTAIN
Senator Chris Barnett Chairperson	E-vote	3/15/24	✓		
Senator Sabina Flores Perez Vice Chairperson	E-vote	3/15/24	✓		
Speaker Therese M. Terlaje Member	<i>TMT</i>	3/15/24	✓		
Vice Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes Member	E-vote	3/15/24	✓		
Legislative Secretary Amanda L. Shelton Member					
Senator William A. Parkinson Member					
Senator Roy A. B. Quinata Member					
Senator Joe S. San Agustin Member					
Senator Dwayne T. D. San Nicolas Member	E-vote	3/15/24	✓		
Senator Joanne Brown Minority Member	E-vote	3/15/24	✓		
Senator Christopher M. Dueñas Minority Member	E-vote	3/15/24	✓		
Senator Thomas J. Fisher Minority Member					
Senator Telo T. Taitague Minority Member	E-vote	3/15/24	✓		
For Sponsor's Office Use Only					
Sponsor Signature: <i>Therese M Terlaje</i>					
Staff Contact Person: Marie Cruz					
For COR/Clerk's Office Use Only					
___ 8 ___ Certified _____ Returned					
Name: Joaquin 'Quin' P. Taitague					
Date: March 15, 2024 at 3:58 p.m.					
Notes:					



Office of the Speaker
THERESE M. TERLAJE

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

March 15, 2024

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders

From: Speaker Therese M. Terlaje *TMT*

Subject: **Notice of Presentation - Resolution Nos. 350-37 (COR) to 355-37 (COR).**

Buenas yan Håfa Adai!

Please join us for the presentation of **Resolution Nos. 350-37 (COR) to 355-37 (COR)** - Relative to recognizing National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Guam Chapter on the observance of “Social Work Month,” and the “Social Worker of the Year,” “Social Work Student of the Year,” “Public Citizen of the Year,” “Lifetime Achievement,” and the “Exemplary Service Provider of the Year,” Awards.

Legislative Resolutions will be presented at the NASW Awards Banquet on **Friday, March 15, 2024, at 7:30 p.m., at the Westin Hotel Ballroom, Tumon.** *Please note that the NASW Awards Banquet is from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.*

We look forward to your participation.

Please Note that the Committee on Rules has waived the 24-Hour Notice of Presentation.

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*