

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE AUTHORS REPORT FILED	NOTES
359-37 (LS)	Therese M. Terlaje	Relative to recognizing Dr. Kimberlee S. Kihleng on her retirement from Humanities <i>Guðhan</i> ; and commending her for her nineteen (19) years of service.	3/20/24 8:30 a.m.	3/28/24 8:00 a.m.	3/20/24					

Resolution No. 359-37 (LS)

Introduced by

Therese M. Terlaje	
Tina Rose Aloma Barnes	
Chris Barrera	William A. Dickson
Frank Blas, Jr.	Sahana Flores Perez
Joanne Brown	Roy A. B. Quinata
Christopher M. Duenias	Joe S. San Agustin
Thomas J. Fisher	Dwaine F.D. San Nicolas
Jesse A. Lagan	Amanda L. Shelton
	Lelo T. Tatagan



Relative to recognizing Dr. Kimberlee S. Kihleng on her retirement from Humanities Guahan; and commending her for her nineteen (19) years of service.

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

WHEREAS, it is the sense of I Liheslaturan Guahan to recognize the life and accomplishments of those distinguished citizens of this great island who have devoted themselves to faithfully serving the best interests of our community and the needs of our people; and

WHEREAS, one of those distinguished citizens is Dr. Kimberlee Kihleng who earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in anthropology from the University of Arizona in 1980, followed by her acquiring Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in anthropology from the University of Hawaii at Manoa in 1986 and 1996, respectively; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Kihleng has served as the Executive Director of Humanities Guahan, formerly known as the Guam Humanities Council, Inc., an independent nonprofit partnering with the National Endowment for the Humanities. The mission of the Humanities Guahan is to foster community engagement and dialogue, inspire critical thinking, celebrate diversity, and enrich the quality of life of the island residents through the power of the humanities; and

WHEREAS, Humanities Guahan strives to meet its mission by presenting and supporting a diverse range of quality public humanities programs that include family, literacy, community grants, interpretive exhibitions, literary tours, food democracy tours, documentary films and discussions, cultural workshops and performances, and community conversations; and

WHEREAS, prior to her role at Humanities Guahan, Dr. Kihleng served as the Executive Director of the Mission Houses Museum, a historic landmark in Honolulu, Hawaii focused on Hawaiian and Pacific history. She was also a Visiting Scholar in Micronesian Studies at the University of Guam and coordinated the Women and Gender Studies Program from 1997 to 2000. In the late 1980s, she was the first Historic Preservation Officer for the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) National Government. Additionally, Dr. Kihleng, a Fulbright Scholar, conducted long-term ethnographic research in the Polynesian Islands, FSM, and short-term research in the Republic of Palau; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Kihleng's leadership has been instrumental in advancing the mission and vision of Humanities Guahan, fostering a deep appreciation for the humanities, cultural heritage, and intellectual inquiry within our island community. Under her guidance, Humanities Guahan has flourished, reaching new heights of achievement and impact through innovative programs, partnerships, and initiatives that have enriched the lives of countless individuals; and

WHEREAS, in November 2018, Dr. Kihleng was elected to serve a four (4)-year term on the Board of the national membership organization, the Federation of State Humanities Councils, and shortly thereafter, she assumed the position of Vice Chair, and then in 2022, she served as the Chair of the Governance and By-Laws Committee. Through important collaborations such as this, along with powerful programming, Humanities Guahan has built notoriety amongst its national partners; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Kihleng's exceptional leadership is highlighted by nineteen (19) consecutive years of sound audits, showcasing her adept handling of significant financial resources from grants and sponsorships. She prioritizes preserving Indigenous cultures, particularly Chamorro identity, to uphold Guam's distinct way of life. In addition, she promotes awareness of the diverse historical, cultural, linguistic, and religious backgrounds within our island community. Her leadership at the Council offers varied programming that addresses crucial issues facing our community and the broader Pacific Islands region, including exhibitions, workshops, tours, conversations, publications, and oral history projects; and

WHEREAS, under Dr. Kihleng's leadership, the Council has developed a strong exhibition program, often collaborating with institutions like the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES) and the Museum on Main Street Program (MoMS). They have worked closely with community organizations and humanities scholars to create exhibits focused on Guam and Micronesian culture. Additionally, the Council has undertaken multi-year projects addressing significant public policy issues, including U.S. military expansion, cultural identity for migrants, and ecological literacy. Dr. Kihleng has also played a key role in establishing a grant program supporting local projects and nonprofits, fostering educational initiatives and organizational development. Through various grant programs, including those responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Kihleng has facilitated projects that emphasize a humanities approach, encompassing exhibits, films, forums, festivals, and workshops, engaging Guam's diverse audience; and

WHEREAS, over the course of her leadership, Humanities Guahan has demonstrated its commitment to the Pacific region through collaborative initiatives. These efforts have included hosting renowned Pacific scholars like Albert Wendt and Teresia Teaiwa to raise awareness of Pacific literature and the significance of Chamorro and Micronesian storytelling. Projects such as "Dance and Identity in the Pacific" with Black Grace from Aotearoa/New Zealand have recognized and supported Chamorro dance's role in preserving indigenous culture. Collaborations with institutions like the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa and co-hosting the National Humanities Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii underscore Humanities Guahan's dedication to fostering cultural exchange and community engagement throughout the Pacific; and

WHEREAS, throughout her term, the Council was honored with the 37th Helen and Martin Schwartz Prize for Outstanding Work in the Public Humanities at the 2019 National Humanities Conference for their program "Taking Root: Growing Youth Empowerment for Island Sustainability"; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Kihleng's dedication to education, cultural preservation, and community engagement has profoundly influenced our community, encouraging generations to embrace their heritage and explore human expression. Throughout her tenure, she has shown exceptional professionalism, integrity, and compassion, earning widespread respect. Her visionary leadership and relentless advocacy have elevated Humanities Guahan as a beacon of enlightenment, promoting dialogue, understanding, and appreciation for Guam's diverse cultures and perspectives; and

WHEREAS, I Liheslaturan Guahan expresses its deep gratitude and respect to Dr. Kimberlee S. Kihleng for her dedication to preserving culture, promoting education, and fostering community engagement, leaving a lasting impression on the island community, and extending its influence beyond our shores; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that I Mina Trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guahan does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize Dr. Kimberlee S. Kihleng on her retirement from Humanities Guahan; and commend her for her nineteen (19) years of service; 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 Dr. Kimberlee S. Kihleng; and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, I Maga'hagan Guahan.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN ON THE 20TH DAY OF MARCH 2024.

THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker

AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary



MARIE CRUZ
03/28/24, 8:05 a.m.

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

Resolution No. 359-37 (LS)

Introduced by:

Therese M. Terlaje
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Chris Barnett
Frank Blas, Jr.
Joanne Brown
Christopher M. Dueñas
Thomas J. Fisher
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 recognizing Dr. Kimberlee S. Kihleng on her retirement from Humanities *Guåhan*; and commending her for her nineteen (19) years of service.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN***
2 ***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 devoted
5 themselves to faithfully serving the best interests of our community and the needs of
6 our people; and

1 **WHEREAS**, one of those distinguished citizens is Dr. Kimberlee Kihleng who
2 earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in anthropology from the University of Arizona in
3 1980, followed by her acquiring Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in
4 anthropology from the University of *Hawai'i-Manoa* in 1986 and 1996, respectively;
5 and

6 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Kihleng has served as the Executive Director of Humanities
7 *Guåhan*, formerly known as the Guam Humanities Council, Inc., an independent
8 nonprofit partnering with the National Endowment for the Humanities. The mission of
9 the Humanities *Guåhan* is to foster community engagement and dialogue, inspire
10 critical thinking, celebrate diversity, and enrich the quality of life of the island residents
11 through the power of the humanities; and

12 **WHEREAS**, Humanities *Guåhan* strives to meet its mission by presenting and
13 supporting a diverse range of quality public humanities programs that include family,
14 literacy, community grants, interpretive exhibitions, literary tours, food democracy
15 tours, documentary films and discussions, cultural workshops and performances, and
16 community conversations; and

17 **WHEREAS**, prior to her role at Humanities *Guåhan*, Dr. Kihleng served as the
18 Executive Director of the Mission Houses Museum, a historic landmark in Honolulu,
19 Hawaii focused on Hawaiian and Pacific history. She was also a Visiting Scholar in
20 Micronesian Studies at the University of Guam and coordinated the Women and Gender
21 Studies Program from 1997 to 2000. In the late 1980s, she was the first Historic
22 Preservation Officer for the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) National
23 Government. Additionally, Dr. Kihleng, a Fulbright Scholar, conducted long-term
24 ethnographic research in the Pohnpeian Islands, FSM, and short-term research in the
25 Republic of Palau; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Kihleng’s leadership has been instrumental in advancing the
2 mission and vision of Humanities *Guåhan*, fostering a deep appreciation for the
3 humanities, cultural heritage, and intellectual inquiry within our island community.
4 Under her guidance, Humanities *Guåhan* has flourished, reaching new heights of
5 achievement and impact through innovative programs, partnerships, and initiatives that
6 have enriched the lives of countless individuals; and

7 **WHEREAS**, in November 2018, Dr. Kihleng was elected to serve a four (4)-
8 year term on the Board of the national membership organization, the Federation of State
9 Humanities Councils, and shortly thereafter, she assumed the position of Vice Chair;
10 and then in 2022, she served as the Chair of the Governance and By-Laws Committee.
11 Through important collaborations such as this, along with powerful programming,
12 Humanities *Guåhan* has built notoriety amongst its national partners; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Kihleng’s exceptional leadership is highlighted by nineteen
14 (19) consecutive years of sound audits, showcasing her adept handling of significant
15 financial resources from grants and sponsorships. She prioritizes preserving Indigenous
16 cultures, particularly *CHamoru* identity, to uphold Guam’s distinct way of life. In
17 addition, she promotes awareness of the diverse historical, cultural, linguistic, and
18 religious backgrounds within our island community. Her leadership at the Council
19 offers varied programming that addresses crucial issues facing our community and the
20 broader Pacific Islands region, including exhibitions, workshops, tours, conversations,
21 publications, and oral history projects; and

22 **WHEREAS**, under Dr. Kihleng’s leadership, the Council has developed a strong
23 exhibition program, often collaborating with institutions like the Smithsonian
24 Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES) and the Museum on Main Street
25 Program (MoMS). They have worked closely with community organizations and
26 humanities scholars to create exhibits focused on Guam and Micronesian culture.

1 Additionally, the Council has undertaken multi-year projects addressing significant
2 public policy issues, including U.S. military expansion, cultural identity for migrants,
3 and ecological literacy. Dr. Kihleng has also played a key role in establishing a grant
4 program supporting local projects and nonprofits, fostering educational initiatives and
5 organizational development. Through various grant programs, including those
6 responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Kihleng has facilitated projects that
7 emphasize a humanities approach, encompassing exhibits, films, forums, festivals, and
8 workshops, engaging Guam’s diverse audience; and

9 **WHEREAS**, over the course of her leadership, Humanities *Guåhan* has
10 demonstrated its commitment to the Pacific region through collaborative initiatives.
11 These efforts have included hosting renowned Pacific scholars like Albert Wendt and
12 Teresia Teaiwa to raise awareness of Pacific literature and the significance of *CHamoru*
13 and Micronesian storytelling. Projects such as “Dance and Identity in the Pacific” with
14 Black Grace from Aotearoa/New Zealand have recognized and supported *CHamoru*
15 dance’s role in preserving indigenous culture. Collaborations with institutions like the
16 Museum of New Zealand Te Papa and co-hosting the National Humanities Conference
17 in *Honolulu, Hawai’i* underscore Humanities *Guåhan*’s dedication to fostering cultural
18 exchange and community engagement throughout the Pacific; and

19 **WHEREAS**, throughout her term, the Council was honored with the 37th Helen
20 and Martin Schwartz Prize for Outstanding Work in the Public Humanities at the 2019
21 National Humanities Conference for their program “Taking Root: Growing Youth
22 Empowerment for Island Sustainability”; and

23 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Kihleng’s dedication to education, cultural preservation, and
24 community engagement has profoundly influenced our community, encouraging
25 generations to embrace their heritage and explore human expression. Throughout her
26 tenure, she has shown exceptional professionalism, integrity, and compassion, earning


1 widespread respect. Her visionary leadership and relentless advocacy have elevated
2 Humanities *Guåhan* as a beacon of enlightenment, promoting dialogue, understanding,
3 and appreciation for Guam’s diverse cultures and perspectives; and

4 **WHEREAS**, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* expresses its deep gratitude and respect to
5 Dr. Kimberlee S. Kihleng for her dedication to preserving culture, promoting education,
6 and fostering community engagement, leaving a lasting impression on the island
7 community, and extending its influence beyond our shores; now therefore, be it

8 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,
9 on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize Dr. Kimberlee S. Kihleng on her retirement
10 from Humanities *Guåhan*; and commend her for her nineteen (19) years of service; and
11 be it further

12 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the
13 adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Dr. Kimberlee
14 S. Kihleng; 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 20TH DAY OF MARCH 2024.



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

March 26, 2024

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders

From: Speaker Therese M. Terlaje *TMT*

Subject: **Notice of Presentation - Resolution No. 359-37 (LS)**

Buenas yan Håfa Adai!

Please join us for the presentation of **Resolution No. 359-37 (LS)** - "Relative to recognizing and congratulating Dr. Kimberlee S. Kihleng on the occasion of her retirement from Humanities *Guåhan*; and commending her for her nineteen (19) years of service to the people of Guam."

Resolution No. 359-37 (LS) will be presented virtually via Zoom platform on **Thursday, March 28, 2024, at 8:00 a.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81668687162?pwd=UzVlamRsamJ0Vnp6S240dDBuNUFpZz09>

Meeting ID: 816 6868 7162

Passcode: 104594

We look forward to your participation.

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*