

**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
579-37 (COR)	Therese M. Terlaje Frank Blas, Jr. Telo T. Taitague Chris Barnett Sabina Flores Perez Jesse A. Lujan Joanne M. Brown	Relative to censuring the disorderly, sexually explicit gesture committed by Senator William A. Parkinson during the October 2024 emergency legislative session.	11/4/24 10:22 a.m.		12/16/24					

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

Resolution No. 579-37 (COR)

Introduced by:

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

Relative to censuring the disorderly, sexually explicit gesture committed by Senator William A. Parkinson during the October 2024 Emergency Legislative Session.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN***
2 ***GUÅHAN*:**

3 **WHEREAS**, the Guam Legislature requires that all Senators conduct themselves
4 in a manner that reflects the highest standards of professionalism, respect, and integrity
5 during legislative sessions and in their interactions with colleagues, staff, and the public;
6 and

1 **WHEREAS**, the Guam Legislature has the right to regulate the conduct of its
2 members and may discipline a member as it deems appropriate; and

3 **WHEREAS**, during an Emergency Legislative Session on October 22, 2024,
4 while Senator Joanne Brown was recognized and engaged in debate during the
5 Committee of the Whole on the session floor, Senator William A. Parkinson made a
6 disorderly, sexually explicit hand gesture, more accurately described as a hand jerking
7 motion depicting male masturbation angled towards Senator Brown. The gesture was
8 not caught on live video broadcast, but was made in full view of the legislative body
9 and members of the public and caused significant interruption, annoyance,
10 inconvenience, and distress; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the incident was witnessed by several members of the public,
12 including members and staff of the Mayors Council of Guam who were in attendance
13 to support a floor amendment related to funding for the Council. President of the Mayors
14 Council of Guam, Jessie Alig, submitted a letter to the Speaker of the Legislature on
15 the same day, expressing that he was “appalled, outraged, and insulted at the demeanor
16 of Senator Parkinson” and requested discernment of ethical misconduct; and

17 **WHEREAS**, Senator Parkinson's disorderly, sexually explicit hand gesture
18 during debate on Bill 355-37 caused significant inconvenience, annoyance, and distress
19 to some members of the legislative body and public who were present in the Session
20 Hall, and can reasonably be construed as disorderly, sexually explicit conduct
21 specifically directed against a female colleague, creating a hostile and inappropriate
22 environment for women and men within the Legislature and setting a dangerous
23 precedent for the treatment of women; and

24 **WHEREAS**, *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* recognizes that adherence to decorum and
25 orderly debate is essential to the equality of all members and maintaining public trust,

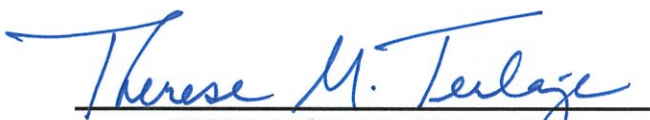
1 and any violation of these standards must be addressed promptly and decisively to
2 preserve the dignity and integrity of the institution; and

3 **WHEREAS**, formal censure must be taken against Senator Parkinson's
4 disorderly, sexually explicit gesture as a clear statement that such behavior will not be
5 tolerated on the floor of the Guam Legislature during legislative session; now therefore,
6 be it

7 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby
8 censure Senator William A. Parkinson for his disorderly and sexually explicit gesture
9 towards a member of the Legislature during the October 2024 Emergency Legislative
10 Session; and be it further

11 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the
12 adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Senator
13 William A. Parkinson; and to Senator Chris Barnett, Chairperson of the Committee on
14 Rules.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE 16TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2024.



THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker



CHRIS BARNETT
Acting Legislative Secretary