

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
2013(FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 39-32 (COR)

Introduced by:

Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.
T.R. Muña-Barnes
F. B. Aguon, Jr.

2013 FEB 13 PM 3:39
CEN

Relative to recognizing and commending Mrs. Loida Nicolas Lewis as a leader of the Filipino-American community; and welcoming her to Guam as the National Chairwoman of the U.S. Pinoys for Good Governance.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN:

WHEREAS, Mrs. Lewis is a philanthropist and a leader of the Filipino-American community. She is one of the founders of the National Federation of Filipino American Associations (NaFFAA) an advocacy group in the United States. She is also one of the founders of Asian American Legal Defense & Education Fund (AALDEF), and of the US Pinoys for Good Governance (USP4GG), organized after the election in May 2010 of Benigno Simeon Aquino III as President of the Philippines. She is the National Chairwoman of the US Pinoys for Good Governance; and

WHEREAS, Loida Nicolas Lewis is an American entrepreneur who served as Chair and CEO of TLC Beatrice International, a \$2 billion multinational food company with operations all across Europe, from 1994-2000. She assumed the leadership of one of the largest companies in the U.S. after the death of her

1 husband, the African-American, Wall Street financier Reginald F. Lewis, and won
2 over a skeptical business community by moving quickly to sell assets including the
3 corporate jet, paying down debt, downsizing the New York corporate staff by 50
4 percent and increasing earnings. After successfully running the company for six
5 years, she completed the sale of TLC Beatrice and its related businesses in 2000,
6 achieving a 35 percent return on investment for its shareholders; and

7 **WHEREAS**, in 1987, her late husband, Reginald, a Harvard Law graduate,
8 had bid for and won the international operations of Beatrice International in a \$1
9 billion leveraged buyout that at the time was the largest of its kind. In 1992, he
10 was listed by Forbes Magazine as among the 400 wealthiest Americans. In 1995,
11 Mrs. Lewis appeared on the cover of Working Woman magazine as the Top
12 Business Woman in America; and

13 **WHEREAS**, currently, Mrs. Lewis is Chair and CEO of TLC Beatrice,
14 LLC, a family investment firm. A lawyer by profession, admitted to practice in the
15 Philippines and New York, Mrs. Lewis was the first Filipino woman to pass the
16 New York bar without attending law school in the United States; and

17 **WHEREAS**, after having won her discrimination case against the US
18 Immigration and Naturalization Service in 1987 and been awarded three years back
19 pay, Mrs. Lewis served for ten years as General Attorney with the INS. She co-
20 authored "How to Get A Green Card," now in its 10th edition and a best-seller in
21 its genre; and

22 **WHEREAS**, in 1998 in her hometown of Sorsogon, Mrs. Lewis funded the
23 microfinance People's Alternative Livelihood Foundation of Sorsogon Inc.
24 (PALFSI). The Foundation has since helped 20,000 families through micro-
25 lending, helping lift them out of poverty; and

26 **WHEREAS**, in 1999, also in Sorsogon, Mrs. Lewis founded The Lewis
27 College (TLC). The school offers Pre-K through high school and college

1 coursework, including a six-month TESDA approved nursing assistant
2 course. TLC is now recognized throughout the Bicol Region as a champion in
3 information technology having won a regional competition in 2010; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Lewis is Chair of the Reginald F. Lewis Foundation,
5 which has donated millions of dollars to Harvard Law School, the Reginald F.
6 Lewis Museum of Maryland's African-American History and Culture, and
7 Virginia State University. There is a Reginald F. Lewis International Law building
8 at Harvard, dedicated in April 1994 and the Reginald F. Lewis School of Business
9 at Virginia State University, renamed in November 2012; and

10 **WHEREAS**, she also supports Asian American Legal Defense and
11 Education Fund, Asian Pacific American Legal Center, Asian Pacific Islander
12 Coalition on HIV/AIDS, Asian Pacific American Film, Asian American Arts
13 Alliance, Asian American Federation of New York, Asian American Foundation,
14 Diversity Theater and Ma-Yi Theater.; and

15 **WHEREAS**, she actively participated in the 2008 and 2012 campaigns of
16 President Obama by being a major contributor and an active volunteer. She
17 participated in voter registration, phone banks and get out the vote drives
18 (Pennsylvania, Florida, Ohio, California, Indiana and New York). Mrs. Lewis also
19 represented President Obama in a debate opposite a representative of Gov. Mitt
20 Romney hosted by The Filipino Channel (TFC) which aired in November 2012 to
21 over a million Filipinos in the US.; and

22 **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Lewis was recently elected to the Board of Directors of
23 the National Catholic Reporter and the Apollo Theater Foundation. She speaks
24 several languages: Filipino, English, French and Spanish; and

25 **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Lewis has two daughters, both cum laude A.B. graduates
26 of Harvard University; Leslie is an actor and Christina is a freelance writer
27 following a five-year stint as a columnist for the Wall Street Journal. She has three

1 grandchildren, Christian, Savilla, Calvin and two sons-in-law, Gavin Sword and
 2 Dan Calpern, and now, therefore be it
 3 **RESOLVED**, the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'Trentai Dos Na I*
 4 *Liheslaturan Guåhan*, does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the
 5 people of Guam, recognize and commend Mrs. Loida Nicolas-Lewis as a leader of
 6 the Filipino-American community; and welcoming her to Guam as the National
 7 Chairwoman of the U.S. Pinoys for Good Governance; and be it further
 8 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on
 9 Rules certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to the adoption hereof, and
 10 that copies of the same be given to Mrs. Loida Nicolas Lewis; and
 11 to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

**WHEN I SEE IDEAS CRITICIZED OR SHOT DOWN JUST
 DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES
 OF I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE _____
 DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2013.
IT MAKES ME SAD.**

**WHEN POLITICS GETS IN THE WAY OF POLICY-MAKING IT
 BECOMES NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO GET THINGS DONE**

Speaker **Chairman, Committee on Rules**
 I OFTEN THINK POLITICS WOULD BE LESS DISAGREEABLE
 AND PUBLIC POLICY MORE EFFECTIVEIF PEOPLE APPLIED

TINA ROSE MUNA BARNES **TO BOTH PROCESSES.**
Legislative Secretary
 EVERYDAY I COUNT MY BLESSINGS FOR THE OPPORTUNITY
 TO SERVE THE PEOPLE OF GUAM.

I LIKE TO THINK THAT IN GUAM MORE OFTEN THAN NOT WE
 DO PRACTICE POLITICSAND EXECUTE PUBLIC POLICY ...IN
 THE SPIRIT OF THE 4-WAY TEST.