

Resolution No. 292-37 (COR)

Introduced by

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Relative to recognizing the municipality of *Tamuning-Tumon-Harmon*, the *Tamuning-Tumon-Harmon* Mayor's Office, the *Tamuning-Tumon-Harmon* Municipal Planning Council, and the numerous participants and organizers for hosting and coordinating the Twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) Annual Latte Peace Festival; and commending them for promoting unity and peace within the community.

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

**WHEREAS**, the Latte Peace Festival was first organized in January 2013 by the *Tamuning Tumon Harmon* Mayor's Office, and it was envisioned as an empowering communal celebration of unity, diversity, collective strength, and peace, and

**WHEREAS**, the Latte Peace Festival has grown exponentially over the years and has become a significant event celebrating cultural education and exchange through the sharing of foods and by promoting cultural awareness, and an increased participation and awareness from residents, visitors, and neighboring communities has solidified its status as a much-anticipated cultural and peace-promoting event on Guam, and

**WHEREAS**, the unwavering commitment and dedication of the *Tamuning Tumon Harmon* Mayor's Office has played a pivotal role in the sustained success and growth of the Latte Peace Festival, fostering an atmosphere of collaboration and community engagement, and

**WHEREAS**, the Latte Peace Festival serves as a platform for local artists, musicians, and performers to showcase their talents, contributing to the vibrant cultural landscape of Guam and enriching the overall festival experience, and

**WHEREAS**, the Latte Peace Festival has become a symbol of Guam's commitment to international cooperation and understanding, as international advocates for world peace, Grand Master Living Buddha Sheng-Yen Lu, Dr. Daisaku Ikeda and Kaneko Ikeda, and other visiting dignitaries have been honored guests at the Festival in accordance with promoting harmony and peace, further strengthening global ties, and

**WHEREAS**, Guam has sought to promote an enduring sign of peace to many people around the world, and in May of 2014, the island was graced with the presence of revered Taiwanese Buddhist spiritual leader and world peace advocate, Grand Master Living Buddha Sheng-Yen Lu. His visit was a highly publicized event with nearly five hundred (500) people from around the world, including people from Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore, Hong Kong and Canada, traveling to Guam for an opportunity to see the Living Buddha in person, and Grand Master Lu is no stranger to this tiny island in the Pacific as he first came to Guam twenty-six (26) years ago prior to his visit in 2014, and

**WHEREAS**, during his second visit to Guam, Grand Master Lu held the Green-Tara fire-offering ceremony and consecrated the *Umeca V'igapa Stupa* to protect Guam from natural disasters. In addition to his spiritual contributions, Grand Master Lu, in conjunction with the True Buddha School Complete Enlightenment Temple, commemorated his second visit to the U.S. territory and celebrated his seventieth (70<sup>th</sup>) birthday with the generous donation of the latte stone open-air stage at the *Tamuning Tumon Harmon* Mayor's Office park for public use, which has since been a key element in showcasing the talents and cultural demonstrations at the Latte Peace Festival, and

**WHEREAS**, Grand Master Lu further demonstrated his outstanding philanthropy to the island by also generously donating Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) to the Rigalu Foundation and contributed significantly to the noble efforts of the organization during his second trip to Guam, and

**WHEREAS**, the exemplary efforts and achievements of Grand Master Lu garnered him national acclaim and he was bestowed with a U.S. Congressional Recognition from the Honorable Madeline Bordallo, former Congresswoman, as well as the "Governor's Award" from the Honorable Edward Baza Calvo, former Governor, and a "Most Accomplished and Honorary Citizen Award" from the Guam Legislature, during his second trip to Guam, and

**WHEREAS**, the Honorable Mayor Edna C. Tabada of the Philippine city of *La Trinidad*, sister-city of *Tamuning Tumon Harmon*, Guam, and distinct members of their community attended the Fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) Annual Latte Peace Festival to share their culture and knowledge, and they delivered a most welcomed performance in the spirit of cultural exchange, and

**WHEREAS**, the Honorable Mayor Arthur C. Baldo of the Philippine city of *Sablan*, sister city of the village of *Hagåt*, Guam, and distinct members of their community also attended the Fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) Annual Latte Peace Festival to share their culture and knowledge, and they also shared a spirited performance for the sake of cultural exchange, and

**WHEREAS**, the Latte Peace Festival's influence extends beyond the borders of Guam and contributes to the global dialogue on the importance of cultural exchange and peace-building initiatives, and

**WHEREAS**, the California based International Committee of Artists for Peace (ICAP) has continued to provide support to the Latte Peace Festival since the Festival's inception, further encouraging the belief in making art a vehicle for creating peace, and


**WHEREAS**, the Latte Peace Festival's enduring success is a testament to the collaborative efforts of the entire community, including local businesses, volunteers, and sponsors whose support has been instrumental in bringing this celebration of peace to fruition year after year, and

**WHEREAS**, the Latte Peace Festival continues to serve as a beacon of light for fostering inclusivity, understanding, and mutual respect through its emphasis on the principles of unity and diversity, and the Festival will continue to plant the seeds of peace and promote unity within our island community and with our neighbors, and celebrate the culture of Guam and of those who call the island their home, now therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guahan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guahan* and the people of Guam, recognize the municipality of *Tamuning-Tumon-Harmon*, the *Tamuning Tumon Harmon* Mayor's Office, the *Tamuning Tumon Harmon* Municipal Planning Council, and the numerous participants and organizers for hosting and coordinating the Twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) Annual Latte Peace Festival, and commend them for promoting unity and peace within the community, 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 the Honorable Louise C. Rivera, Mayor of *Tamuning Tumon Harmon*, to the Honorable Albert M. Toyes, Vice Mayor of *Tamuning Tumon Harmon*, to the *Tamuning Tumon Harmon* Municipal Planning Council, to the Honorable Sheng Yen Lu, Grand Master Living Buddha, to the International Committee of Artists for Peace (ICAP), to the Honorable Edna C. Tabada, Mayor of *La Trinidad*, Philippines, to the Honorable Arthur C. Baldo, Mayor of *Sablan*, Philippines, and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Magsablan Guahan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF *I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN* ON THE 16<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JANUARY 2024.

  
THERESE M. TERLAJE  
Speaker

  
CHRIS BARNETT  
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

  
CHRIS BARNETT  
Acting Legislative Secretary

