

**I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO 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
166-38 (COR)	Shelly V. Calvo	Recognizing and commending the Guam Memorial Hospital Volunteers Association and honoring Former First Lady Geraldine "Gen" Torres, and Madame Mariquita "Tita" Calvo Torres Souder, as well as commending GMHVA for their 61st Anniversary Charity Ball.	4/7/26 11:05 a.m.	4/11/26 6:00 p.m.						

I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2026 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. 166-38 (COR)

Introduced by:

Shelly V. Calvo



Recognizing and commending the Guam Memorial Hospital Volunteers Association and honoring Former First Lady Geraldine "Geri" Torres, and Madame Mariquita "Tita" Calvo Torres Souder, as well as commending GMHVA for their 61st Anniversary Charity Ball.

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

3 **Whereas**, the Guam Memorial Hospital Volunteers
4 Association, hereafter GMHVA, has a long history of supporting
5 Guam Memorial Hospital through volunteer service, fundraising, and
6 community outreach; and

7 **Whereas**, the GMHVA's 61st Anniversary Charity Ball
8 celebrates six decades of volunteerism and charitable contributions
9 that have enhanced patient care, supported hospital programs, and
10 strengthened health services for Guam residents; and

11 **Whereas**, the Charity Ball brings together community leaders,
12 health professionals, volunteers, and citizens to raise funds and
13 awareness for critical hospital needs and patient services; and

1 **Whereas,** the Guam Legislature recognizes the vital role of
2 volunteer organizations in supplementing public health infrastructure
3 and improving health outcomes across the island; and

4 **Whereas,** it is fitting and proper for the Guam Legislature to
5 formally acknowledge and commend the GMHVA, its members,
6 volunteers, donors, and event organizers for their dedication and
7 service to the people of Guam;

8 **Whereas,** Geraldine "Geri" Torres Gutierrez served as First
9 Lady of Guam from 1995 to 2003 and used that platform to found and
10 lead numerous programs and nonprofit initiatives that provided
11 medical assistance, disaster relief, education, and life-changing
12 opportunities for people across Guam; and

13 **Whereas,** Geraldine "Geri" Torres Gutierrez founded the
14 educational campaign War On Ice to combat crystal
15 methamphetamine and established People Helping People to provide
16 financial and logistical support for low- and moderate-income families
17 needing off-island medical treatment and for disaster victims; and

18 **Whereas,** Geraldine "Geri" Torres Gutierrez helped raise
19 \$500,000 for the renovation and restoration of Our Lady of the
20 Blessed Sacrament Church in Agana Heights, demonstrating her
21 commitment to community heritage and civic restoration; and

22 **Whereas,** as Chairperson of the American Red Cross Paka
23 Recovery Fund, Geraldine "Geri" Torres Gutierrez helped raise
24 \$1,400,000 in relief funds following Super typhoon Paka in December

1 1997, providing critical recovery assistance to affected families and
2 communities; and

3 **Whereas**, in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 attacks,
4 Geraldine "Geri" Torres Gutierrez was among the first on Guam to
5 respond, directing a \$25,000 donation from People Helping People to
6 the Salvation Army at Ground Zero to support rescue workers; and

7 **Whereas**, Geraldine "Geri" Torres Gutierrez has been an
8 active lifetime member of the Guam Memorial Hospital Volunteers
9 Association and led major fundraising drives to purchase essential
10 medical equipment, including support for Guam's first Neonatal
11 Intensive Care Unit; and

12 **Whereas**, the Guam Legislature finds that Geraldine "Geri"
13 Torres Gutierrez's leadership, fundraising achievements, and lifelong
14 commitment to public service have measurably improved health care
15 capacity, disaster resilience, and social welfare across Guam;

16 **Whereas**, in the early years of GMHVA, Cecilia "Chilang"
17 Cruz Bamba invited her dear friend Mariquita "Tita" Calvo Torres
18 Souder to join six others in founding a volunteer organization to
19 support Guam's only civilian hospital, and Mariquita "Tita" Calvo
20 Torres Souder accepted without hesitation; and

21 **Whereas**, six years after the Association's founding, when
22 asked to give additional time and talent to manage the newly opened
23 Gift Shop, Mariquita "Tita" Calvo Torres Souder again said "YES"
24 and became the first Gift Shop Manager when the shop opened at
25 Guam Memorial Hospital in 1971; and

1 **Whereas**, as a dedicated volunteer, Mariquita “Tita” Calvo
2 Torres Souder devoted thousands of hours to both the Gift Shop and
3 Patient Care, engaging her entire family in GMHVA projects and
4 recruiting Geraldine “Geri” Torres Gutierrez to become a Lifetime
5 Member of the Association shortly after its founding; and

6 **Whereas**, in recognition of her extraordinary commitment,
7 Mariquita “Tita” Calvo Torres Souder received a GMHVA award for
8 5,000 hours of service; and

9 **Whereas**, throughout her life Mariquita “Tita” Calvo Torres
10 Souder was deeply active in community affairs, serving as an
11 executive council member of the Guam Women’s Club, the Girl Scout
12 Council, and the Women’s Democratic Party, and participating
13 actively in the Christian Mothers, Charities Appeal Drives, and the
14 Guam Beauty Association; and

15 **Whereas**, Mariquita “Tita” Calvo Torres Souder is widely
16 revered for her role as Kamarera for Santa Marian Kamalen, a sacred
17 promesa carried out by Torres women for generations, a role she
18 faithfully fulfilled for 75 years, serving until her death at age 90; and

19 **Whereas**, Mariquita “Tita” Calvo Torres Souder was also
20 celebrated for her distinctive talent in flower arrangements,
21 generously sharing that gift in her voluntarism at Agana Cathedral and
22 across the many organizations to which she belonged; and

23 **Whereas**, the Guam Legislature finds that Mariquita “Tia”
24 Calvo Torres Souder’s lifetime of selfless service, leadership, and
25 devotion to community and faith has left an enduring legacy that

1 strengthened Guam Memorial Hospital and enriched the civic life of
2 Guam;

3 **Whereas**, the GMHVA, through generations of volunteers,
4 board members, donors, and community partners, has provided
5 indispensable support to Guam Memorial Hospital — operating
6 programs, fundraising for medical equipment and patient services,
7 staffing the Gift Shop, and fostering a culture of compassion and civic
8 responsibility that enhances health care access and outcomes for the
9 people of Guam;

10 **Now, therefore, be it resolved**, that the Committee on Rules
11 of *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on
12 behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people of Guam hereby
13 recognizes and commends Mariquita “Tita” Calvo Torres Souder and
14 Geraldine “Geri” Torres Gutierrez for their extraordinary leadership,
15 lifelong volunteerism, and lasting contributions to Guam Memorial
16 Hospital and the people of Guam, and hereby honors the GMHVA for
17 six decades of dedicated service to the hospital and the community.

18 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan expresses its deepest gratitude to the*
19 *honorees, the members of GMHVA, and all volunteers, donors, and*
20 *supporters whose collective efforts have strengthened patient care,*
21 *advanced medical capacity, and sustained vital community programs.*

22 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan encourages citizens, civic organizations,*
23 *and public and private partners to continue supporting volunteerism,*
24 *community health initiatives, disaster preparedness, and programs*
25 *that expand access to medical care in honor of the legacy established*
26 *by these honorees and the Association.*

1 **Now, therefore, let it be resolved,** that the Speaker and the
2 Chairperson of the Committee on Rules certify, and the Legislative
3 Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be
4 thereafter transmitted to the families of Mariquita “Tita” Calvo Torres
5 Souder and Geraldine “Geri” Torres Gutierrez, to the GMHVA, to the
6 Administrator of Guam Memorial Hospital; and to the Honorable
7 Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF
I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE DAY
OF MONTH 2026.**

Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Speaker

V. Anthony Ada
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Sabrina Salas Matanane
Legislative Secretary