

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
115-38 (COR)	Shelly V. Calvo	RELATIVE TO CELEBRATING THE 109th ANNIVERSARY OF THE GUAM CHAPTR OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS AND HONORING THE TWENTY-SEVEN (27) YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MARIA CARMEN "CHITA" AUSTRIA BLAISE.	11/14/25 3:29 p.m.	12/3/25 3:00 p.m.						

I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2025 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 115-38 (COR)

Introduced by:

Shelly Vargas Calvo



**RELATIVE TO CELEBRATING THE 109th
ANNIVERSARY OF THE GUAM CHAPTR OF THE
AMERICAN RED CROSS AND HONORING THE
TWENTY-SEVEN (27) YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED
SERVICE OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MARIA
CARMEN “CHITA” AUSTRIA BLAISE**

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

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross was founded in 1881 and has since
become a global humanitarian organization dedicated to providing emergency
assistance, disaster relief, and education; and

WHEREAS, today, the American Red Cross endures as one of the world’s eighth
largest and most respected humanitarian movements, mobilizing millions of volunteers
across more than 190 nations, turning compassion into action, and restoring dignity to
those in despair; and

WHEREAS, the Guam Chapter of the American Red Cross, established on
October 23, 1916, under a congressional charter chaired by Governor William J.
Maxwell, has been an unwavering pillar of service and resilience for over a century; in
its early years, the Chapter inspired island-wide participation, raised substantial funds

1 for humanitarian campaigns, and established both the Junior Red Cross Club and a
2 pioneering school-nursing program dedicated to improving the welfare of Guam's
3 youth; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the Guam Chapter of the American Red Cross has proudly served
5 the island community for 109 years, offering lifesaving training, disaster preparedness,
6 and immediate relief in times of crisis; and

7 **WHEREAS**, since its founding, the Guam Chapter has stood at the forefront of
8 the island's emergency response network, assisting residents through countless natural
9 disasters, including Super Typhoon Pamela; Typhoon Omar; Typhoon Paka; Typhoon
10 Chata'an; Super Typhoon Pongsona; the 1993 8.1 magnitude earthquake on Guam; and
11 most recently Typhoon Mawar; providing comfort, relief, and reassurance to families
12 in their darkest hours; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the Guam Chapter has also extended Guam's spirit of solidarity
14 beyond its shores, aiding victims of humanitarian crises across the Pacific and beyond
15 such as assisting Vietnam War refugees; aiding displaced families following the
16 eruption of Mount Pinatubo in the Philippines; and welcoming new arrivals from the
17 Federated States of Micronesia with care and compassion; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the Guam Chapter has played a vital role in supporting military
19 families, veterans, and the broader community through blood drives, emergency shelter
20 operations, and volunteer mobilization; and

21 **WHEREAS**, in 1998, Ms. Maria Carmen "Chita" Austria Blaise assumed
22 leadership as Executive Director of the American Red Cross Guam Chapter during a
23 time of financial hardship and organizational uncertainty; through her grace,
24 determination, and visionary leadership, she breathed new life into the Chapter,
25 restoring stability, strengthening trust, and rekindling the community's confidence in
26 its mission of service; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Ms. Blaise forged powerful partnerships across both public and
2 private sectors, cultivated a devoted volunteer corps, and introduced creative,
3 sustainable fundraising initiatives including the Annual Red Ball, which under her
4 stewardship evolved into one of Guam’s premier philanthropic and social events,
5 raising vital funds while inspiring a culture of generosity and unity throughout the
6 island; and

7 **WHEREAS**, under her leadership, the Guam Chapter grew into a local
8 cornerstone of humanitarian response, leading coordinated relief operations for
9 typhoons, fires, and emergencies, serving thousands of families, and delivering millions
10 of dollars in assistance to those most in need. During the aftermath of Typhoon Mawar,
11 her steadfast guidance helped direct over \$13.1 million in aid to nearly 27,700
12 individuals, exemplifying her devotion to service and the enduring strength of the Red
13 Cross mission; and

14 **WHEREAS**, in her 27 years of devoted service, Ms. Blaise has inspired
15 countless others to dedicate their lives to helping humanity, leaving a legacy woven
16 deeply into Guam’s civic and cultural fabric through her work as a mentor,
17 humanitarian, and advocate; now therefore, be it

18 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na*
19 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people
20 of Guam, recognizes and celebrates the 109th Anniversary of the American Red Cross
21 Guam Chapter, and honors the extraordinary contributions of CEO Chita Blaise, whose
22 dedication has fortified the organization’s mission and impact across the island; and be
23 it further

24 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules
25 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of
26 the same be thereafter transmitted to Ms. Molly Schmidt, Chief Executive Officer,
27 American Red Cross Pacific Island Region; Ms. Chita Blaise, outgoing Executive

- 1 Director, American Red Cross Guam Chapter; the Guam Chapter of the American Red
- 2 Cross; and to the Honorable 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 _____ 2025.**

Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Speaker

V. Anthony Ada
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Sabrina Salas Matanane
Legislative Secretary