

I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO 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
10-38 (COR)	Therese M. Terlaje	Relative to recognizing the observance of the "National Day of Remembrance for Downwinders" on January 27, 2025 honoring all persons affected by radiation exposure from U.S. nuclear testing sites; and commending the Pacific Association of Radiation Survivors (PARS) for its advocacy and support for cancer patients and survivors on Guam.	1/21/25 1:32 p.m.	1/27/25 12:00 p.m.	1/27/25 8:00 a.m.					

Resolution No. 10-38 (COR)

Introduced by:

Thomas M. Irtiga

V. Antonio Aida	Jose A. Lopez
Jose Barrera	Adelma Salas-Matamoros
Frank E. Blythe Jr.	Jose Ross-Sims-Panico
Vernon Anthony V. Bopp	William A. Parkinson
Sheila Varga-Fabro	Adelma Flores-Perez
Christopher M. Thomas	Lucy N. Nui-Agustin
Enrique Serran-Gonzalez	Isabel L. Santiago



Relative to recognizing the observance of the "National Day of Remembrance for Downwinders" on January 27, 2025 honoring all persons affected by radiation exposure from U.S. nuclear testing sites; and commending the Pacific Association of Radiation Survivors (PARS) for its advocacy and support for cancer patients and survivors on Guam.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES I MINATRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN:

WHEREAS, January 27 has been designated as the "National Day of Remembrance for Downwinders" honoring all who lived and worked downwind from U.S. nuclear testing sites and suffered from the adverse effects of radiation exposure; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1940s, the United States government authorized the establishment of "The Manhattan Project" - a top-secret testing and development program, and in July 1945, the first atomic bomb was successfully exploded at the "Trinity Testing Site" by the United States government, which instituted the beginning of the nuclear weapons era, and

WHEREAS, after embarking into World War II, the United States government commissioned the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to build considerable quantities of nuclear plants, laboratories, and testing sites, and the United States government expanded nuclear testing in the South Pacific and failed to warn of the dangers of exposure to radiation, especially to surrounding areas downwind; and

WHEREAS, the United States Government conducted sixty-seven (67) nuclear detonations in the Marshall Islands between the years of 1946 and 1962. These sites became known as the "Pacific Proving Grounds." On October 31, 1952 (GMT), one U.S. nuclear test titled "Operation Ivy" was conducted on Elugelab Island ("Flora") in the Enewetak Atoll, in which the first true thermonuclear hydrogen bomb (a 10.4 megaton device), code named "Mike," was detonated, destroying the entire island, and leaving behind a crater six thousand two hundred forty (6,240) feet across and one hundred sixty-four (164) feet deep in its aftermath, and

WHEREAS, radioactive fallout occurs after a detonation of a nuclear bomb where radioactive particles and earth debris, which comprise the mushroom cloud, are released into the atmosphere and remain in the atmosphere for about twenty-four (24) hours before descending back to earth. Before the descent back to earth, these radioactive particles can be carried through jet-streams in the atmosphere to locations over a thousand miles away from the actual test site and settle into the environment causing multiple health and environmental problems, and

WHEREAS, in a 2005 Assessment of the Scientific Information for the Radiation Exposure Screening and Education Program reported by the National Research Council on behalf of the Committee to Assess the Scientific Information for the Radiation Exposure Screening and Education Program and Board on Radiation Effects Research Division on Earth and Life Studies, it was confirmed that Guam "did receive radioactive debris from fallout during the nuclear-weaponous testing in the Pacific Ocean" and was a harbor for the decontamination of ships present in the Marshall Islands during the nuclear testing; and

WHEREAS, in the sworn testimony of retired U.S. Navy Lieutenant Charles Bert Schreiber on the fallout of the first hydrogen bomb test, the detonation of Ivy Mike, he states, "I was the Radiological Safety Officer for the Headquarters Command Guam. On or about November 3, 1952, I was making my monthly check sitting at the desk in that office that was about five (5) feet from the window screens that covered the wall all the way down to about a couple of inches from the floor. I took out the metal calibration rod (about as big as a normal soda straw and about six (6) inches long) stored in the instrument that has a small radioactive source on its end. I put the counter on the low setting (it has three (3), low, medium, and high) and was ready to place the rod near the detection windows (two (2) of them), but the dial needle was way over on the scale and the audible signal was clicking like mad, or almost a continuous sound, sound like constant static on a radio. My original thought was that the counter was malfunctioning, but when I raised it up and put it nearer the screen window, the dial needle swung even further over and the sound increased still further. I then put it close to the screen near the floor and the needle went off the scale (as far as it could swing right). I knew it was not the counter, but that there was some radioactivity outside. I panicked. My first thought was that Guam had been subjected to some radioactive dust attack"; and

WHEREAS, Guam's local residents were never warned or informed by the U.S. Navy of an increase in radioactivity and documents with these information were classified until 1994; and

WHEREAS, on October 15, 1990, H.R. 2372 (Public Law 101-426), the "Radiation Exposure Compensation Act" (RECA) was enacted. The law covered some of those who were affected by nuclear fallout during atmospheric testing in Nevada and the Marshall Islands. RECA established the Radiation Exposure Compensation Program (RECP) with the Civil Division of the U.S. Department of Justice to administer its responsibilities under the Act; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) as amended, provides compensation to those exposed to radiation from nuclear testing, such as "downwinders", uranium miners, uranium millers and ore transporters, yet the people of Guam have not been included in these compensatory measures despite the clear evidence of downwinder exposure and radiation-related illnesses in the community; and

WHEREAS, to address the issue of eligibility, the Board on Radiation Effects Research (BREER) Committee invited Guam's Mr. Robert N. Celestial and Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo to give oral and written testimonies in 2004. After completing both testimonies, an independent committee was convened. Their conclusions are in the Radiation Exposure Screening and Education Program (RESEP) Report 2005, and it states: "As a result of its analysis, the committee concludes that Guam did receive measurable fallout from atmospheric testing of nuclear weapons in the Pacific. Residents of Guam during that period should be eligible for compensation under RECA in a way similar to that of persons considered to be downwinders"; and



WHEREAS, the National Research Council concluded that "Guam received measurable radiation from atmospheric testing in the Pacific"; and
WHEREAS, the residents of Guam during that time period were recommended to be included in the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) as downwinders; and

WHEREAS, the cancer diagnoses eligible under RECA include leukemia, multiple myeloma, lymphoma (other than Hodgkin's disease), and primary cancers of the thyroid, male or female breast, esophagus, stomach, pharynx, small intestine, pancreas, bile ducts, gallbladder, salivary gland, urinary bladder, brain, colon, ovary, liver (except if cirrhosis or hepatitis B is indicated), and lung; and

WHEREAS, incidence data reported from Guam to the Pacific Regional Central Cancer Registry between 2007 and 2018 shows that seven (7) of the top ten (10) adult cancers in Guam are compensable under RECA; and

WHEREAS, the Pacific Association of Radiation Survivors (PARS) and President Robert Namauleg Celestial have been a steadfast advocate to extend and expand RECA for those affected by radiation exposure on Guam who were harmed by U.S. nuclear testing as "downwinders" under RECA, and continues to work tirelessly to support individuals and families impacted by these health challenges; and

WHEREAS, the Thirty-eighth (38th) Guam Legislature and the people of Guam convey everlasting gratitude for Robert Namauleg Celestial and PARS's commitment and dedication to ensuring that our people receive equitable compensation for the injustice and suffering they endured during World War II; and

WHEREAS, the nuclear detonations and their aftermath have left a lasting impact on the health and well-being of many individuals, and the secrecy surrounding these tests due to national security concerns has further compounded the injustice faced by all those affected; and

WHEREAS, since the term of office of the Twenty-seventh (27th) Guam Legislature (2003), *I Liheslaturan Guahan* has always supported the inclusion of Guam in the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act as downwinders of the U.S. Pacific nuclear test sites, to extend the fund claims period, and to improve compensation and benefits to residents suffering from cancer; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative to remember and honor those who have fallen as a result of these nuclear tests, acknowledging their sacrifices and the enduring legacy of their suffering; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guahan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guahan* and the people of Guam, recognize the observance of the "National Day of Remembrance for Downwinders" on January 27, 2025 honoring all persons affected by radiation exposure from U.S. nuclear testing sites, and commend the Pacific Association of Radiation Survivors (PARS) for its advocacy and support for cancer patients and survivors on Guam; and be it further

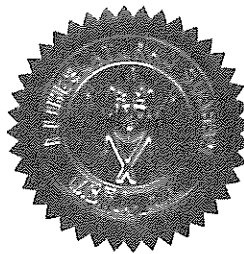
RESOLVED, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Pacific Association of Radiation Survivors (PARS); and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Mago Hagat Guahan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF *I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN* ON THE 27TH DAY OF JANUARY 2025.

Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Speaker

Christopher M. Dueñas
Acting Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Sabrina Salas Matanane
Legislative Secretary



MARIE CRUZ
1/27/25, 11:50am

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

Resolution No. 10-38 (COR)

Introduced by:

Therese M. Terlaje
V. Anthony Ada
Chris Barnett
Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Vincent Anthony V. Borja
Shelly Vargas Calvo
Christopher M. Dueñas
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao
Jesse A. Lujan
Sabrina Salas Matanane
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
William A. Parkinson
Sabina Flores Perez
Joe S. San Agustin
Telo T. Taitague

Relative to recognizing the observance of the “*National Day of Remembrance for Downwinders*” on January 27, 2025 honoring all persons affected by radiation exposure from U.S. nuclear testing sites; and commending the Pacific Association of Radiation Survivors (PARS) for its advocacy and support for cancer patients and survivors on Guam.

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

3 **WHEREAS,** January 27 has been designated as the “*National Day of*
4 *Remembrance for Downwinders*” honoring all who lived and worked downwind from

1 U.S. nuclear testing sites and suffered from the adverse effects of radiation exposure;
2 and

3 **WHEREAS**, in the early 1940s, the United States government authorized the
4 establishment of "*The Manhattan Project*" - a top-secret testing and development
5 program; and in July 1945, the first atomic bomb was successfully exploded at the
6 "Trinity Testing Site" by the United States government, which instituted the beginning
7 of the nuclear weapons era; and

8 **WHEREAS**, after embarking into World War II, the United States government
9 commissioned the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to build considerable quantities of
10 nuclear plants, laboratories, and testing sites; and the United States government
11 expanded nuclear testing in the South Pacific and failed to warn of the dangers of
12 exposure to radiation, especially to surrounding areas downwind; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the United States Government conducted sixty-seven (67) nuclear
14 detonations in the Marshall Islands between the years of 1946 and 1962. These sites
15 became known as the "*Pacific Proving Grounds.*" On October 31, 1952 (GMT), one
16 U.S. nuclear test titled "*Operation Ivy*" was conducted on Elugelab Island ("Flora") in
17 the Enewetak Atoll, in which the first true thermonuclear hydrogen bomb (a 10.4
18 megaton device), code named "*Mike,*" was detonated, destroying the entire island, and
19 leaving behind a crater six thousand two hundred forty (6,240) feet across and one
20 hundred sixty-four (164) feet deep in its aftermath; and

21 **WHEREAS**, radioactive fallout occurs after a detonation of a nuclear bomb
22 where radioactive particles and earth debris, which comprise the mushroom cloud, are
23 released into the atmosphere and remain in the atmosphere for about twenty-four (24)
24 hours before descending back to earth. Before the descent back to earth, these
25 radioactive particles can be carried through jet-streams in the atmosphere to locations
26 over a thousand miles away from the actual test site and settle into the environment
27 causing multiple health and environmental problems; and

1 **WHEREAS**, in a 2005 Assessment of the Scientific Information for the
2 Radiation Exposure Screening and Education Program reported by the National
3 Research Council on behalf of the Committee to Assess the Scientific Information for
4 the Radiation Exposure Screening and Education Program and Board on Radiation
5 Effects Research Division on Earth and Life Studies, it was confirmed that Guam “*did*
6 *receive radioactive debris from fallout during the nuclear-weapons testing in the*
7 *Pacific Ocean*” and was a harbor for the decontamination of ships present in the
8 Marshall Islands during the nuclear testing; and

9 **WHEREAS**, in the sworn testimony of retired U.S. Navy Lieutenant Charles
10 Bert Schreiber on the fallout of the first hydrogen bomb test, the detonation of Ivy Mike,
11 he states, “I was the Radiological Safety Officer for the Headquarters Command Guam.
12 On or about November 3, 1952, I was making my monthly check sitting at the desk in
13 that office that was about five (5) feet from the window screens that covered the wall
14 all the way down to about a couple of inches from the floor. I took out the metal
15 calibration rod (about as big as a normal soda straw and about six (6) inches long) stored
16 in the instrument that has a small radioactive source on its end. I put the counter on the
17 low setting (it has three (3); low, medium, and high) and was ready to place the rod near
18 the detection windows (two (2) of them), but the dial needle was way over the on the
19 scale and the audible signal was clicking like mad, or almost a continuous sound; sound
20 like constant static on a radio. My original thought was that the counter was
21 malfunctioning, but when I raised it up and put it nearer the screen window, the dial
22 needle swung even further over and the sound increased still further. I then put it close
23 to the screen near the floor and the needle went off the scale (as far as it could swing
24 right). I knew it was not the counter, but that there was some radioactivity outside. I
25 panicked. My first thought was that Guam had been subjected to some radioactive dust
26 attack”; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Guam’s local residents were never warned or informed by the U.S.
2 Navy of an increase in radioactivity and documents with these information were
3 classified until 1994; and

4 **WHEREAS**, on October 15, 1990, H.R. 2372 (Public Law 101-426), the
5 “Radiation Exposure Compensation Act” (RECA) was enacted. The law covered some
6 of those who were affected by nuclear fallout during atmospheric testing in Nevada and
7 the Marshall Islands. RECA established the Radiation Exposure Compensation
8 Program (RECP) with the Civil Division of the U.S. Department of Justice to administer
9 its responsibilities under the Act; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) as
11 amended, provides compensation to those exposed to radiation from nuclear testing,
12 such as “downwinders”, uranium miners, uranium millers and ore transporters, yet the
13 people of Guam have not been included in these compensatory measures despite the
14 clear evidence of downwinder exposure and radiation-related illnesses in the
15 community; and

16 **WHEREAS**, to address the issue of eligibility, the Board on Radiation Effects
17 Research (BRER) Committee invited Guam's Mr. Robert N. Celestial and
18 Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo to give oral and written testimonies in 2004.
19 After completing both testimonies, an independent committee was convened. Their
20 conclusions are in the Radiation Exposure Screening and Education Program (RESEP)
21 Report 2005, and it states: “*As a result of its analysis, the committee concludes that*
22 *Guam did receive measurable fallout from atmospheric testing of nuclear weapons in*
23 *the Pacific. Residents of Guam during that period should be eligible for compensation*
24 *under RECA in a way similar to that of persons considered to be downwinders”*; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the National Research Council concluded that: “*Guam received*
26 *measurable radiation from atmospheric testing in the Pacific*”; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the residents of Guam during that time period were recommended
2 to be included in the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) as downwinders;
3 and

4 **WHEREAS**, the cancer diagnoses eligible under RECA include: leukemia,
5 multiple myeloma, lymphoma (other than Hodgkin's disease), and primary cancers of
6 the thyroid, male or female breast, esophagus, stomach, pharynx, small intestine,
7 pancreas, bile ducts, gallbladder, salivary gland, urinary bladder, brain, colon, ovary,
8 liver (except if cirrhosis or hepatitis B is indicated), and lung; and

9 **WHEREAS**, incidence data reported from Guam to the Pacific Regional Central
10 Cancer Registry between 2007 and 2018 shows that seven (7) of the top ten (10) adult
11 cancers in Guam are compensable under RECA; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the Pacific Association of Radiation Survivors (PARS) and
13 President Robert Namauleg Celestial have been a steadfast advocate to extend and
14 expand RECA for those affected by radiation exposure on Guam who were harmed by
15 U.S. nuclear testing as “downwinders” under RECA, and continues to work tirelessly
16 to support individuals and families impacted by these health challenges; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the Thirty-eighth (38th) Guam Legislature and the people of Guam
18 convey everlasting gratitude for Robert Namauleg Celestial and PARS’s commitment
19 and dedication to ensuring that our people receive equitable compensation for the
20 injustice and suffering they endured during World War II; and

21 **WHEREAS**, the nuclear detonations and their aftermath have left a lasting
22 impact on the health and well-being of many individuals, and the secrecy surrounding
23 these tests due to national security concerns has further compounded the injustice faced
24 by all those affected; and

25 **WHEREAS**, since the term of office of the Twenty-seventh (27th) Guam
26 Legislature (2003), *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* has always supported the inclusion of Guam
27 in the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act as downwinders of the U.S. Pacific

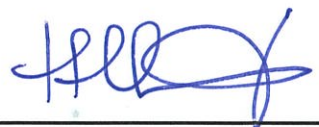
1 nuclear test sites, to extend the fund claims period, and to improve compensation and
2 benefits to residents suffering from cancer; and

3 **WHEREAS**, it is imperative to remember and honor those who have fallen as a
4 result of these nuclear tests, acknowledging their sacrifices and the enduring legacy of
5 their suffering; now therefore, be it

6 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na*
7 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people
8 of Guam, recognize the observance of the “*National Day of Remembrance for*
9 *Downwinders*” on January 27, 2025 honoring all persons affected by radiation exposure
10 from U.S. nuclear testing sites; and commend the Pacific Association of Radiation
11 Survivors (PARS) for its advocacy and support for cancer patients and survivors on
12 Guam; and be it further

13 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules
14 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of
15 the same be thereafter transmitted to the Pacific Association of Radiation Survivors
16 (PARS); 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 27TH DAY OF JANUARY 2025.



Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Speaker



Christopher M. Dueñas
Acting Chairperson, Committee on Rules



Sabrina Salas Matanane
Legislative Secretary



COMMITTEE ON RULES

VICE SPEAKER V. ANTHONY ADA, CHAIRPERSON

I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

38th Guam Legislature

COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

Resolution No. 10-38 (COR) - Therese M. Terlaje. - "Relative to recognizing the observance of the "National Day of Remembrance for Downwinders" on January 27, 2025 honoring all persons affected by radiation exposure from U.S. nuclear testing sites; and commending the Pacific Association of Radiation Survivors (PARS) for its advocacy and support for cancer patients and survivors on Guam."

	INITIAL	DATE	TO ADOPT	TO NOT ADOPT	TO ABSTAIN
Vice Speaker V. Anthony Ada Chairperson	E-Vote	1/24/25	X		
Senator Christopher M. Dueñas Vice Chairperson	E-Vote	1/24/25	X		
Speaker Frank F. Blas, Jr. Member	E-Vote	1/24/25	X		
Legislative Secretary Sabrina Salas Matanane Member	E-Vote	1/24/25	X		
Senator Vincent A.V. Borja Member					
Senator Shelly Calvo Member	E-Vote	1/24/25	X		
Senator Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao Member					
Senator Jesse Anderson Lujan Member	E-Vote	1/24/25	X		
Senator Telo Teresa Taitague Member	E-Vote	1/24/25	X		
Senator Tina Rose Muña Barnes Minority Member					
Senator Joe S. San Agustin Minority Member	E-Vote	1/24/25	X		
For Sponsor's Office Use Only					
Sponsor Signature: <i>Therese M. Terlaje</i>					
Staff Contact Person: MARIE CRUZ					
For COR/Clerk's Office Use Only					
8 Certified _____ Returned _____					
Name: Marie Crisostomo					
Date: January 27, 2025 at 8:00 a.m.					
Notes:					



SENATOR THERESE M. TERLAJE

I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 38th Guam Legislature

TMT

January 24, 2025

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Senators, Stakeholders

FROM: Senator Therese M. Terlaje, 38th Guam Legislature *TMT*

SUBJECT: **Notice of Presentation for Resolution No. 10-38 (COR)**

Håfa Adai,

Resolution No. 10-38 (COR) - "Relative to recognizing the observance of the "National Day of Remembrance for Downwinders" on January 27, 2025 honoring all persons affected by radiation exposure from U.S. nuclear testing sites; and commending the Pacific Association of Radiation Survivors (PARS) for its advocacy and support for cancer patients and survivors on Guam."

The presentation will be held on **Monday, January 27, 2025, at 12:00 p.m., at the Guam Congress Building, Public Hearing Room, located at 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910.**

We look forward to your attendance and participation.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse'!