

Relative to recognizing and commending the late Francisco Feja Feja for the loving pride he took in designing Guam's national flag and to extending to him and his family the heartfelt thanks of all for giving the Chamorro people pride in their heritage and culture.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF GUAM:

WHEREAS, the late Francisco Feja Feja, who showed amazing artistic talent even as a child, painting whatever caught his talented eye, sketching things from trees to the carabaos around his childhood village of Umatac, is perhaps best known for designing Guam's beautiful seal and flag, although he never got the credit he deserved in his own lifetime, dying relatively unknown in 1985 after a lifetime as a full-time farmer and part-time artist; and

WHEREAS, in 1910, Mr. Feja, who was attending Leary School No. 1, was given the opportunity to attend the Jose Rizal College in the Philippines by his principal Francisco Taitano and, on his return he began to draw the many island images that came to his mind, one sight he saw as he sat under a tree on the beach at Agaña, was a boat sailing across the water, with the sun shining upon the scene, which image later became the design of the Guam seal and thus the image used for the beautiful Guam flag, Naval Governor Roy Smith in 1917 accepting the seal and flag for the Naval government which used both until they were formally adopted in 1930, Mr. Feja giving the flag to the wife of Naval Governor Willis W. Bradley as a reminder of the Chamorro people and the island of Guam, Governor Bradley himself approving the flag which would thenceforth be flown over Guam and which Guam would use to represent the island all over the world; and

WHEREAS, thus Francisco Feja, although he did not realize it at the time, succeeded in helping to give back to the people of Guam their identity which was in danger of being lost during the many years of domination by outside cultures, and, appropriately if belatedly, his important contributions to the growth and development of the island's renascent cultural pride were recognized in 1978 when he was made a member of the "Highest Fraternity of Wisdom of the Chamorro Chief Kepuha" by the late Governor Ricardo J. Bordallo, who honored him for his dedication and service to the people of Guam, it now being the responsibility of all to ensure that defuntu Francisco Feja Feja and his contributions are never forgotten; now, therefore, be

RESOLVED, that the Twenty-First Guam Legislature does hereby on behalf of the people of Guam recognize and commend the late Francisco Feja Feja for designing the island's beautiful national flag, and does hereby extend to his memory and his family the heartfelt thanks of all in giving the Chamorro people renewed pride in their heritage and culture; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify to and the Legislative Secretary attest the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Delfina Feja Arciga; to Francisco Cruz Feja; to Benita Feja Talvo; to Dr. Bernadita Camacho-Dungca; to Rosa Palomo, chairperson of the Chamorro Language Commission; and to the Governor of Guam.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 13TH DAY OF MARCH, 1992.

PILAR C. LUJAN

Senator and Legislative Secretary JOE T. SAN AGUSTIN Speaker