

TWENTY-FIRST NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH

LEGISLATURE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SESSION, 2019

C. Res. 21-8

A HOUSE COMMEMORATIVE RESOLUTION

Recognizing the contributions of Mr. Eusebio Camacho Borja as a “Master of Arts & Culture” through his work in preserving traditional cultural practices by promoting the use of the traditional ox-cart (*Karetan guaka*) and his talents in domesticating livestock

1 WHEREAS, the work of preserving traditional cultural practices has been
2 a task that a chosen few have taken upon themselves to carry out for the benefit of
3 younger generations; and

4 WHEREAS, in the pre-contact and colonial periods of our history, both
5 farmers and animals lived in harmony in our islands creating a balance that
6 provided fruitful harvests through happy livestock; and

7 WHEREAS, after the Spanish occupation of the Marianas, resources such
8 as the ox-cart (*karetan guaka*) were a very visible icon of island life in the Marianas;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, as modernization made its way through the islands, the use of
11 the ox-cart (*karetan guaka*) fell out of use as modern amenities such as trucks and
12 tractors became commonplace after the war and beyond; and

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1 WHEREAS, for over two decades, it has been a labor of love for Mr.
2 Eusebio Camacho Borja to perpetuate the craft of livestock domestication and the
3 use of this iconic symbol of simpler days here in the islands where the work of our
4 ranchers, fishermen and livestock nourished our families and community; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Eusebio Camacho Borja, son of the late Eugenio Arriola
6 Borja and the late Rosa Camacho, was born into a family who lived off the land,
7 and was instilled with a love of his culture through ranching, which included the
8 ability to utilize the resources used by his elders in his youth and taking care of the
9 animals entrusted to his care; and

10 WHEREAS, in his youth and transitioning into his adult years, Mr. Eusebio
11 Camacho Borja attained the ability to train his livestock to follow whatever tasks
12 they were ordered to do, and learned to domesticate them so as to prevent them
13 from reverting to their natural animalistic tendencies when around humans; and

14 WHEREAS, as he and his siblings began to raise families of their own, Mr.
15 Eusebio Camacho Borja realized the importance of maintaining traditional
16 practices which included: speaking the Chamorro language at home and practicing
17 the customs passed by their elders; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Eusebio Camacho Borja remembered fondly the regular
19 use of the *karetan guaka* as a way to transport produce from farm to table, to
20 transport goods from port to market, and as a means of transportation for both
21 business and pleasure; and

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1 WHEREAS, using an ox-cart preserved from the ravages of time, Mr.
2 Eusebio Camacho Borja has promoted the use of this tool in a time where farming
3 equipment has become more sophisticated; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Eusebio Camacho Borja has showcased the ox-cart's
5 versatility, using it as a "link" to bridge today's generation with the ways of the
6 past; and

7 WHEREAS, his love of his culture and farming has allowed Mr. Eusebio
8 Camacho Borja to display his ox-cart at such island events as the Liberation Day
9 Parade beginning in 1996, and again in 1997 and 2019, winning prizes for his
10 showcasing and recognition for promoting of indigenous culture; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Eusebio Camacho Borja's ox-cart and cattle have not only
12 entertained many locals along the parade route, but has also attracted attention of
13 visitors to Saipan eager to take photos in it and have opportunities riding it; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Eusebio Camacho Borja continues to train the bulls,
15 calves and other livestock in his care, so as to allow them to be comfortable in their
16 interaction with humans and be more productive on the farmland he and his family
17 tend to; and

18 WHEREAS, through his passion of cultural preservation, Mr. Eusebio
19 Camacho Borja, his wife Margaret and their four children have inspired their
20 family's youngest generations to develop a love for their indigenous roots; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Eusebio Camacho Borja has voluntarily given his time to
22 educate our island's schoolchildren about the ways of our elders by participating in

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1 programs such as the Cultural Immersion Project at Kagman Elementary School,
2 opening his heart and mind to inspire our manhoben to be proud of their cultural
3 and agricultural roots; and

4 WHEREAS, for over 23 years, Mr. Eusebio Camacho Borja’s talents,
5 humility, and giving disposition is evidence of his embodiment as a cultural
6 advocate and practitioner, which in turn makes him a true “Master of the Arts and
7 Culture”; and

8 WHEREAS, because of this passion of reminding our children and
9 grandchildren of a time-honored period of our history through his continued
10 showcase of the ox-cart (*karetan guaka*) and his talents of animal domesticating,
11 the Legislature finds Mr. Eusebio Camacho Borja worthy of honor and recognition;
12 and

13 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the House of
14 Representatives of the Twenty-First Northern Marianas Commonwealth
15 Legislature that we commemorate the contributions of Mr. Eusebio Camacho Borja
16 as a “Master of Arts & Culture” in preserving traditional cultural practices through
17 perpetuating the use of the traditional ox-cart (*Karetan guaka*) in present day and
18 his talents in domestication of livestock; and

19 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Sponsor of this Resolution or the
20 designee of the Speaker of the House shall present a certified original copy of this
21 House Commemorative Resolution to the officers and members to Mr. Eusebio
22 Camacho Borja and family; and

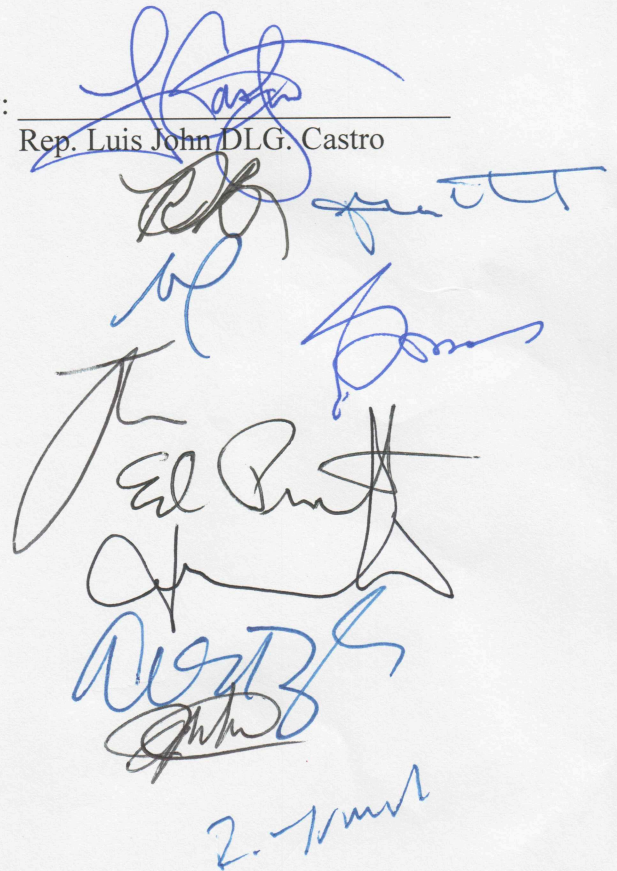
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1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Speaker of the House of
2 Representatives shall certify, and the House Clerk shall attest to the adoption of this
3 resolution and thereafter the House Clerk shall transmit a certified copy to the Hon.
4 Governor Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres; Hon. Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios;
5 Hon. Delegate Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan; Hon. Senate President Victor B.
6 Hocog; Hon. Vicente Cruz Santos, Mayor of the Northern Islands (Gåni); Hon.
7 David M. Apatang, Mayor of Saipan, Hon. Edwin P. Aldan, Mayor of Tinian &
8 Aguiguan; Hon. Efraim M. Atalig, Mayor of Rota and their respective municipal
9 councils.

Prefiled 9/24/19

Date: 9/24/19

Introduced by: _____
Rep. Luis John DLG. Castro



2. 10/1/19