

Twenty-First Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SESSION, 2019

H. Res. **21-9**

A HOUSE RESOLUTION

To recognize the contributions of the late Rex Winther Sorensen in promoting the advancement of mass media in the Marianas and the Western Pacific.

1 **WHEREAS**, the late Rex Winther Sorensen was born in Whittier,
2 California in 1945, and graduated with a Bachelor's in Science degree in
3 Accounting and Financing from the University of Oregon; and

4 **WHEREAS**, prior to establishing his career in the media industry, the late
5 Rex Winther Sorensen also held credentials as a Certified Public Accountant; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the late Rex Winther Sorensen began his professional career
7 as a real estate developer in Hawaii and served as Vice-President of Finance of the
8 Mike McCormack Company, a firm dedicated to real estate brokerage and
9 development from 1971-1980; and

10 **WHEREAS**, in 1981, the late Rex Winther Sorensen together with a group
11 of investors purchased radio station KATB-AM and changed its all-music format
12 to a talk-radio station format and rebranded the station NewsTalk K57, ushering in
13 the talk-radio format to local airwaves for the first time; and

1 **WHEREAS**, from 1985 to his passing, the late Rex Winther Sorensen
2 served as the Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and Principal Shareholder of the
3 Sorensen Media Group, an organization which operates four radio and two
4 television stations that broadcast throughout the Marianas; and

5 **WHEREAS**, in 1992, the late Rex Winther Sorensen expanded his
6 operations up towards the Northern Marianas with the launching of KPXP-FM
7 (Power 99), a contemporary hit radio station which continues to broadcast to this
8 day and continued this expansion with the rebranding of KRSI-FM from Hot 98
9 FM to The Rock 97.9 FM in 2000; and

10 **WHEREAS**, with his continued emphasis on regional expansion, the late
11 Rex Winther Sorensen brought television station ABC-7 to Saipan in 2006, making
12 it the first major network affiliate to set up shop in the Northern Marianas; and

13 **WHEREAS**, with the launch of ABC-7 in the Commonwealth, the late Rex
14 Winther Sorensen allowed our viewers more options for news and entertainment
15 along with bringing television content which was not tape delayed for the first time;
16 and

17 **WHEREAS**, along with his accomplishments in the media industry, the
18 late Rex Winther Sorensen was also a supportive advocate for many charitable
19 causes such as the American Red Cross and Habitat for Humanity; and

20 **WHEREAS**, because of his record of service in the United States Army,
21 the late Rex Winther Sorensen was also a staunch supporter of military veterans

1 and donated countless hours of airtime to veterans to air their concerns out to local
2 leaders; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the late Rex Winther Sorensen passed away on March 10,
4 2019 on Guam at the age of 73; and

5 **WHEREAS**, with his passing, the late Rex Winther Sorensen leaves behind
6 his wife Mimi, his three children, along with many current and former employees
7 and many friends and acquaintances who were both touched and inspired by his
8 gentle demeanor and dedicated passion to his profession; and

9 **WHEREAS**, because of his indelible contributions to the world of
10 broadcasting, journalism, and media in the Marianas, the Legislature finds his
11 person worthy of recognition;

12 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the House of
13 Representatives of the Twenty-First Northern Marianas Commonwealth
14 Legislature that we recognize the tremendous contributions of the late Rex Winther
15 Sorensen to the advancement of mass media throughout the Marianas and the
16 Western Pacific; and

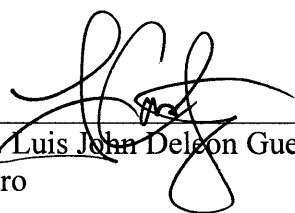
17 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Sponsor of this Resolution or the
18 designee of the Speaker of the House shall present a certified original copy of this
19 House Commemorative Resolution to Mrs. Mimi Sorensen, widow of the late Rex
20 Winther Sorensen and their family; and

21 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Speaker of the House of
22 Representatives shall certify, and the House Clerk shall attest to the adoption of this

1 resolution and thereafter the House Clerk shall transmit a certified copy to the
2 Honorable Governor Ralph DLG. Torres; the Honorable Lt. Governor Arnold I.
3 Palacios; the Honorable Gregorio "Kilili" Camacho Sablan, U.S. Delegate to the
4 United States Congress, 116th United States Congress; the Speaker of *I Liheslaturan*
5 *Guahan*, the Honorable Mayors of our municipalities and their Municipal Council
6 Chairpersons; the Honorable Members of the Mayors' Council of Guam; and the
7 management of the Sorensen Media Group on Guam and Saipan.

Prefiled 4/26/19

Date: 4/26/2019

Introduced by: 
Rep. Luis John DeLeon Guerrero
Castro