

SEVENTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

First Reg. SESSION, 2010

S. R. NO. 17-04

**A SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO COMMEND AND RECOGNIZE REVEREND REID D. ELLIS, M.ED. AND MRS. JOANN L. ELLIS, M.ED. FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EDUCATION OF THE FOREVER GRATEFUL STUDENTS OF THE GRACE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY IN TINIAN.

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Reid D. Ellis, M.Ed. and Mrs. JoAnn L. Ellis, M.Ed. first came to the Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan in January of 1992 to assist in the establishment of Grace Christian Academy, Tinian Campus; and

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Reid D. Ellis, M.Ed. and Mrs. JoAnn L. Ellis, M.Ed. are both affectionately known in the community as Pastor Reid and Miss JoAnn; and

**WHEREAS**, Pastor Reid is the Administrator of the Grace Christian Academy and Miss JoAnn is the Teacher for the Kindergarten Class consisting of 4 and 5 year olds; and

**WHEREAS**, under Pastor Reid's leadership of Grace Christian Academy's eighteen (18) years of academic and spiritual education, the school secured between 15% and 33% of the available student population in Tinian, and has had the highest enrollment of local children of any private school in the Commonwealth with 74% to 90% "local" enrollees in any given year; and

**WHEREAS**, Pastor Reid has also provided assistance and leadership in the community by serving as a member of various community organizations such as the Tinian Municipal Library Board from 2006 to the present, the Tinian Chamber of Commerce Board from 2009 to the present, the Tinian Health Clinic Board of Directors from 2008 to present as Secretary, and the Coalition of Private Schools Incorporated, CNMI from 2003 to the present as a founding member and Vice-President; and

**WHEREAS**, Pastor Reid further served as the Moderator of the 2007 Mid-Term and 2009 General Election Debate/ Forums held on Tinian, and as a Spiritual Counselor and Advisor by leading prayer at school graduations, organization ground breaking, ribbon cutting and inauguration ceremonies. Pastor Reid also officiated and counseled married couples, prayed for and loved the people that call Tinian home; and

**WHEREAS**, Miss JoAnn, during her eighteen (18) years of teaching, has taught over five hundred (500) children of Tinian to read and write, laying a solid foundation for learning throughout their lives; and

**WHEREAS**, Miss JoAnn, in addition to teaching, established and led the Kid's Bible Club and was the lead organizer for the many school Christmas and Spring programs, graduations, and the Royal Court of Mariana annual fundraiser; and

**WHEREAS**, Miss JoAnn has tirelessly served as Head Teacher, oriented new teachers to the island of Tinian and mentored hundreds of girls, young ladies, and mothers as she served alongside her husband, Pastor Reid; and

**WHEREAS**, Pastor Reid and Miss JoAnn established and led "Club 56" an after school program for 5th and 6th graders for the last six (6) years, and the ICY TNT (Island Christian Youth Teen in Tinian) program for kindergarten through 12th grade students. Both programs were funded by the Criminal Justice Planning Agency for delinquency prevention among Tinian's children; and

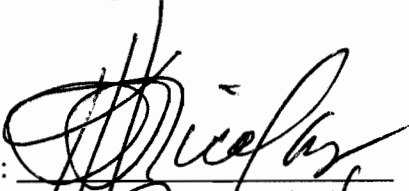
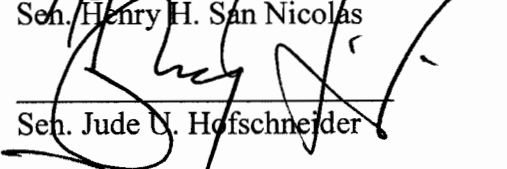
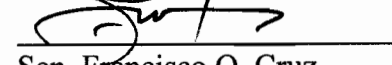
**WHEREAS**, the Community of the Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan, most especially the students and parents of Grace Christian Academy, will be forever grateful and indebted to Pastor Reid and Miss JoAnn for their profusion of assistance and contributions to the people during their tenure on the island; now, therefore;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Senate, Seventeenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, that the Senate hereby commends and recognizes Reverend Reid D. Ellis, M.Ed. and Mrs. Joann L. Ellis, M.Ed. for their outstanding leadership and contributions to the education of the forever grateful students of the Grace Christian Academy in Tinian; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Senate congratulates and extends its best wishes to Reverend Reid D. Ellis, M.Ed. and Mrs. Joann L. Ellis, M.Ed. in their future endeavors; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the President of the Senate shall certify, and the Senate Legislative Secretary shall attest to the adoption of this Resolution and the Senate Clerk thereafter transmit certified copies to Reverend Reid D. Ellis, M.Ed. and Mrs. Joann L. Ellis, M.Ed.; the Honorable Benigno R. Fitial, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; the Honorable Froilan C. Tenorio, Speaker of the House of Representatives; the Honorable Ramon M. Dela Cruz, Mayor of Tinian and Aguiguan; and the Honorable Patrick A. Manglona, Chairman of the 13th Tinian Municipal Council.

Date: FEB. 11, 2010

Introduced By:   
Sen. Henry H. San Nicolas  
  
Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider  
  
Sen. Francisco Q. Cruz