

**NINETEENTH COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS YOUTH CONGRESS**

1st SPECIAL Session, 2025

Y.C. Res. No. 19- **31**

A YOUTH CONGRESS RESOLUTION

Congratulating Kelly Zheng, Mai Peters, YuLing Chai, and Jedric Aniciete for winning the 2024 Congressional App Challenge and representing the Northern Marianas Islands Youth in the 2025 #HOUSEOF CODE event in Washington D.C.

1 **WHEREAS**, the Congressional App Challenge is an annual competition held
2 across the United States and its territories for middle and high school students to
3 showcase their coding and app development skills; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the Congressional App Challenge was established through U.S
5 House Resolution-77 to foster an appreciation for computer science and S.T.E.M;
6 and

7 **WHEREAS**, the Congressional App Challenge held its first official
8 challenge in 2016 and has now expanded to inspire over 40,00 students across all
9 50 states and its territories to code for Congress; and

10 **WHEREAS**, state winners of the Congressional App Challenge are invited
11 to the #HouseofCode event, an opportunity for their works to be showcased to
12 members of Congress at Capitol Hill in Washington D.C; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the 2024 Congressional App Challenge accepted submissions
2 for judging by congressional representatives by October 24, 2024; and

3 **WHEREAS**, 20 high school teams in the CNMI competed to win the 2024
4 Congressional App Challenge; and

5 **WHEREAS**, Kelly Zheng and Jedric Aniciete from Marianas High School
6 registered a team with Mai Peters and YuLing Chair from Saipan Southern High
7 School in August 2024; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Jedric Aniciete and Kelly Zheng acted as the main
9 programmers, with Mai Peters acted as the graphic designer and YuLing Chai acted
10 as the researcher; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Kelly Zheng, Jedric Aniciete, Mai Peters, and YuLing Chai
12 independently learned to code their app in the Swift programming language through
13 video tutorials; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Kelly Zheng, Jedric Aniciete, Mai Peters, and YuLing Chai
15 received mentorship advice from Mrs. Karen Camacho, an A.P Computer Science
16 teacher from Saipan Southern High School; and

17 **WHEREAS**, Kelly Zheng, Jedric Aniciete, Mai Peters, and YuLing Chai
18 submitted their app project called Neni, an educational tool that teaches Chamorro
19 for younger students; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the app Neni aimed to address issues with cultural preserving
21 the Chamorro Language within the CNMI Youth; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the app Neni used effective, active-recall learning techniques
2 like an Artificial Intelligence object identifier tool, flashcards, matching-pattern
3 games, and children’s songs in Chamorro; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the app Neni featured over 150+ Chamorro words and
5 translations accessible for free to download and utilize; and

6 **WHEREAS**, Kelly Zheng, Jedric Aniciete, Mai Peters, and YuLing Chai’s
7 app received the most points in the judging period amongst other CNMI high school
8 competitors; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Kelly Zheng, Jedric Aniciete, Mai Peters, and YuLing Chai
10 were awarded as winners on December 2 through email sent by Congressman
11 Gregorio Kili Camacho Sablan;

12 **WHEREAS**, Kelly Zheng, Jedric Aniciete, Mai Peters, and YuLing Chai
13 were published and posted by Congressman Gregorio Kili Camacho Sablan’s
14 team through his official website and Instagram social media page; and


15 **WHEREAS**, Kelly Zheng, Jedric Aniciete, Mai Peters, and YuLing Chai
16 were invited to Congressman Gregorio Kili Camacho Sablan’s district office in
17 Saipan to receive their formal invitation to the 2025 #HouseofCode Event in April
18 2025;

19 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Nineteenth
20 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Youth Congress that the Youth
21 Congress congratulates Kelly Zheng, Mai Peters, YuLing Chai, and Jedric Aniciete
22 for winning the 2024 Congressional App Challenge and representing the Northern

1 Marianas Islands Youth in the 2025 #HOUSEOFCODE event in Washington D.C;
2 and

3 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Sponsor of this Resolution or the
4 designee of the Speaker of the Youth Congress shall present a certified original
5 copy of this Youth Congress Resolution to Kelly Zheng, Jedric Aniciete, Mai
6 Peters, and YuLing Chai; and

7 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Speaker of the Youth Congress
8 shall certify, and the Youth Congress Legislative Secretary shall attest to the
9 adoption of this resolution and thereafter shall transmit a certified copy to the
10 Honorable Edmund S. Villagomez, Speaker of the House of Representatives (24th
11 Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature); Honorable Dennis C. Mendiola,
12 President of the Senate (24th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature); the
13 Honorable Arnold I. Palacios, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern
14 Mariana Islands; and the Honorable Kimberlyn King-Hinds, CNMI Delegate to the
15 House of Representatives (119th United States Congress).

Date: 01/18/2025 Introduced by: 
Senator Jia Ross B. Nicdao