



Association of Pacific Island Legislatures

American Samoa
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
FSM, State of Chuuk
FSM, State of Kosrae
FSM, State of Pohnpei
FSM, State of Yap
Island of Guam
Republic of Kiribati
Republic of the Marshall Islands
Republic of Nauru
Republic of Palau
State of Hawaii

A RESOLUTION

APIL Resolution No. 33-GA-04

“Expressing deep sympathy and sincere condolences of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures on the passing of former APIL President, the late Honorable Quirino I. Mendiola.”

1 **WHEREAS**, all of the APIL Pacific was saddened to learn that the late Honorable
2 Quirino I. Mendiola was called to his eternal rest in the State of Pohnpei of the Federated
3 States of Micronesia on the 18th day of June in the year of our Lord, 2014; and

4 **WHEREAS**, as a teenager back in the nineteen-fifties, the late Honorable Quirino I.
5 Mendiola first began to internalize his interest in his fellow islanders beyond the shores of
6 Pohnpei when he enrolled in the renowned Xavier High School situated high in the hills of
7 Weno, Chuuk, and shared his young high school experiences with his fellow students from
8 all corners of the what has now come to be called the APIL Pacific; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the late Honorable Quirino I. Mendiola continued to pursue his
10 commitment to quality education on the U.S. Mainland where he earned a Bachelor of
11 Science degree in Criminal Justice from Michigan State University; and

12 **WHEREAS**, after just a few years of public service in Pohnpei, both as a teacher
13 and a prosecutor of the law, the late Honorable Quirino I. Mendiola was soon recognized as
14 an up and coming leader of Micronesia and was recruited by the American Administration
15 in the Headquarters of the Trust Territory situated on Capital Hill in Saipan, Northern
16 Mariana Islands to serve as the Chief of Immigration for the citizens of all of the Trust
17 Territory of the Pacific Islands; and

18 **WHEREAS**, with the coming of self-government for Micronesia at the end of the
19 trusteeship era, the late Honorable Quirino I. Mendiola moved his talents to the new capital
20 of the Federated States of Micronesia, where he served as the Chief of Immigration and
21 Labor for the newly formed FSM Government; and

1 **WHEREAS**, after serving the citizens of the new FSM nation in their need for
2 passports and their even greater need to be recognized as a sovereign and independent
3 people by the immigration and government officials of nations abroad and by the
4 community residents in far off places where traveling Micronesians chose to live and work,
5 the late Honorable Quirino I. Mendiola refocused his efforts to serve the needs of his people
6 back home in Pohnpei in many differing capacities, including service as the Director of the
7 Pohnpei Department of Justice and, most notably for the APIL, as the elected representative
8 of his people in the Pohnpei State Legislature; and

9 **WHEREAS**, it was through his service as a senator and an officer in the Pohnpei
10 State Legislature that the late Honorable Quirino I. Mendiola first came to the attention of
11 the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures when he began appearing as a member of the
12 Pohnpei delegations at the APIL General Assemblies and APIL Board meetings; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the talents, experience and commitment of the late Honorable Quirino
14 I. Mendiola to understanding and addressing the needs of our people throughout the many
15 islands and communities of the APIL Pacific were quickly recognized by the members of
16 the APIL, and the late Senator Mendiola was soon being asked by the Association to accept
17 positions of responsibility within the organization; and

18 **WHEREAS**, in 2001, the late Honorable Quirino I. Mendiola was chosen by the
19 members of the APIL to serve as the APIL President, the post for which he was also elected
20 to serve for a second consecutive term; and

21 **WHEREAS**, during his two terms in office, the Association was confronted with
22 many challenges and addressed many issues of vital importance to the region, ranging from
23 the future growth of our struggling economies to the protection of the health and well-being
24 of our people; and

25 **WHEREAS**, it was during his first term as President of the APIL that the whole
26 world was threatened by the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon,
27 aerial attacks of immense scale which sent waves of alarm and dread in all directions to all
28 corners of the world, inclusive of the APIL Pacific which was then and is still now
29 dependent on safe and reliable airline services for our very survival as island nations, states
30 and territories; and

31 **WHEREAS**, under the leadership of the late Honorable Quirino I. Mendiola, the
32 APIL sent out a message of assurance that the members of the APIL were concerned for the

1 welfare of our region as well as the world-at-large and that we grieved for the peoples who
2 were the direct victims of those terrorist attacks; and

3 **WHEREAS**, after serving as the APIL President for two full terms, the late
4 Honorable Quirino I. Mendiola continued to exhibit his commitment to the mission and to
5 the goals of the APIL by voluntarily continuing to provide leadership guidance to our
6 Association as an *APIL Past-President Advisor*; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the delegations of the member jurisdictions of the Association of
8 Pacific Island Legislatures, gathered here in this General Assembly in the Republic of the
9 Marshall Islands, are profoundly grateful for the contributions in leadership that the late
10 Honorable Quirino I. Mendiola has provided to the APIL; we are genuinely warmed by our
11 fond memories of this statesman; and we truly mourn the loss of our former President; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the late Honorable Quirino I. Mendiola is survived by his loving
13 family consisting of his wife, Yasko Sumag Mendiola, five children and many
14 grandchildren, as well as numerous friends throughout the APIL Pacific; now, therefore,

15 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the 33rd General Assembly of the Association of Pacific
16 Island Legislatures, Republic of the Marshall Islands, July 14-17, 2014, that the Association
17 of Pacific Island Legislatures hereby respectfully and reverently expresses our deepest
18 sympathies and our sincerest condolences to the family and friends of the late Honorable
19 Quirino I. Mendiola on his sad, unfortunate and untimely departure from this life; and

20 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL President shall certify, and the APIL
21 Secretary shall attest to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same shall thereafter be
22 transmitted to Mrs. Yasko Sumag Mendiola on behalf of the family of the late Honorable
23 Quirino I. Mendiola and to the Chief Executives and Presiding Legislative Officers of each
24 member jurisdiction of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 17th DAY OF JULY, 2014.


JUDITH T. WON PAT, ED.D.
PRESIDENT


CHANG WILLIAM
SECRETARY

