

**Social Work Student Alliance**  
Division of Social Work, House #31 Dean's Circle  
UOG Station, University of Guam 96923

**Support for Resolution 51-34 (LS)**

“RELATIVE TO SUPPORTING THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM MOVE  
FORWARD TO APPEAL THE RULING OF THE DISTRICT COURT OF  
GUAM TO ASSIST IN DEFENDING THE RIGHTS OF THE NATIVE  
INHABITANTS OF GUAM,” by **Therese M. Terlaje**

---

03/17/2017

*Buenas yan hafa adai* Vice-Speaker Therese Terlaje and honorable Senators of the 34<sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature:

**This testimony is presented on behalf of the Social Work Student Alliance (SWSA) of the University of Guam. SWSA thanks-you for this opportunity to present testimony in support of Resolution 51-34 (LS).** My name is Lakretia Castro-Santos and I am a senior in the social work program. Resolution 51-34 (LS) is of great significance as it supports the Government of Guam in gaining further assistance to defend the rights of the native inhabitants of Guam.

It is rooted in the social work core values that we challenge social injustices by pursuing social change on behalf of those who are oppressed and for those who may not have a voice. As stated in the social work Code of Ethics, social workers strive to ensure access to equality of opportunity and meaningful participation in decision making for all people.

Resolution 51-34 (LS) will avail the people of Guam an opportunity to speak up on their right to self-determination. As a social work student, resident of Guam and descendant of a native inhabitant, I stand by the people of Guam in efforts to exercise our right to determine our future. Without this appeal, we will continue to be oppressed in our

own land. At the very least, the native inhabitants deserve to be heard. It is because the resolution greatly benefits our community ensuring a chance at self-determination that the Social Work Student Alliance stands in support of this resolution. *Si Yu'os ma'ase!*

**E-Mail Contact Information:**

**Lakretia Castro-Santos**

**[l.castro94@live.com](mailto:l.castro94@live.com)**