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3/21/2025

TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH

LEGISLATURE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 21, 2025

FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2025

H. Res. 24-6

A HOUSE RESOLUTION

To honor and commend the life and legacy of the late Honorable Oscar Manglona Babauta for his life-long dedication and extensive contributions to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and to extend our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

1 **WHEREAS**, it is the sense of this Legislative Body that the quality and
2 character of life in this great Commonwealth is indelibly enriched by the noble and
3 selfless efforts of those exceptional individuals who would devote their lives to
4 public service; and

5 **WHEREAS**, this Legislative Body, representing the people of the
6 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, is moved this day to pay just
7 tribute to the distinguished life and career of the late Honorable Oscar M. Babauta,
8 and to honor his memory, whose admirable career and commendable endeavors
9 profoundly enhanced the quality and character of life in the CNMI; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the late Honorable Oscar M. Babauta, famously known as
11 “OB”, was born on December 29, 1954 on the island of Saipan to proud parents
12 †Mr. Vicente SN. Babauta and †Mrs. Rita A. Babauta; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the late Honorable Oscar M. Babauta shared a life of love with
2 his wife Lolita Mafnas Babauta and their children Tricia B. Palacios, Jesse M.
3 Babauta, Oscar M. Babauta Jr., and Janella M. Babauta; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the late Honorable Oscar M. Babauta graduated high school
5 from Mount Carmel Catholic School in 1973; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the late Honorable Oscar M. Babauta embarked on a
7 distinguished career in private service, occupying a range of managerial roles; His
8 professional journey included positions at Continental Micronesia Airlines, where
9 he contributed significantly, as well as serving as General Manager for the
10 Commonwealth Travel Agency; He was also the sole proprietor of Tropical
11 Solutions Consulting/Professional Services and held the role of Duty Manager at
12 J.C. Tenorio Enterprises; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the late Honorable Oscar M. Babauta dedicated himself to the
14 service of the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
15 through numerous roles, including Community Project Coordinator for the Office
16 of Representative Vicente M. Sablan, Deputy Special Assistant for Political Affairs
17 in the Office of the Governor under Governor Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, and
18 Special Assistant to the Lieutenant Governor under Lt. Governor Benjamin T.
19 Manglona; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the late Honorable Oscar M. Babauta adeptly integrated his
21 government and private sector experience and chose to pursue public office; and

HOUSE RESOLUTION 24-6

1 **WHEREAS**, with an innate ability to lead, the late Honorable Oscar M.
2 Babauta was elected by his constituents in Precinct II, Saipan to the House of
3 Representatives, 9th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature; and

4 **WHEREAS**, during his first term in office, the late Honorable Oscar M.
5 Babauta was appointed Chairman of the House Standing Committee on Judiciary
6 and Governmental Operations; and a Member of the Committee on Ways and
7 Means, Committee on Commerce and Tourism, Committee on Federal and Foreign
8 Affairs, Committee on Health, Education, and Welfare, Committee on Natural
9 Resources, and the Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation, and
10 Communications; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the late Honorable Oscar M. Babauta skillfully balanced his
12 demanding legislative responsibilities while striving to enhance the well-being of
13 his constituents, his precinct and the entire Commonwealth; and

14 **WHEREAS**, through unwavering dedication, a natural aptitude for
15 leadership, an instinctive ability to inspire, and a keen intellect, the late Honorable
16 Oscar M. Babauta was successfully reelected to the 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th,
17 15th, and 16th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature to the House of
18 Representatives; and

19 **WHEREAS**, throughout his 16-year tenure in the House, the late
20 Honorable Oscar M. Babauta demonstrated remarkable leadership as a Chairman
21 and as an active participant in various House Standing Committees; He served as

1 the Minority Leader during the 13th and 16th Northern Marianas Commonwealth
2 Legislature, ascended to the role of House Floor Leader in the 12th and 14th
3 Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, and ultimately held the esteemed
4 position of Speaker of the House of Representatives in the 15th Northern Marianas
5 Commonwealth Legislature; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the late Honorable Oscar M. Babauta was a strong advocate
7 for education, public safety, labor and immigration, telecommunications, the local
8 municipality, the health and welfare of our people, the protection of our lands and
9 natural resources, as well as the advancement of the CNMI's economy through
10 capital improvement initiatives and the Investment Incentive Act designed to attract
11 investors to the CNMI; and

12 **WHEREAS**, following his tenure in the 16th Legislature, the late
13 Honorable Oscar M. Babauta decided to take a hiatus from the political arena opting
14 instead to dedicate more time with family; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the late Honorable Oscar M. Babauta was actively pursued to
16 serve as the Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shortly thereafter; and

17 **WHEREAS**, despite a demanding schedule, the late Honorable Oscar M.
18 Babauta managed to engage actively in his community, serving as President and
19 member of the Cathedral Parish Council, Chairman of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
20 Fiesta Committee, and Chairman of the Saipan Higher Education Fund Act Board,
21 among various other boards and associations; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the late Honorable Oscar M. Babauta was appointed by
2 Governor Arnold I. Palacios to serve as the Special Assistant for Administration, a
3 position he held until his untimely passing; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the late Honorable Oscar M. Babauta accomplished a
5 remarkable array of achievements in his personal, professional, and public life,
6 making significant contributions that have profoundly influenced the CNMI; and

7 **WHEREAS**, his contributions to the Commonwealth have earned him the
8 admiration and respect of all who have had the privilege and honor of knowing such
9 a remarkable individual; and

10 **WHEREAS**, this august body is privileged and honored to commend the
11 life of such an exceptional and humble individual who has dedicated himself to
12 serving our Commonwealth; and


13 **WHEREAS**, the Honorable Oscar M. Babauta leaves behind a legacy
14 which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory
15 to all he served and befriended;


16 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the House of
17 Representatives of the Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth
18 Legislature that the House honors and commends the life and legacy of the late
19 Honorable Oscar Manglona Babauta for his life-long dedication and extensive
20 contributions to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and to extend
21 our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family; and

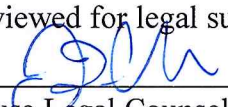
HOUSE RESOLUTION 24-6

1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Speaker of the House of
2 Representatives shall certify, and the House Clerk shall attest to the adoption of this
3 resolution and thereafter the House Clerk shall transmit a certified copy to the
4 bereaved family of the late Honorable Oscar M. Babauta; Honorable Arnold I.
5 Palacios, Governor, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; Honorable
6 Dennis C. Mendiola, President of the Senate, Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas
7 Commonwealth Legislature; and Honorable Kimberlyn King-Hinds, CNMI
8 Delegate to the 119th United States Congress.

Prefiled: 3/21/2025
↳ Intro

Date: _____ Introduced by: 
Rep. John Paul P. Sablan


Rep. Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao

Reviewed for legal sufficiency by:

House Legal Counsel

Date: 3/21/25


R.V.C.
Jul

