



UNIVERSITY OF GUAM
UNIBETSEDAT GUAHAN
BOARD OF REGENTS

RESOLUTION NO. 12-12

**RELATIVE TO AWARDING THE HONORARY DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF HUMANE
LETTERS TO THE HONORABLE RAY LAHOOD, U.S. SECRETARY
OF TRANSPORTATION**

WHEREAS, the Board of Regents is authorized to confer degrees; and

WHEREAS, Ray LaHood, the grandson of immigrants from Lebanon, was born on December 6, 1945 in Peoria, Illinois and was raised by parents who ran a small, working class restaurant and bar; and

WHEREAS, Ray LaHood grew up in the blue-collar neighborhood of East Bluff where he attended St. Bernard's Grade School and high school at Spalding Institute.

WHEREAS, Ray LaHood attended Canton Junior College and graduated from Bradley University in 1971 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education and Sociology; and,

WHEREAS, Ray LaHood was employed as a junior high school social studies teacher for six years, after which he was also employed by the Bi-State Planning Commission and The Rock Island Youth Services Bureau; and,

WHEREAS, Ray LaHood entered the political arena as a precinct committeemen, then became District Administrative Assistant for Congressman Tom Railsback from 1977 to 1982, was appointed to the Illinois House of Representatives in 1982, then worked with U.S. House Minority Leader Robert Michel from 1982 to 1994; and,

WHEREAS, Ray LaHood served in the U.S. House of Representatives from the 18th District of Illinois from 1995 to 2009, and on both the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the House Appropriations Committee; and,

WHEREAS, in the course of his service in the U.S. House of Representatives, he established a strong reputation for being an expert in managing the House and served as the presiding officer more than any other Member of the House during his term of service; and,

WHEREAS, Ray LaHood was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Political Science from Lincoln College in 2000 and an Honorary Doctorate in Public Service from Eureka College in 2002; and,

WHEREAS, Ray LaHood became the 16th Secretary of Transportation on January 23, 2009; and

WHEREAS, as Secretary of Transportation, Ray LaHood leads an agency with more than 55,000 employees and a \$70 billion budget that oversees air, maritime and surface transportation missions; and,

WHEREAS, Ray LaHood is the University of Guam's 2012 Spring Commencement speaker, which is part of the University's 60th Anniversary celebration; and,

WHEREAS, Ray LaHood is recognized as a distinguished public servant and friend to the University of Guam; and

WHEREAS, Secretary LaHood is the first Cabinet officer to participate in the commencement exercises of the University; and

WHEREAS, Secretary LaHood is a national voice for bipartisanship and public service who consistently urges young people to consider personal contributions to the well-being of American society.

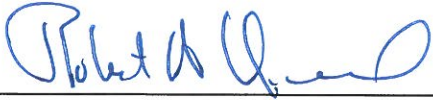
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents through the Student Affairs, Scholarship, Alumni Relations, and Honorary Degree Committee hereby deems it appropriate to confer the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters upon the Honorable Ray LaHood, U.S. Secretary of Transportation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents, along with the President of the University of Guam, will confer said Honorary Degree at the Spring 2012 Commencement on May 27, 2012.

Adopted this 16th day of May, 2012.


W. Chris Perez, Chairperson

ATTESTED:


Dr. Robert A. Underwood, Executive Secretary