



# Gov. Msg. No. ~~17-200~~

## COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

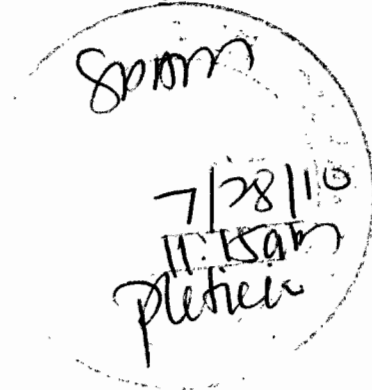
**Benigno R. Fitial**  
Governor

**Eloy S. Inos**  
Lt. Governor

JUL 28 2010

Honorable Juan M. Ayuyu  
Chairman, Rota Legislative Delegation  
Seventeenth Northern Marianas  
Commonwealth Legislature  
Saipan, MP 96950

Honorable Paul A. Manglona  
Senate President, The Senate  
Seventeenth Northern Marianas  
Commonwealth Legislature  
Saipan, MP 96950



Dear Mr. Chairman and Mr. President:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law Senate Local Bill No. 17-01, D1, entitled, "To rename the Rota Junior High School located in Songsong Village, Rota as the **"Dr. Rita-Hocog Inos Junior High School"** in recognition and appreciation of her untiring and outstanding contributions to the Public Schools System and to the people of the Commonwealth; and for other purposes." The bill was passed by the Rota Legislative Delegation of the Seventeenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

This bill becomes **Rota Local Law No. 17-6**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,

BENIGNO R. FITIAL

- cc: Lt. Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Attorney General
- Public School System
- Northern Marianas College
- Department of Finance
- Mayor of Rota
- Rota Municipal Council
- Commonwealth's Law Revision Commission
- Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review

**RECEIVED**  
7-28-10

Call or Box 10007 Saipan, MP 96950 Telephone: (670) 664-2200/2201 Facsimile: (670) 664-2211

*Handwritten initials and date: "m 11:28 am"*



**ROTA LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION**  
FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT  
SEVENTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

THIRD SPECIAL SESSION, 2010

SENATE LOCAL BILL NO. 17-01, D1

**A LOCAL BILL FOR AN ACT  
FOR THE FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT**

To rename the Rota Junior High School located in Songsong Village, Rota as the “Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior High School” in recognition and appreciation of her untiring and outstanding contributions to the Public Schools System and to the people of the Commonwealth; and for other purposes.

Offered by Senator Jovita M. Taimanao

on

January 26, 2010

**SENATE ACTION**

Transmitted to the Rota Legislative Delegation on March 12, 2010

**DELEGATION ACTION**

Committee Referral	:	Autonomous & Independent Agencies
Standing Committee Report	:	SCR 17-01
Mayor’s Comments	:	None
Public Hearing	:	March 11, 2010 (Held on Rota)
First Reading	:	May 7, 2010
Second & Final Reading	:	June 2, 2010

Alicia DLG. Leon Guerrero  
Delegation Clerk



**ROTA LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION**  
**Seventeenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2010**

**SENATE LOCAL BILL NO. 17-01, D1**

**A LOCAL BILL FOR AN ACT  
 FOR THE FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT**

To rename the Rota Junior High School located in Songsong Village, Rota as the "*Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior High School*" in recognition and appreciation of her untiring and outstanding contributions to the Public Schools System and to the people of the Commonwealth; and for other purposes.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT DELEGATION  
 PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 4, DIVISION 1, TITLE 1 OF  
 THE COMMONWEALTH CODE:**

1           **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Rota Legislative Delegation finds that the  
 2 late Dr. Rita Hocog Inos, a woman with great work ethic, learned that in order to make a  
 3 living, one must be dedicated and determined, and is shown throughout her endeavors.  
 4 Knowing that education is an important factor to a person's success, the late Dr. Rita Hocog  
 5 Inos advocated its importance to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
 6 (CNMI) youth and led by example as she pushed herself to receive a Bachelor of Arts  
 7 Degree in Liberal Arts (Bilingual Education) from the University of Hawaii-Manoa in 1979;  
 8 a Master of Arts Degree in School Administration and Supervision from San Jose State  
 9 University in 1983; completed her Master's Course Work in Education Anthropology at  
 10 California State University in 1983; and, later received her Doctorate (Ed.D.) in Educational  
 11 Planning, Policy and Administration from the University of Southern California in Los  
 12 Angeles, California in 1994.

13           The late Dr. Rita Hocog Inos dedicated most of her life to the education of the  
 14 CNMI's community and served in various positions including Bilingual Teacher for Rota

1 Elementary School in Rota; San Antonio Elementary School and San Vicente Elementary  
2 School on Saipan from 1972 to 1976; Acting Project Coordinator for the Rota Bilingual  
3 Program; Bilingual Education Specialist/Curriculum Writer for Rota; Chamorro Curriculum  
4 Writer; Pacific Area Language Development Center, University of Hawaii-Manoa; Principal  
5 of Rota Elementary School from 1982 to 1989; and, a Northern Marianas College Liaison  
6 and Part-time Instructor in Rota from 1982 to 1987.

7 The late Dr. Rita Hocog Inos also served as Deputy Director Pacific Region  
8 Educational Laboratory (PREL); Director of Programs and Services (PREL); Program  
9 Specialist, Center for Advancement of Pacific Education (CAPE); Northwest Regional  
10 Educational Laboratory (NWREL); Profession on Loan for CAPE.

11 From June 1, 1998 to June 9, 2006, the late Dr. Rita Hocog Inos served as the  
12 Commissioner of Education for the CNMI Public Schools System and through her  
13 exemplary leadership, the CNMI Public Schools System demonstrated a seven-year trend of  
14 increasing student academic achievement through the establishment of a data driven student  
15 achievement plan as measured by the CNMI Standard Based Achievement Test and the  
16 Standard Achievement Test, 10th Edition (SAT-10), and led the CNMI towards a standards-  
17 based curriculum and method of instruction and stringent graduation requirements for  
18 students in the core curriculum areas; initiated an academic data driven system in the CNMI  
19 as a precursor to the enactment of the *No Child Left Behind (NCLB)* Program, which  
20 enabled the CNMI to readily comply with federal standards required by NCLB through the  
21 establishment of the Public Schools System in 1998 and beyond Strategic Priorities of: (1)  
22 High Student Performance; (2) Safe and Orderly Schools; (3) Quality Teachers,  
23 Administrators, and staff; and, (4) Effective and Efficient Operations.

24 In cooperation with local and federal agencies, the late Dr. Rita Hocog Inos was able  
25 to secure the needed funding for the construction of five new schools (Sinapalo Elementary  
26 School, Dandan Elementary School, Chacha Oceanview Junior High School, Saipan  
27 Southern High School, and Kagman High School) to accommodate more than three  
28 thousand new students representing a thirty percent growth in student population and worked  
29 jointly with the CNMI Board of Education to spearhead the establishment of two alternative

1 educational settings, namely, the *Advance Development Institute (ADI)* at the three Saipan  
2 high schools and the *Linala Malawasch Academy (LMA)* at Hopwood Junior High School.

3 The late Dr. Rita Hocog Inos was looked upon by her peers and colleagues in the  
4 educational system of the CNMI, the Region, and Internationally as she did consulting and  
5 professional presentations for Harcourt Brace Jovanovich International; Bilingual Education  
6 Assistance for Micronesia University of Guam; Northern Marianas Public Schools System;  
7 Guam Department of Education; Pacific Islands Bilingual-Bicultural Association; Pacifica  
8 Region Educational Conference; Close-Up Foundation of America; Micronesian Language  
9 Symposium; Center for Advancement of Pacific Education (CAPE); Northwest Regional  
10 Educational Laboratory (NWREL); and, the Association for Supervision and Curriculum  
11 Development (ASCD).

12 The late Dr. Rita Hocog Inos' professionalism and vast knowledge in the field of  
13 education made her an easy choice to be the keynote guest speaker to various graduating  
14 classes and conferences in the CNMI and region including keynote speaker for the  
15 graduating class of 1997 for Northern Marianas Academy; Rota Junior High School; the  
16 1996 Yap State Education Conference; Tinian Elementary High School Education Day;  
17 1995 Rota Elementary School Graduation; the 1994 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Pacific Islands  
18 Bilingual-Bicultural Conference in Pohnpei; the 11th Annual Pacific Conference in Saipan;  
19 the 1988 and 1993 Women's Conference in Saipan; the 1992 Rota High and Elementary  
20 School Graduation; the 1991 Northern Marianas Chamorro-Carolinian Language and  
21 Culture Symposium; the 1987 Pacific Islands Bilingual-Bicultural Association Conference in  
22 Kosrae; and, the 1987 CNMI Education Day "*Education Our Strength.*"

23 The late Dr. Rita Hocog Inos was also elected to the 2nd Northern Marianas  
24 Constitutional Convention in 1985 where she was Vice Chair to the Committee on Finance  
25 and Other Matters, and, was also appointed as a member of the Northern Marianas College  
26 Board of Regents in February of 2006 where she served in various capacities until her  
27 untimely passing, including chairperson from June, 2006 to July of 2008.

28 The late Dr. Rita Hocog Inos, a woman dedicated to the education of the students and  
29 people of the Commonwealth, was a member of many prestigious organizations, namely,

1 Pacific Resources for Education & Learning as Chairperson; the CNMI Comprehensive  
2 Cancer Control Planning Group (CCCP); the National Association for Asian and Pacific  
3 American Education (NAAPAE); Pacific Islands Bilingual-Bicultural Association (PIBBA),  
4 CNMI and International Chapter; Para Hita Ghiish as President; a member of the American  
5 Educational Research Association (AERA); was a member of the Association for  
6 Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD); Phi Delta Kappa, University of  
7 Southern California Affiliate member; advisory board member to the Hawaii School  
8 Leadership Academy (HSLA); member of the Hawaii Association for Supervision and  
9 Curriculum Development (HASCD); member and National Presentation Reviewer for the  
10 National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE); member of the National Council for  
11 Teachers of English; member of the National Staff Development Council (NSDC); member  
12 of the Hawaii Educational Research Association (HERA); advisory committee member of  
13 the Pacific Islands Network; and, member of the Commonwealth Health Planning Council.

14 The late Dr. Rita Hocog Inos' hard work, dedication, commitment to her profession  
15 and accomplishments for the education of the students in the Commonwealth, Pacific  
16 Region, and Internationally, did not go unnoticed as she was recognized in the *Who's Who in*  
17 *American Education in 1989-1990*; *Glimpses into Pacific Lives - "Some Outstanding*  
18 *Women"* NWREL in 1987; was recognized by the Micronesian Youth Services Network  
19 (MYSN) for her exemplary and continued services to the youth and communities in  
20 Micronesia in 2006; and, was given Commemorative Resolutions by the House of  
21 Representatives, the Senate, the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation, and, the  
22 Rota Legislative Delegation of the 9th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

23 The late Dr. Rita Hocog Inos, was an author and co-author to publications such as  
24 Research Review for Inclusive Practices (PREL), November 1995; Synthesis of the Research  
25 on Educational Change Part 4 (PREL); *"The Teacher's Role"* in 1995; and, Synthesis of the  
26 Research of Educational Change Part 1 - Overview and Initiation; Part 2 - Implementation  
27 Phase; and, Part 3 - Institutionalization and Renewal Phase; Various Titles of Chamorro  
28 Elementary Grades Reading Books for the PSS Bilingual Program; and Chamorro Grammar

1 Workbook for Grades 4-8 that were distributed in the CNMI and Pacific Region for  
2 educational purposes; and, spearheaded the revision of the Chamorro Dictionary.

3 The late Dr. Rita Hocog Inos' educational spirit drove a significant number of her  
4 former students, colleagues, and acquaintances to go on and pursue their educational dreams  
5 with the "*Can D*" attitude that the late Dr. Rita Hocog Inos had instilled in them. Because of  
6 her dedication, achievements, contributions, and commitment to the Commonwealth of the  
7 Northern Marian Islands Public Schools System and the Northern Marianas College, the  
8 Rota Legislative Delegation finds it appropriate to rename the Rota Junior High School  
9 located in Songsong Village, Rota as the "*Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior High School*" in her  
10 honor.

11 **Section 2. Renaming of the Rota Junior High School.** The Rota Junior High  
12 School located in Songsong Village, Rota is hereby renamed as the "*Dr. Rita Hocog Inos*  
13 *Junior High School*" in recognition and appreciation of her untiring and outstanding  
14 contributions to the Public Schools System and to the people of the Commonwealth.

15 **Section 3. Dedication.** The Mayor of Rota, in coordination with the Public Schools  
16 System, shall prepare a plan of dedication within sixty days from the effective date of this  
17 Act.

18 **Section 4. Transition Period.** During the transition period of renaming the Rota  
19 Junior High School, the school uniforms, materials, supplies, equipment, and other resources  
20 bearing the name "*Rota Junior High School*" shall be utilized until depleted. However, all  
21 new such school materials and equipment shall bear the new name, "*Dr. Rita Hocog Inos*  
22 *Junior High School.*"


23 **Section 5. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or the application of any such  
24 provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent  
25 jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or  
26 circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

27 **Section 6. Savings Clause.** This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be  
28 construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes  
29 repealed or under any rule, regulation or order adopted under the statutes. Repealers

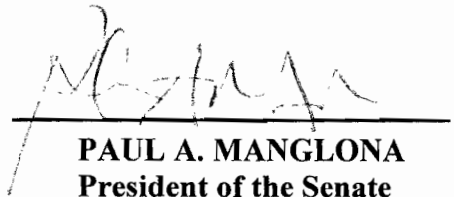
1 contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding instituted under or pursuant to prior  
2 law. The enactment of the Act shall not have the effect of terminating, 4 or in any way  
3 modifying, any liability, civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence on the date this  
4 Act becomes effective.

5 **Section 7. Effective Date.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the  
6 Governor, or it becoming law without such approval.

**CERTIFIED BY:**

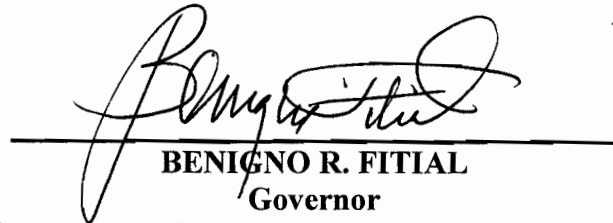


**JUAN M. AYUYU**  
Chairman  
Rota Legislative Delegation



**PAUL A. MANGLONA**  
President of the Senate

APPROVED on this 30<sup>th</sup> day of JULY, 2010



**BENIGNO R. FITIAL**  
Governor  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands