

SEVENTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

4<sup>th</sup> Regular SESSION, 2011

S. R. NO. 17-67

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A SENATE RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE THE HONORABLE CHIEF JUSTICE MIGUEL SABLAN DEMAPAN FOR HIS UNWAVERING AND DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE COMMONWEALTH JUDICIARY AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.

**WHEREAS**, Chief Justice Miguel Sablan Demapan is the oldest of nine children born to parents Gregorio Deleon Guerrero Demapan and Micaela Atalig Sablan on the beautiful island of Saipan; and

**WHEREAS**, Chief Justice Demapan is married to Frances Takai Tenorio with whom he shares five children whose names are Michael, Patrick, Frannie, Soleana, and Micaela; and

**WHEREAS**, Chief Justice Demapan began his academic distinction graduating as valedictorian of Marianas High School, Saipan, in 1971; and

**WHEREAS**, after receiving a Trust Territory Full Scholarship to Seattle University, WA, Justice Demapan received his Bachelor of Science with an emphasis in chemistry in 1975; and

**WHEREAS**, Chief Justice Demapan received his Masters in Business Administration with honors from Golden Gate University, California in 1983; and

**WHEREAS**, Chief Justice Demapan began his career in law after earning his Juris Doctorate from Santa Clara University, California in 1985; and

**WHEREAS**, Chief Justice Demapan also received a Doctor of Humane Letters from the University of Guam, Guam in May of 2005; and

**WHEREAS**, Chief Justice Demapan received a Degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa* from the Santa Clara University School of Law, California in May of 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Justice began his legal career in Saipan as general counsel for J.C. Tenorio Enterprises, Inc. before establishing the Law Offices of Demapan and Atalig; and

**WHEREAS**, Chief Justice Demapan was nominated by Governor Lorenzo I. Guerrero to serve as an associate judge for the Commonwealth Superior Court in November 1992; and

**WHEREAS**, Chief Justice Demapan was nominated by Governor Pedro P. Tenorio to serve as an associate justice for the Commonwealth Supreme Court in July 1998; and

**WHEREAS**, Chief Justice Demapan was subsequently nominated by Governor Pedro P. Tenorio and sworn into the Commonwealth Supreme Court where he served as chief justice from July 1999 until his retirement in September 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, Chief Justice Demapan was the third chief justice of the Commonwealth Supreme Court; and

**WHEREAS**, Chief Justice Demapan performed his duties and responsibilities as judge, justice, and chief justice of the Commonwealth Judiciary with professionalism and deep respect and devotion to the laws and jurisprudence of the Commonwealth and the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to his service to the Commonwealth Judiciary, Chief Justice Demapan served as a member of the Commonwealth Judicial Council, Commonwealth Law Revision Commission, Criminal Justice Planning Agency Supervisory Council, United States Conference of Chief Justices, Asia Pacific Conference of Chief Justices, CNMI Federal Bench Council, World Jurist Association and the Pacific Judicial Council (President from 2008-2011); and

**WHEREAS**, Chief Justice Demapan further served as Judge Pro Tem for the Superior Court of Guam and Justice Pro Tem the Supreme Court of Guam; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and its people are forever indebted to Chief Justice Demapan for his almost two decades of service to

the Commonwealth Judiciary and his commitment to providing impartial, timely, sensitive and accountable judicial services and the continuous pursuit of judicial excellence; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Senate of the Seventeenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, that the Senate hereby commends Chief Justice Miguel Sablan Demapan for his unwavering and dedicated service to the Commonwealth Judiciary and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and its people; and

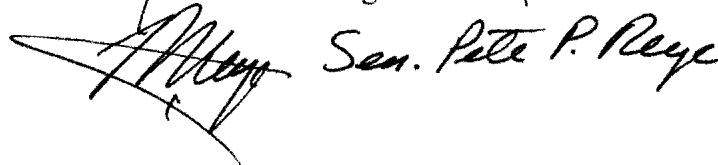
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Senate extends its best wishes to Chief Justice Demapan in both his personal and future endeavors; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the President of the Senate, and the Senate Legislative Secretary shall attest to the adoption of this resolution, and thereafter the Senate Clerk shall transmit certified copies to the Honorable Chief Justice Miguel Sablan Demapan; the Honorable Benigno R. Fitial, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and the Honorable Eliceo D. Cabrera, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Date: 9-23-11

Introduced By:

  
Sen. Paul A. Manglona

  
Sen. Pete P. Reye