



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Ralph DLG. Torres
Governor

Victor B. Hocog
Lieutenant Governor

June 15, 2017

The Honorable Rafael S. Demapan
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twentieth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

The Honorable Arnold I. Palacios
President, The Senate
Twentieth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950



Dear Mr. Speaker and Mr. President:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law House Bill No. 20-56, entitled, "To amend 1 CMC, Chapter 4, Article 2 to add a new §431. 'Governor Eloy S. Inos Peace Park'; and for other purposes," which was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

It is fitting that the Puerto Rico passive park is officially named after the man who was instrumental in the final closure of the Puerto Rico landfill and who ultimately secured the funds to convert the area into what it is today.

Governor Eloy Songao Inos was a true statesman in every sense of the word. A public servant for over 30 years, his financial expertise was second to none as he worked tirelessly to lift the Commonwealth out of economic decline, protected the pensions of the retirees, and created new opportunities for economic growth.

But it was not just his service to the Commonwealth that made him special. It was his unquestioned love and passion for the Northern Mariana Islands and its people that made him memorable. There were certain qualities about him that one could not find in many people, and Governor Inos had that and more.

HOUSE CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED BY *[Signature]*
DATE *6/19/17* TIME *3:23pm*

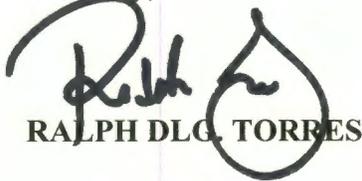
He was a true environmental advocate, who worked tirelessly for the protection of our unique natural resources. In 2015, he initiated the CNMI's request to the United States for the 902 consultations that ultimately led to the first 902 report ever to be approved by the President and transmitted to Congress.

He loved everything about these great islands in the same way that he loved life itself. He lived his with purpose and joy. He used each day to show his family, his loved ones, and everyone who saw him how much he genuinely cared about them. He treated others with kindness and respect. And he strived hard at all costs to make a better Commonwealth so that our future generations are blessed with an opportunity to have a better life than we ever had.

It is my hope that whenever members of our community or visitors from around the world walk the steps of our peace park or enjoy its scenery that they leave with the same vision that Governor Inos had for our Commonwealth. It is the vision of a better tomorrow for our people and the belief that great things can be achieved when we all work together for our islands.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 20-02**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely,



RALPH DLG. TORRES

cc: Lt. Governor; Department of Public Lands; Department of Lands & Natural Resources; Mayor of Saipan; Saipan Municipal Council; Public Auditor; Special Assistant for Administration; Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review



*Twentieth Legislature
of the
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

First Special Session

April 3, 2017

REPRESENTATIVE ANGEL A. DEMAPAN of Saipan, Precinct 1 (*for, himself* Representatives Francisco C. Aguon, Edwin P. Aldan, Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Donald C. Barcinas, Ivan A. Blanco, Francisco S. Dela Cruz, Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, Rafael S. Demapan, Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero, Alice S. Igitol, Jose I. Itibus, Janet U. Maratita, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., John Paul P. Sablan, and Edmund S. Villagomez,) in an open and public meeting with an opportunity for the public to comment, introduced the following Bill:

H. B. No. 20-56

AN ACT

TO AMEND 1 CMC, CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE 2 TO ADD A NEW §431. "GOVERNOR ELOY S. INOS PEACE PARK"; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Bill was not referred to a House Committee.

**THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON
FIRST AND FINAL READING, APRIL 3, 2017;
without amendments and transmitted to the
THE SENATE.**

The Bill was not referred to a Senate Committee.
**THE BILL WAS PASSED BY THE SENATE ON FIRST AND FINAL READING, MAY 10, 2017;
without amendments and was returned to
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**

THE BILL WAS FINALLY PASSED ON APRIL 3, 2017.



Linda B. Muña, House Clerk



*Twentieth Legislature
of the
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

First Day, First Special
April 3, 2017

H. B. No. 20-56

AN ACT

**TO AMEND 1 CMC, CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE 2 TO ADD A NEW §431.
“GOVERNOR ELOY S. INOS PEACE PARK”; AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.**

**Be it enacted by the Twentieth Northern Marianas Commonwealth
Legislature:**

1 **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature finds that the late
2 Honorable Eloy S. Inos dedicated over thirty years of his life to public service for the people
3 of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Honorable Eloy S. Inos
4 embodied all the characteristics of a true statesman, such as intelligence, humility, and
5 kindness. He possessed a vision that made it possible for him to overcome obstacles and to
6 cross political lines to unite leaders in order to take the government out of its economic
7 decline. He worked to save the pensions of our retirees and their beneficiaries, and lead us
8 on to the path of economic recovery and growth. In addition, he was a true champion of our
9 environment and for the protection and conservation of the CNMI’s natural resources.

10 The Honorable Eloy S. Inos had the innate ability to find a diamond in the rough. He
11 was instrumental in the final closure of the Puerto Rico dumpsite and securing the funds
12 amounting to \$21 million to convert the area into a park. The goal was to reduce migration
13 of contaminated water into our lagoon, protect the toe and slopes of the dump from erosion,

HOUSE BILL 20-56

1 control storm-water, and collect and safely treat or vent landfill gas. He envisioned the
2 conversion of the dumpsite into a passive park that emphasizes the open-space aspect of the
3 area and allows for the preservation of its natural habitat which usually involves a low level
4 of development that accentuates the area's natural beauty.

5 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to amend 1 CMC, Chapter 4, Article 2 by adding
6 a new §431 to officially name the park located at the Western Lagoon, Puerto Rico, Saipan,
7 "GOVERNOR ELOY S. INOS PEACE PARK" to pay tribute and to honor the Eighth
8 Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and his immense
9 contributions to the people of the CNMI.

10 **Amendment.** Title 1, Chapter 4, Article 2 of the Commonwealth Code is hereby
11 amended by adding a new § 431 to read as follows:

12 "§ 431. The Park, Western Lagoon, Puerto Rico, Saipan;
13 Governor Eloy S. Inos Peace Park.

14 (a) Naming. The park located at the Western Lagoon, Puerto Rico, Saipan is
15 hereby named the "GOVERNOR ELOY S. INOS PEACE PARK" to pay tribute and
16 to honor the Honorable Eulogio (Eloy) Songao Inos, the Eighth Governor of the
17 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

18 (b) Dedication. The Governor of the Northern Mariana Islands, in
19 consultation with the family of the late Honorable Eloy S. Inos, shall prepare a plan of
20 dedication within a reasonable time after the effective date of this Act."

21 **Section 3. Appropriation.** The Governor is hereby authorized to reprogram the sum
22 of \$5,000.00 from the general fund to implement the intent and purpose of this Act.

23 **Section 4. Severability.** If any provisions 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 5. 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
30 contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding instituted under or pursuant to prior law.

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1 The enactment of the Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying,
2 any liability, civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence on the date this Act
3 becomes effective.

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

Attested to by:



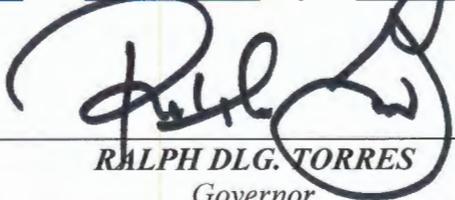
Linda B. Muña, House Clerk

Certified by:



SPEAKER RAFAEL S. DEMAPAN
House of Representatives
20th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature

Approved this *15th* day of *June*, 2017



RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands