



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Benigno R. Fitial
Governor

Eloy S. Inos
Lieutenant Governor

September 26, 2011

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

Honorable Eli D. Cabrera
Speaker, House of Representatives
Seventeenth Northern Marianas
Commonwealth Legislature
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Mr. President and Mr. Speaker:

This is to inform you that I have signed into law Senate Bill 17-65, entitled, "To rename the Rota International Airport the "Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport" in recognition of his services to the island and people of Rota and contributions to the Commonwealth; and for other purposes," which was passed by the Seventeenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Renaming the airport after the former Lieutenant Governor, Benjamin Taisacan Manglona, is befitting of a person who has dedicated over 50 years of his life to public service in various capacities to improve the lives of our citizens and residents. His dedication and perseverance throughout the years has led to developments and advancements in many areas of the Commonwealth. I am pleased that the Legislature found it befitting to rename the Rota International Airport in honor of a worthy leader.

This bill becomes **Public Law No. 17-53**. Copies bearing my signature are forwarded for your reference.

Sincerely, ' 1



ELOY S. INOS
Acting Governor

CC: Governor
Press Secretary, Office of the Governor
Special Assistant for Programs & Legislative Review
All Branches, Departments and Agencies



THE SENATE
SEVENTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE BILL NO. 17-65

AN ACT

To rename the Rota International Airport the "Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport" in recognition of his services to the island and people of Rota and contributions to the Commonwealth; and for other purposes.

SENATE ACTION

Offered by Senator(s): Jovita M. Taimanao; Juan M. Ayuyu; Paul A. Manglona

Date: March 29, 2011

Referred to: None

Conference Committee Report No.: None

Final Reading: April 06, 2011

HOUSE ACTION

Referred to: Judiciary and Governmental Operations

Conference Committee Report No. 17-86 (Adopted on August 09, 2011)

First and Final Reading: August 09, 2011

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jovita M. Taimanao", written over a horizontal line.

SENATOR JOVITA M. TAIMANAO
SENATE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY

THE SENATE
SEVENTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION, 2011

SENATE BILL NO. 17-65

AN ACT

To rename the Rota International Airport the “Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport” in recognition of his services to the island and people of Rota and contributions to the Commonwealth; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE SEVENTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:

1 **Section 1. Findings.** The Legislature finds that the Honorable Benjamin Taisacan
2 Manglona served the community of Rota as an engineer, clerk, public works officer, a
3 representative, a delegate, a senator, and a mayor. He also worked in the private sector as a
4 station manager for Continental Air Micronesia. The Honorable Benjamin Taisacan
5 Manglona provided valuable services, not only to the people of Rota, but to the entire
6 Mariana Islands. He served as the third lieutenant governor of the Northern Mariana
7 Islands.

8 The Honorable Benjamin Taisacan Manglona received his primary education in Rota
9 from 1947 through 1951 prior to relocating to Cathedral Grade School in Agana, Guam. In
10 1954-1957, he attended the Pacific Islands Central School (PICS) in Truk, Caroline Islands.
11 In 1957, the Honorable Benjamin Taisacan Manglona furthered his education in the Survey
12 and Mapping School for several months in Palau. In 1964-1965, he took correspondence
13 courses at the International Correspondence School (ICS) in Scranton, Pennsylvania. In
14 1966-1967, the Honorable Benjamin Taisacan Manglona attended Honolulu Community
15 College in Honolulu, Hawaii majoring in the field of Engineering Technology. In 1971-
16 1973, he attended the University of Guam where he obtained an Associate of Science degree

1 in Civil Engineering Technology and completed the Construction Inspector Training at
2 OICC in Guam.

3 The Honorable Benjamin Taisacan Manglona worked from 1957 through 1968 for
4 the Rota District Administration as a junior engineering aide, a senior engineering aide,
5 supervising engineer, assistant surveyor, and cartographic engineer. From 1962-66, he
6 worked part-time as the assistant clerk of court for Rota. He also served as the station
7 manager for Air Micronesia in Rota from 1968-1969. The Honorable Benjamin Taisacan
8 Manglona subsequently served as a public works officer from 1970-1975.

9 The Honorable Benjamin Taisacan Manglona is a great leader and a great public
10 servant who served his people for nearly fifty years in various capacities, beginning in 1963-
11 1965 as a member of the Marianas District Legislature, as a representative to the Congress
12 of Micronesia in 1965-1970, and a member of the Marianas Political Status Commission
13 from Rota in 1972.

14 Through his leadership and diligence as First Vice President of the First
15 Constitutional Convention of 1976, the Honorable Benjamin Taisacan Manglona
16 participated in the drafting of the Commonwealth's Constitution which was ratified by the
17 people of the Northern Mariana Islands and later, approved by the President of the United
18 States of America.

19 The success of the newly established government of the Northern Mariana Islands
20 was partly due to the exceptional abilities of its first elected officials, among them, the
21 Honorable Benjamin Taisacan Manglona, who served as senator in the First, Second, Third,
22 Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislatures from 1977-1989.
23 As a senator, he served as President of the Senate, Vice President of the Senate, and
24 Chairman of the Committee on Fiscal Affairs.

25 As a Senator from the First Senatorial District, the Honorable Benjamin Taisacan
26 Manglona worked closely with then Senators Joseph S. Inos and Julian S. Calvo, and
27 Representative Misael H. Ogo to obtain the capital improvement project funding for the
28 construction of the Rota International Airport in the early 1980's. The Honorable Benjamin

1 Taisacan Manglona's hard work and diligence in securing funds paved the way for the grand
2 opening of the Rota International Airport.

3 The Honorable Benjamin Taisacan Manglona's public service career reached its
4 pinnacle when he was elected as the Commonwealth's third Lieutenant Governor, along
5 with his running mate the late Governor Lorenzo I. Guerrero, from 1990 through 1994. As
6 Lieutenant Governor, the Honorable Benjamin Taisacan Manglona helped stir the
7 Commonwealth into a time of great prosperity and wealth in the government as well as the
8 private sector.

9 The Honorable Benjamin Taisacan Manglona's untiring commitment to public
10 service led to his election as the Mayor of Rota for two terms from 1998-2006. Through his
11 effective leadership and management, the Honorable Benjamin Taisacan Manglona's
12 administration greatly improved the quality and delivery of public services for the island of
13 Rota.

14 Throughout his public service and private sector career, the Honorable Benjamin
15 Taisacan Manglona could always find comfort and encouragement in the unwavering
16 support of his family, including his wife Maria Rosario Manglona, his deceased first wife
17 Magdalena Mendiola Manglona, and children Lillian, Rebecca, Theodore, Marie, Joann,
18 Benjamin Jr., Harold, Debra, Selina, Maximo, Francisco, Franny, and Fresca Bree.

19 Reflecting on the Commonwealth and Rota's economic, social, and political
20 triumphs and struggles over the past 50 years, the Honorable Benjamin Taisacan Manglona
21 looms prominently among the Commonwealth's great leaders. Because of his public
22 service, dedication and contributions to the development and advancement of the
23 Commonwealth and especially the island and people of Rota, the Legislature finds that it is
24 appropriate to rename the Rota International Airport located in Sinapalo Village, Rota, the
25 "**Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport**" in his honor.

1 **Section 2. Amendment.** Title 1, Chapter 4, Article 3 of the Commonwealth Code is
2 amended by adding a new section 437 to read as follows:

3 “§ 437. **Rota: International Airport.**

4 (a) The Rota International Airport located in Sinapalo Village. Rota is
5 hereby renamed as the “Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport” in
6 recognition and appreciation of his untiring and outstanding public service,
7 dedication, and contributions to the island and people of Rota, and the
8 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

9 (b) The Mayor of Rota, in coordination with the Commonwealth Ports
10 Authority, shall prepare a plan of dedication within sixty days from the effective date
11 of this Act.”

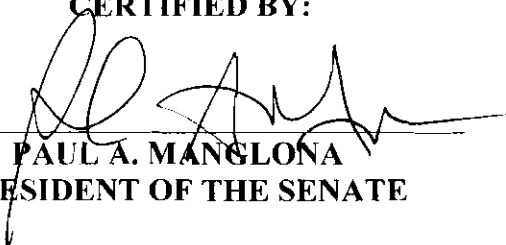
12 **Section 3. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or the application of any such
13 provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent
14 jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or
15 circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

16 **Section 4. Savings Clause.** This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be
17 construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes
18 repealed or under any rule, regulation or order adopted under the statutes. Repealers
19 contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding instituted under or pursuant to prior
20 law. The enactment of this Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any way
21 modifying, any liability civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence at the date this
22 Act becomes effective.


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

CERTIFIED BY:

ATTESTED BY:

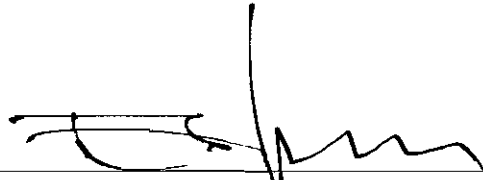


PAUL A. MANGLONA
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE



JOVITA M. TAIMANAO
SENATE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY

APPROVED this 26TH day of SEPTEMBER, 2011



ELOY S. INOS
Acting Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands