

THIRD NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 1982

AN ACT

To establish a Chamorro/Carolinian Language Policy Commission, and
for other purposes.

Offered by Representative Jose M. Taitano

Date: April 7, 1982

House Action

Referred to: Committee on Health, Education and Welfare

Standing Committee Report No. 3-49

First Reading: June 2, 1982

Second Reading: June 7, 1982

Final Reading: August 31, 1982

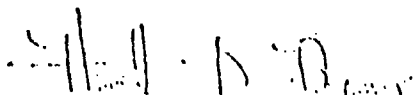
Senate Action

Referred to: Committee on Health, Education, Welfare and Programs

Standing Committee Report No. 3-116

First Reading: August 11, 1982

Second Reading: August 19, 1982.



Robert S. Del Rosario
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives

FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 1982

AN ACT

To establish a Chamorro/Carolinian Language Policy Commission, and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:

1 Section 1. Short Title. This Act may be cited as the
2 Chamorro/Carolinian Language Policy Commission Act of 1982 .

3 Section 2. Establishment. There is hereby established a
4 Chamorro/Carolinian Language Policy Commission to consist of twelve
5 members, six Chamorros and six Carolinians, to be appointed by the
6 Governor from nominations submitted by the Director of the Chamorro
7 Bilingual/Bicultural Program, the Director of the Carolinian
8 Bilingual/Bicultural Program, and the Executive Assistant for
9 Carolinian Affairs.

10 Section 3. Composition and Tenure. All twelve members of the
11 Chamorro/Carolinian Language Policy Commission shall be of Chamorro/
12 Carolinian descent, conversant in either Chamorro or Carolinian, and
13 residents of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and at
14 least six members shall be women. The members of the Commission shall
15 serve for four years; Provided, that of the members first appointed,
16 three members shall serve for four years, three members shall serve
17 for three years, three members shall serve for two years, and three
18 members shall serve for one year. No member shall be appointed for
19 more than two consecutive terms. Determination of who shall serve
20 what term initially shall be by the drawing of lots. Members shall
21 serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

1 Section 4. Acts and Rules. All decisions of the Commission shall
2 require the concurrence of four members of each respective group. The
3 Commission shall adopt rules and procedures to be used in carrying out
4 its duties.

5 Section 5. Compensation. Members of the Commission shall serve
6 without compensation but shall be reimbursed for reasonable and
7 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.
8 Members traveling on official business shall receive per diem
9 compensation at established Northern Marianas Government rates.

10 Section 6. Duties. It shall be the duties of the Commission to:

11 (a) Study the antecedents, describe the grammar and
12 prescribe good usages for the Chamorro/Carolinian language;

13 (b) Prepare a modern and up-to-date Chamorro/Carolinian/
14 English dictionary;

15 (c) Represent the Northern Mariana Islands in meetings
16 and conferences on matters dealing with the Chamorro/Carolinian
17 language;

18 (d) Make recommendations to the Legislature on standard
19 orthography to be used in schools;

20 (e) Research the Chamorro and Carolinian languages and
21 the people, and to provide such resources in the Commonwealth
22 library; and

23 (f) Make recommendations to the Legislature on policies
24 governing the usage of the Chamorro and Carolinian languages in
25 the government and public sectors.

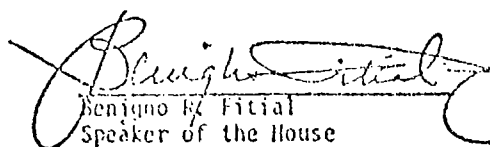
1 Section 7. Facilities of the Department of Education. The
2 Commission is an independent organization and shall conduct its
3 business as such under the rules and procedures adopted thereof. The
4 Commission, however, is authorized to use, and the Department of
5 Education is hereby authorized to make available, the facilities of
6 said Department. The Department shall also furnish such personnel and
7 logistical assistance as the Commission shall need to carry out its
8 functions pursuant to budgetary appropriations. The Commission may
9 also request the assistance of other executive branch departments.

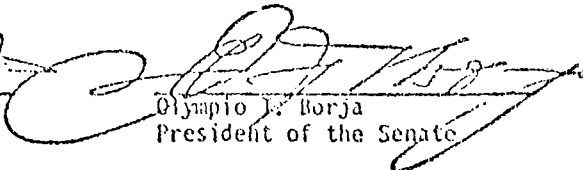
10 Section 8. Authorization for Appropriation. There is hereby
11 authorized to be appropriated such sums necessary to carry out the
12 purposes of this Act. The Commission may also solicit funds from
13 other public and private sources.

14 Section 9. Annual Report. The Commission shall report annually
15 to the Legislature and to the Governor the results of its work in
16 carrying out the provisions of this Act. Copies of such report will
17 also be made available to the Board of Education and to the general
18 public.

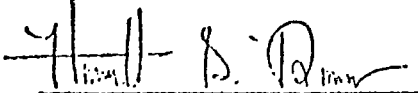
19 Section 10. Repealer. Public Law 1-37 is hereby repealed in its
20 entirety.

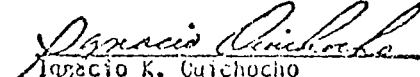
21 Section 11. Effective Date. Except as otherwise provided in this
22 Act, this Act shall take effect upon its approval by the Governor, or
23 upon its becoming law without such approval.


Benigno E. Fitial
Speaker of the House

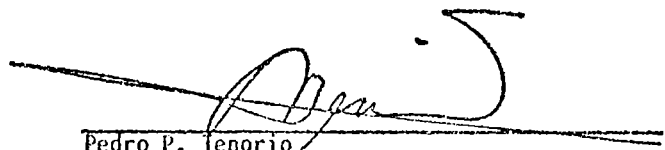

Olympio J. Borja
President of the Senate

ATTEST:


Herbert S. Del Rosario
Chief Clerk


Ignacio K. Quichocho
Senate Legislative Secretary

October 13, 1982


Pedro P. Tenorio
Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands