

**TWENTY-FOURTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH**  
**LEGISLATURE**  
**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

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SESSION, 2025

H. Res. 24-20

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**A HOUSE RESOLUTION**

To respectfully recognize the significant contributions of Victorino “Vic” Sablan Cepeda to the educational and vocational advancement of the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

1           **WHEREAS**, the Legislature is firmly committed to honoring those who  
2           have demonstrated consistent, whole-hearted dedication to the educational and  
3           professional progress and improvement of the people of the Commonwealth of the  
4           Northern Mariana Islands; and

5           **WHEREAS**, Victorino “Vic” Sablan Cepeda is an exemplary individual  
6           whose life’s work illustrates an earnest passion for uplifting the livelihoods of our  
7           local community; and

8           **WHEREAS**, Mr. Cepeda began his illustrious career as an educator as a  
9           fourth-grade teacher in William S. Reyes (WSR) Elementary School, and as an  
10          instructor at Oleai Elementary School for three years; and

11          **WHEREAS**, Mr. Cepeda was later sent by the then Department of  
12          Education of the Trust Territory government to teach on the island of Pagan for one  
13          year, and a year after his return to Saipan, was sent to the Pohnpei Micronesia

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1 Teacher Education Center by the territory government’s education department.  
2 Afterwards, he taught at the then Hopwood Intermediate School/ Junior-Senior  
3 High School; and

4           **WHEREAS**, Mr. Cepeda was one of the Marianas High School’s (MHS)  
5 pioneer educators as a mathematics teacher in 1969 when MHS became the first  
6 full-fledged public high school to serve the island community during the Trust  
7 Territory of the Pacific during the post-war era before later becoming vice  
8 principal; and

9           **WHEREAS**, Mr. Cepeda deepened his involvement in MHS by becoming  
10 the acting principal from 1973 to 1979; and

11           **WHEREAS**, Mr. Cepeda furthered his education in Oregon to strengthen  
12 his skills as a leader in education, and upon successful completion and return to the  
13 island, became principal again from 1985 until his retirement in 1988; and

14           **WHEREAS**, Mr. Cepeda is befittingly recognized as the longest serving  
15 school administrator in Marianas High School’s 55-year history; and

16           **WHEREAS**, during Mr. Cepeda’s tenure in MHS, he implemented key  
17 strategies to motivate student learning by encouraging communication and good  
18 relationships with the parents by allowing parents to be present when failing  
19 students performed their make-up examinations, instituting a buddy system to  
20 partner student leaders with students who need assistance or a friend, and  
21 administering compulsory attendance of students and parents to parent orientation,

1 creating a strong Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) organization that  
2 others schools eventually modeled; and

3           **WHEREAS**, Mr. Cepeda’s vigor and skill as an educational leader  
4 continued on with his experience as superintendent and principal of Mount Carmel  
5 School from 1989 to 1991; and

6           **WHEREAS**, Mr. Cepeda’s keen enthusiasm to uplift and elevate the  
7 livelihood of students has also extended to worthwhile community organizations  
8 and causes; and

9           **WHEREAS**, in 2013, Mr. Cepeda provided steadfast leadership to the  
10 Northern Marianas Trade Institute (NMTI) as a Board of Director upon the passing  
11 of the previous Board of Director, Mr. Pellegrino, a long-time friend and colleague.  
12 During the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, Mr. Cepeda  
13 exhibited unwavering commitment to the NMTI and was an integral part of the  
14 evolution and transition to Northern Marianas Technical Institute (NMTI) in 2021  
15 continuing to present day, providing a lasting testament of his perseverance,  
16 stewardship, and faith in the stronger, self-sufficient futures of the people of the  
17 CNMI; and

18           **WHEREAS**, Mr. Cepeda has been a beacon of support and motivation for  
19 participants in the CNMI Drug Court Program for over five years, attending review  
20 hearings, identifying job opportunities, and engaging with employers willing to  
21 offer participants a second chance, as a result, improving the lives of participants

1 as stable employment is integral for successful participant reintegration into  
2 society; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Cepeda is a shining epitome of a devoted, enthusiastic  
4 educator and leader whose altruistic acts of service to uplift and empower others  
5 has undoubtedly and positively impacted the lives of the people of the CNMI; and

6 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the House of  
7 Representatives of the Twenty-Fourth Northern Marianas Commonwealth  
8 Legislature that the House respectfully recognize the significant contributions of  
9 Victorino “Vic” Sablan Cepeda to the educational and vocational advancement of  
10 the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and

11 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Speaker of the House of  
12 Representatives shall certify, and the House Clerk shall attest to the adoption of this  
13 resolution and thereafter the House Clerk shall transmit a certified copy to  
14 Victorino Cepeda; the Honorable David M. Apatang, Governor, Commonwealth of  
15 the Northern Mariana Islands; the Honorable Kimberlyn K. King-Hinds, CNMI  
16 Delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives, 119th United States Congress; and  
17 the Honorable Karl R. King-Nabors, Senate President, 24th Northern Marianas  
18 Commonwealth Legislature.

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Prefiled: 12/4/2025

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Introduced by: \_\_\_\_\_

Rep. Marissa R. Flores

Reviewed for legal sufficiency by:

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House Legal Counsel

Date: Joseph S. Dejeu 12/5/25