

(H. B. 159)

(No. 75)

(Approved August 16, 2009)

AN ACT

To designate the Maunabo Municipality farming reserve created under Act No. 18 of January 23, 2006, as “*Don Amparo Guisao Figueroa Farming Reserve.*”

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

Agriculture constitutes a major economic sector in Puerto Rico. Countless men and women throughout our history have engaged in this endeavor of tilling our Puerto Rican soil. This Island has been assailed by many an atmospheric phenomenon, as well as pests, droughts, and sickness, and yet, our farmers persevere in their resolve to work the land each and every day.

Among farmers in Maunabo stands out a distinctive personality by the name of *Don Amparo Guisao*, who made a fine contribution to future generations as well as his own by living by the belief that our land should be worked so that it will provide the food we need and that our land should be protected and conserved for the production of food for our people.

Don Amparo Guisao Figueroa was born in 1921, in *Barrio Lizas* of the Municipality of Maunabo, where he learned about the toils of farming at a very young age. He expended much effort in completing his primary and his secondary schooling, and upon finishing his military service, he returned to finish the studies necessary to heed his calling to teach.

Don Amparo excelled in the teaching profession for his ability to impart courses to grade school, middle and high school students without any notes, relying solely on his memory. In his spare time, *Don* Amparo reveled in his passion for farming, in which practice he showed great mastery and a natural ability, owing to his experience garnered from the hardships of farm life throughout his childhood.

His love for the land and for country living has on many an occasion taken him to high positions of leadership within the ranks of farmers' organizations, from which he relentlessly advocated for the rights of farmers and became an unconditional protector of agriculture, championing for this sector so beset by industrialization and its consequences.

For many years, this outstanding farmer was notable for his leadership as a layman within the Methodist Church of his hometown. *Don* Amparo begot a large family of 10 children, whom he showered with his tireless and unconditional love until the day he died.

The Legislature of Puerto Rico deems it meritorious, to acknowledge the contributions of *Don* Amparo Guisao Figueroa to Puerto Rican agriculture, especially his dedication, his hardworking spirit, and his advocacy for agriculture in Maunabo, by naming the Maunabo Municipality farming reserve after him.

Act No. 18 of January 23, 2006, declared as Farming Reserve the lands comprised within La Carolina and Calimano parcels in the Municipality of Maunabo. This farming reserve covers a land extension of five hundred and eleven (511) *cuerdas*, wherein Maunabo farmers shall develop their farming businesses, and thus, improve their quality of life.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PUERTO RICO:

Section 1.—The Maunabo Municipality farming reserve created under Act No. 18 of January 21, 2006, is hereby designated as “*Don Amparo Guisao Figueroa Farming Reserve.*”

Section 2.—The Department of Agriculture of Puerto Rico and the Land Administration shall take all the necessary measures to enforce the provisions of this Act and give public notice of such designation to the general citizenry.

Section 3.—This Act shall take effect immediately after its approval.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the Secretary of State that the following **Act No. 75 (H. B. 159)** of the **1st Session of the 16th Legislature** of Puerto Rico:

AN ACT to designate the Maunabo Municipality farming reserve created under Act No. 18 of January 23, 2006, as “*Don Amparo Guisao Figueroa Farming Reserve.*”

has been translated from Spanish to English and that the English version is correct.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, on the 1st day of March of 2010.

Solange I. De Lahongrais, Esq.
Director