

(H. B. 2533)

(No. 192)

(Approved September 1, 2006)

## **AN ACT**

To designate the New School of Barrio Arenas in the Municipality of Cidra with the name of Regino Vega Martínez, and for other purposes.

### **STATEMENT OF MOTIVES**

On November 17, 1927, Regino Vega Martínez was born to Mr. Ángel Vega and his wife, Mrs. Clotilde Martínez. His first years of education were in Bayamoncito Second Unit School in Aguas Buenas, from where he graduated with excellent grades. He attended high school in Cidra, where he continued to perform with academic excellence. After his father became ill, he assumed responsibility for the farm until he was drafted by the U.S. Army. Afterwards, he obtained a Bachelor's degree, graduating with the highest grades with a minor in elementary and high school education, and a major in science and mathematics.

After obtaining his degree in education, he taught chemistry and biology in a high school in Cidra. He directed the Luis Muñoz Iglesias School in Cidra in the Science Fair, obtaining all the awards, and he received a scholarship to pursue his Master's Degree in San Germán, which he obtained with high honors. He then worked as a night school teacher and as an Upper Bound Program educator in the University in Cayey. He was recognized as Science Coordinator for the Caguas Educational Region On May 5, 1971, and was later honored as island-wide Science Coordinator for the Department of Education. He was also honored in 1985, by the Department of Education as Teacher of the Year, and received with the Educational Excellence Award.

Don Regino Vega was a great civic leader and devoted to about the cooperative movement. He was a member of the Board of Directors and President of the Cidra Cooperative. In the Municipal Legislature of that municipality, he directed the Education Committee, and as Vice-President, he gave priority to education. In Philadelphia, he was distinguished as Civic Man of Cidra, in 1992,. The Cooperativa de Seguros Múltiples chose him as Most Outstanding Cooperativist Educator in Puerto Rico at the Dorado Cerromar Hotel. In 2002, the Cooperativa Cidreña dedicated its Annual Assembly to him for his educational, social, cultural, and cooperativist contributions, and as President of the Board of Directors. He was a member of the Fishing Club and the Fraternal Club of Cidra. As a Christian, one of Regino's passions was to participate actively in the Church, which is exemplified by his membership to the group Cursillo Juan XXIII as well as several other educational Church levels.

This innate educator never forgot his role as a father, and he installed duty and social and educational responsibility in his children. He was a wise and dedicated man. His commitment to education and to student development is shown in phrases such as "A man who has self-respect and educates another man opens the horizon of the future." "God's creation chisels only with education and good examples." "An educated child is an educated man." "There is no challenge that cannot be faced with wisdom and overcome by education."

The Legislature of Puerto Rico recognizes in the work and achievements of Regino Vega Martínez a brilliant citizen and public servant, whose career deserves to be emulated by the younger generations, not only of Cidra, but also of all Puerto Rico. Therefore, the Legislature of Puerto Rico wishes to pay homage to his life and in witness thereof, it deems as more than meritorious to designate the New School of Barrio Arenas in the Municipality of Cidra with the name of Regino Vega Martínez.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PUERTO RICO:**

Section 1.- The New School of Barrio Arenas in the Municipality of Cidra is hereby designated with the name of Regino Vega Martínez.

Section 2.- The Structures and Public Highways Naming Commission of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall take the necessary measures to comply with the provisions of this Act, without being subject to the provisions of Act No. 99 of June 22, 1961, as amended.

Section 3.- Once this Act is approved, the Department of State shall notify the Structures and Public Highways Naming Commission of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in order for the pertinent administrative procedures to be carried out.

Section 4.- This Act shall take effect immediately after its approval.

## **CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify to the Secretary of State that the following Act No. 192 (H.B. 2533) of the 4<sup>th</sup> Session of the 15<sup>th</sup> Legislature of Puerto Rico:

**AN ACT** to designate the New School of Barrio Arenas in the Municipality of Cidra with the name of Regino Vega Martínez, and for other purposes,

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

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today 30<sup>th</sup> of April of 2007.

Francisco J. Domenech  
Director