

(H. B. 2069)

(No. 295)

(Approved December 26, 2006)

## AN ACT

To direct that the Public Structure and Highway Naming Commission of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico name the new school of *Barrio Llanos* of Aibonito after Dr. Carmen Delia Colón-Martínez.

### STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

Carmen Delia Colón Martínez was born on February 12, 1930, to *Don* José G. Colón and *Doña* Concepción Martínez, united in the bond of marriage. *Don* José and *Doña* Concepción tended to a small business establishment they had in *Barrio* Asomante, where they also raised their children Carmen Delia and José A. Colón-Martínez.

Carmen Delia Colón-Martínez, better known as Doctor Colón, always distinguished herself in her hometown for being an outstanding student. Financial hardship presented an obstacle for her to study, but Doctor Colón learned how to overcome this hurdle. Her desire to achieve self-fulfillment and to become somebody useful drove her to pursue a college education at the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, by the 1940's, at which time she obtained among many other things a scholarship funded by the municipal government of Aibonito to study medicine. Amid many sacrifices and with the help of her parents, she successfully obtained her diploma as a Doctor in Medicine.

Doctor Colón held office as Medical Director at the Aibonito Municipal Hospital, where she served all people with dedication and care, her interest

leaning toward the care for the health of those most in need. After several years at the Mennonite Hospital of Aibonito, she decides to begin her private practice in General Medicine, which she did quite successfully.

In the year 1960, she married Civil Engineer José R. Colón, with whom she had five children: Delia C., José R. (R.I.P.), José A., José R., and Luisa M. Colón-Colón.

The virtue of patience which always adorned her personality assisted her in continuing on her road to success. By the 1970's, she decides to do a residence in Pediatrics at the Ponce District Hospital. She never neglected her family or her private practice, which earned her the admiration and respect of all those who knew her.

Finally, Doctor Colón was able to fulfill her dream and complete her residence in Pediatrics and established her practice directed toward Aibonito's boys and girls, although she continued to offer her services to all those who went to her seeking health care.

Doctor Colón once again became a part of the medical faculty of the Mennonite Hospital of Aibonito, where she worked for the children of Aibonito and surrounding towns until the death before her death, September 21, 2001. Many were the hours that Doctor Colón devoted to the health of the men and the women of Aibonito, who continue to remember her fondly and with great admiration.

Carmen Delia Colón Martínez was a being of light, upon whom God bestowed great qualities, knowledge and intelligence which are true sources of wisdom. A relentless fighter and healer, she could never deny anybody the possibility of good health; she always did everything possible to contribute to the preservation of the physical and also the emotional well-being of her patients. A physician of the body and the soul, a mother, a

daughter and a sister of exemplary qualities, 48 years of dedication and selfless service to our town of Aibonito.

Doctor Colón was an exemplary Puerto Rican who contributed, throughout her entire life, to the health and progress of her people of Aibonito. Her legacy should be kept alive in the memory of all citizens. It is for this reason that we propose this acknowledgement of the contribution of Carmen Delia Colón-Martínez, Doctor Colón.

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

Section 1.—The Public Structure and Highway Naming Commission of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico is hereby directed to name the new school of *Barrio Llanos* of Aibonito after Dr. Carmen Delia Colón-Martínez.

Section 2.—The Public Structure and Highway Naming Commission of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall take the necessary measures to achieve compliance of the provisions of this Act, without being subject to the provisions of Act No. 99 of June 22, 1961, as amended.

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. 295 (H.B. 2069) of the 4<sup>th</sup> Session of the 15<sup>th</sup> Legislature of Puerto Rico:

**AN ACT** to direct that the Public Structure and Highway Naming Commission of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico name the new school of *Barrio Llanos* of Aibonito after Dr. Carmen Delia Colón-Martínez,

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

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today 18<sup>th</sup> of June of 2007.

Francisco J. Domenech  
Director