

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-433

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RESOLUTION MANDATING THE OBSERVANCE OF THE 150TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF TOMAS AREJOLA NEXT YEAR 2015, DIRECTING THE FORMATION OF AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO PLAN, ORGANIZE, COORDINATE AND IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS, PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES IN NAGA CITY IN CONNECTION THERETO, AND THE SETTING UP OF FUNDS NECESSARY FOR THE PURPOSE:-

Proponent: Hon. David Casper Nathan A. Sergio

WHEREAS, on 18 September 2015, Tomas Arejola, one of Naga's distinguished sons, would have been 150 years old, having been borne on September 18, 1865 in Nueva Caceres (now Naga City);

WHEREAS, Tomas Arejola took up Humanities at the then Colegio Seminario de Nueva Caceres (now Holy Rosary Minor Seminary) in the years 1878 to 1884; thereafter, he studied Agronomy at San Juan de Letran in Manila; and took up Law at the Central Universidad de Madrid in Spain;

WHEREAS, Tomas Arejola was one of the Filipino propagandists during the Spanish colonial period; a friend and contemporary of heroes Jose Rizal, Marcelo del Pilar, Graciano Lopez Jaena, Jose Maria Panganiban and Antonio Luna, he was a lawyer, legislator, diplomat and a political writer; a mason and a liberal, he openly campaigned for political reforms in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, from 1888 to 1901, Tomas Arejola wrote articles about the plight of the Philippines in various newspapers in Spain, namely: *Espana en Filipina de Madrid, La Vanguardia, La Solidaridad, El Pais, El Progreso, La Correspondencia de Espana, Heraldo de Madrid, La Publicidad de Barcelola, La Voz de Ultramar, El Filipino* and *Filipinas Ante Europa*;

WHEREAS, in 1898, Tomas Arejola was appointed by President Emilio Aguinaldo to the National Assembly in Malolos; in 1901, he became a member of the Central Revolutionary Committee based in Hongkong; in 1907 until 1911, he was a delegate to the 1st and 2nd Philippine Assembly, representing *Ambos Camarines*;

WHEREAS, as a legislator, Tomas Arejola was the chairman of the Committee on Public Works, Forests and Mines and a member of the Committee on Railways, Schools and Franchises in the 1st Philippine Assembly (1907-1909); and he was the chairman of the Committee on Style and member of the Committee on Appropriations and Civil Service in the 2nd Philippine Assembly (1909-1911);

WHEREAS, among Tomas Arejola's accomplishments and legacies in Bicol as a public servant were: the construction of the Nueva Caceres High School (now Camarines Sur National High School) and the Naga Central School, and central schools in Labo and Paracale; the construction of "puentes de hierro" at Tabuco (Naga) and Pawili (Bula); repair of municipal building of Naga; purchase of carpentry materials and 12HP machine for Naga's School for Arts and Trade; the creation of the town of Cabusao, and the segregation of Canaman and Camaligan towns from Naga; installation of "pozos artesianos" (artesian wells) in every town of Ambos

Camarines; installation of telegraph lines/stations in the towns of Tigaon, Goa, San Jose, Lagonoy, Sipocot, Daet and Paracale; mail ship at Pasacao; construction of municipal buildings in the towns of Minalabac, Pasacao, Ragay and Paracale; road constructions for Tigaon-Goa, Daet-San Vicente, Daet-Talisay, and Talisay-Indan, and the inter-provincial road Bato-Polangui; the return of Barrio Basiad to the town of Capalonga from Tayabas;

WHEREAS, Tomas Arejola was among the major proponents of the law establishing the Philippine National Library; he also worked for the segregation of Sexmoan from the town of Guagua in Pampanga; he likewise provided various forms of assistance to people in hospitals and those affected by natural calamities and pestilence, whether in Bicol or elsewhere; for instance, he provided financial aids to the town of Sariaya (Quezon) when Mount Banahaw erupted, to Daet and Masbate after the October 23, 1909 typhoon, and to Zambales and Ambos Camarines provinces to counter locusts infestation;

NOW, THEREFORE, on motion of Hon. David Casper Nathan A. Sergio, seconded by Hon. Cecilia Veluz-De Asis and Hon. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr.;

BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to mandate the observance of the 150th Birth Anniversary of Tomas Arejola next year 2015, directing the formation of an executive committee to plan, organize, coordinate and implement programs, projects and activities in Naga City in connection thereto, and the setting up of funds necessary for the purpose.

LET COPIES of the Resolution be furnished the City Mayor for his concurrence, and appropriate action; the National Historical Commission of the Philippines for its information and support; the ACTO and CEPPIO of City Hall, for their information; the School Principals, Camarines Sur National High School and Naga Central School, for their information; the Municipal Mayors of Canaman, Camaligan and Cabusao, Camarines Sur for their information; the Provincial Director, Philippine Information Agency, and the President, Kapisanan ng mga Brodkasters ng Pilipinas-Camarines Sur Chapter, for wide information dissemination purposes..

APPROVED:

Adopted: November 18, 2014.

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WE HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing resolution.

GIL A. DE LA TORRE
Secretary to the
Sangguniang Panlungsod

NELSON S. LEGACION
City Vice Mayor
& Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

JOHN G. BONGAT
City Mayor