



*Senator ben pangelinan making comments at the Yigo Gymnasium during the DEIS public hearing on January 9, 2010.*

### The costs outweigh the benefits

January seems like the longest month ever what with all the public hearings, workshops, and town hall meetings that took place. Everywhere you looked, there were articles and email messages about the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and our peoples' responses. From the manhoben to the manåmko', plenty people filled the microphones voicing their concerns, support, and disgust with the DEIS. And if you attended any of the live discussions you couldn't have missed the presence of Senator pangelinan.

Applauded for his flawless attendance record at these events, Senator pangelinan said, "I wanted to ensure that the information being relayed was accurate and had to be there to challenge any inaccuracies. But I also felt it was important to take every opportunity available to hear the people out. This was where the community was allowed to comment, so why not be perfect in attendance?"

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### A Message from ben

Once again we are back with the second issue of our newsletter in our efforts to keep you connected and informed with the work we do.

It has been a busy time since our last issue with the holidays that required our attention to family and traditions. I hope you all found the time to give to both of these commitments.

We are excited with bringing you this issue, and we continue to seek your feedback, thoughts, or ideas. As always you may contact us in person by visiting us at our office. Our address is listed in the box at the bottom of page 2, or just stop us when you see us anywhere in our community. For 24/7 connection, e-mail and the website remain open at [www.senbenp.com](http://www.senbenp.com).

We hope you find this issue informative and look forward to presenting you with more in the upcoming months.

Saina Ma'åse'!

### Did you know?



Did you know that a Chamorro suruhånu or suruhåna is one who heals through massage and the use of traditional Chamorro remedies including the use of roots, leaves, and bark of increasingly rare plants?

This is why Senator pangelinan introduced Bill 94-30 (Public Law 30-32) to designate lands for the cultivation of Chamorro traditional herbal medicinal plants.

### Sign up for the Decolonization Registry

If you are eligible to register, please contact Nåpu Castro or Anjelica Okada at the Office of Senator ben c. pangelinan. You may call 473-4236/7 for details.

Among many others who expressed their observations of the DEIS, the senator made it a point to share his analysis and to point out that the DEIS clearly demonstrates how the military buildup will “affect our lives for the next generations and generations to come. I agree with the sentiments expressed in the community—with the opposition to this action. It is clear that the costs outweigh the benefits.” The senator goes on to say that the loss of our way of life and our culture is priceless and should not be compromised.

The voluminous DEIS is the biggest document that Guam has ever seen in support of a military buildup; it is unprecedented to have a document of this magnitude with only 90 days for the community to review and submit comments. Even after the final EIS is released, (at this time) there’s no guarantee that the concerns made by the people will be addressed. The senator and others have most fervently challenged the Joint Guam Program Office to present more detailed information and to answer questions regarding inconsistencies in the current draft.

“I think the process is flawed and needs to be re-evaluated because it’s clear that not all the information is available for us to make an informed and valid decision,” says Senator pangelinan. “And I’ve been extremely pleased with the efforts of the community and their decisions and actions in this process. I want to congratulate the many individuals and groups that have taken the time to participate in the process, review the documents, and raise awareness of how this will affect our lives. The community action has solidified my views on why we should pay close attention to what’s being said or not said in the DEIS.”

The senator concludes with these words, “Until these issues are all addressed, the only acceptable mitigation to the damage is NO ACTION.”



*Senator ben Pangelinan converses with Benny Crawford during the public hearing of Bill 278-30 (LS).*

fees for patrons to park their vehicles, yet the original owners do not receive any of that money. A speedy return of the lands to the landowners & heirs continues to be sought. The Senators on the panel agreed that something would be done.

Senator pangelinan had mentioned to everyone that the lands should be returned to the landowners & heirs and together with Senator Respicio they pointed that the process needs to be done right. Although many in the public hearing were tired of waiting, some waiting for over 60 years, they understood.

## Tiyan Lands

On January 14, 2010 a public hearing was held for Bill 278-30 (LS). The public hearing room patrons spilled into the lobby as many were anxious to testify to the panel of senators which included Chairman ben pangelinan, Senators Telo Taitague, Rory Respicio, and Frank Aguon, Jr.

The Public Hearing room overflowed into the lobby area as landowners expressed their concerns over the Tiyan Lands. Many heirs to the Tiyan Lands have passed on leaving their children, the heirs, to continue the fight. In one of the testimonies presented, it was pointed out that the A.B. Won Pat International Airport collects for parking

### COMMITTEES

- ◆ Chairman, Committee on Appropriations, Taxation, Banking, Insurance, Retirement, and Land
- ◆ Member, Committee on Education
- ◆ Member, Municipal Affairs, Aviation, Housing, and Recreation
- ◆ Member, Labor, the Public Structure, Public Libraries, and Technology

### HOW TO REACH US

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