

(S. B. 770)

(No. 218-2015)

(Approved December 14, 2015)

AN ACT

To name the stretch on the west side of the “Casa Olímpica” that abuts against the facilities of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Receptions Center, between Ponce de León Avenue and Constitución Avenue, after Pierre de Coubertin.

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

Pierre Coubertin (Baron de Coubertin) was a French historian and educator born in Paris, 1863. He passed away in Geneva, 1937. The Baron de Coubertin envisioned and advocated in favor of reviving the Olympic Games that were once held in ancient Greece to promote sports on a worldwide scale with educational purposes. He proposed to foster peaceful and constructive relations among nations, through sports competitions limited to amateur athletes, while encouraging a spirit of personal excellence and sound competition. The modern Olympic Games originated as a result of his efforts, commitment, and determination.

The Baron de Coubertin was founder of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). It was decided that the first modern Olympic Games would take place in Athens, 1896. Coubertin regulated the Games, and became president of the Olympics in Paris (1900), Saint Louis (1904), London (1908), and Stockholm (1912). The outbreak of World War I (1914) interrupted the celebration of the Olympic Games every four (4) years. He also designed the Olympic flag with the five interlaced rings, which symbolize the unity between the five continents. For his endeavors, he became the most important figure of the Olympic movement.

The efforts of the Baron de Coubertin have had a favorable impact on Puerto Rico by way of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the Puerto Rico Olympic Committee, and its sports federations and Olympic Academy. Together with the efforts of *don* Julio Enrique Monagas and other sports fans between 1946 and 1947, the IOC recognized Puerto Rico's sports sovereignty at the international level in January 1948. Since then, Puerto Rico is part of the group of nations that participate in the modern Olympic Games.

Every country with a National Olympic Committee has streets, buildings, sculptures, and plaques that honor the contributions of this French educator in support of youth and sports. This Legislative Assembly, emulating the international community, and on his one hundred and fifty (150) anniversary, pays homage to Baron Pierre de Coubertin by naming the stretch on the west side of the "Casa Olímpica" that abuts against the facilities of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Receptions Center, between Ponce de León Avenue and Constitución Avenue, after Pierre de Coubertin.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF PUERTO RICO:

Section 1.— The stretch on the west side of the "Casa Olímpica" that abuts against the facilities of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Receptions Center, between Ponce de León Avenue and Constitución Avenue, is hereby named after Pierre de Coubertin.

Section 2.— The Government of Puerto Rico Public Structures and Highways Naming Commission shall take the necessary measures to comply with the provisions of this Act, as set forth in 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. 218-2015 (S. B. 770)** of the **6th Regular Session** of the **17th Legislative Assembly of Puerto Rico**:

AN ACT to name the stretch on the west side of the “Casa Olímpica” that abuts with the facilities of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Receptions Center, between Ponce de León Avenue and Constitución Avenue, after Pierre de Coubertin.

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

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, on this 4th day of September, 2018.

Orlando Pagán-Ramírez
Director