

Inventors pay tribute to late leader, advocate

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The country's inventors and innovators mourn the passing of their "fallen comrade," the late Borneo Modanza, who they credit as the "father" of Republic Act 7459 or the Inventors and Incentive Act of the Philippines which sadly remain ignored by the government until his dying day.

Francisco Pagayon, general manager and president of the Filipino Inventors Society Producers Cooperative (FISPC), said that Filipino inventors owed a lot to Modanza, a former president of the Filipino Inventors Society (FIS), and also the FISPC, sitting as the FISPC vice chairman on his demise last week, for his steady and relentless pursuit of concerns of local inventors and innovators amid government's lack of support and even assistance.

"His name was and still is synonymous with FIS, the Flipino Inventors Society. Whenever FIS is mentioned, we think of Ming," Pagayon said.

Pagayon shared tha t Modanz a , while he fought for his fellow inventors, was also an example of the government's neglect of local inventors.

"That's why I want our other fellow inventors to know that Ka Ming has passed so maybe they can still pay homage to him. Ka Ming has helped a lot of inventors. There are several who are now recognized inventors and are enjoying business success that got a lot of help from Ka Ming," Pagayon said.

Pagayon shared that Modanza's role in the passage and enactment of RA 7459 was recorded in the first report issued by the sub- committee of the congressional oversight committee and Science and Technology committee which states that the FIS mentioned repeatedly in the said law specifically recognizes the FIS as headed by Borneo "Ming"Modanza who lobbied for the passing of the law.

"This is indelibly written in the records of the archives of the congressional library... Therefore, and heretofore, let it be known and declared that the name of Ming Modanza will go down in the annals of the history of the Filipino Inventors Society as the most illustrious figure among its members and officers who has served his fellow Inventors for over three decades," Pagayon said.

Modanza has recently slammed the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) for its

dismal failure to fulfill its mandate to provide assistance to Filipino inventors and innovators by helping them with the processing of their patent applications.
