

(S. B. 273)

(No. 125)

(Approved October 4, 2005)

AN ACT

To request the Public Structures and Highways Naming Commission of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to consider the possibility of naming after Iván Figueroa-Figueroa, Esq., the bridge located on State Road 857, Km. 5 Hm. 0 in *Barrio* Canovanillas, Las Lajas Sector in the Municipality of Carolina.

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

This Legislature deems it meritorious to exalt the men of honor who have strived to improve the quality of life of all Puerto Ricans, by providing them a place of honor in our history as a People. It is a privilege for this High Legislative Body to honor public officers.

Iván Figueroa-Figueroa, Esq., the son of *Don* Raúl Figueroa-Laguna and *Doña* María Figueroa-Adorno, was born on May 4, 1956, in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He was the second of three siblings, Raúl being the eldest and Sandra the youngest.

In 1961, he begins his elementary education in María Auxiliadora School of Carolina. He completed middle school and graduated from high school with high honors from the Consuelo Escalona School in Carolina in 1973. In 1978, he obtains a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a major in Accounting, and graduates with high honors from the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus. Subsequently, he begins

working as accountant at “Raúl Mens & Boys,” his father’s business in the Municipality of Carolina.

One year later, he considers that he must find the way to help the needy, so he enrolls in the Interamerican University School of Law of Puerto Rico and graduated in 1982. After passing the Bar exam, he is appointed by the then Governor Carlos Romero-Barceló as Assistant District Attorney of Humacao. When his term concluded, he begins a successful private practice, specializing in criminal law.

On February 23, 1985, he marries *Doña* Laura A. Alvarado Miranda, becoming the father of three children, Giovanni, Alexandra, and Nichole.

Atty. Figueroa was passionate about sports and cockfights, which sentiment he shared with his father, although once, at age eleven, while attending a cockfight with his father, in the heat of the moment he fell into the cockpit from the second floor, causing to his family much distress.

By 1991, he decides to run for a seat in the House of Representatives of Puerto Rico, District No. 38, which comprised the towns of Carolina, Canóvanas, and Trujillo Alto, by winning the New Progressive Party primary and the General Elections of 1992. In 1996, the Representative of the House is reelected to his legislative seat.

During his years as Representative, he chaired the Committee on Ethics, on Consumer Affairs, and the Special Committee on the Study of the Private Security in Puerto Rico. His term in the legislature was very productive for his constituents and because of the laws introduced by him, among which are the designation of the “*Central Canóvanas*” as Historic Monument, the designation of the Manuel “*El Olímpico*” Rivera Morales Expressway, as well as the construction of the Felipe “*El Gigante*” Bierriel

Recreational Park of *Barrio* Barrazas of Carolina. In addition, he was a true advocate of social justice measures for Puerto Rico.

After several years as legislator in the House of Representatives, he returned to the private practice of the legal profession, in which he always excelled. On last November 27, 2004, Iván Figueroa, Esq., died at the age forty-eight (48), after a long career in the public sector.

Today, the Legislature is aware of the magnitude of this loss, and deems it laudable to name the bridge located in State Road 857, Km. 5, Hm. 0 of *Barrio* Canovanillas, Las Lajas Sector in Carolina, after Iván Figueroa-Figueroa, Esq.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PUERTO RICO:

Section 1.- To request the Structures and Public Highways Naming Commission of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to consider the possibility of naming after Iván Figueroa-Figueroa, Esq., the bridge located in State Road 857, Km. 5 Hm. 0 of *Barrio* Canovanillas, Las Lajas Sector in Carolina.

Section 2.- The Structures and Public Highways Naming Commission of the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture shall take the necessary measures in order to comply with 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. 125 (S.B. 273) of the 2nd Session of the 15th Legislature of Puerto Rico:

AN ACT to request the Public Structures and Highways Naming Commission of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to consider the possibility of naming after Iván Figueroa-Figueroa, Esq., the bridge located on State Road 857, Km. 5 Hm. 0 of *Barrio* Canovanillas, Las Lajas Sector in the Municipality of Carolina,

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

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today 1st of March of 2006.

Francisco J. Domenech
Director