

(H.B. 1913)

(No. 9)

(Approved January 18, 2006)

AN ACT

To designate the public road currently known as Southeast Detour in the Municipality of Villalba as “Gregorio Durán-Vélez, in recognition of his transcendental contribution to said town; and for other purposes.

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

Gregorio Durán Velez was one of the persons who most influenced the social, cultural and economic development of the town of Villalba. Born on February 5, 1900, in the neighboring town of Ciales, this illustrious Puerto Rican was an example of the values inherent to the daily life of our society. During his fruitful life, he excelled as public servant in different positions, specifically as First Lieutenant of the Guard, Justice of Peace and Vice President of the Municipal Assembly.

Mr. Durán-Vélez, aware of the needs of his town and with the vision of great leaders, was a pioneer in the promotion of cooperativism as a system for the economic and social development of the Municipality. The impact of the cooperative movement in Villalba was of such magnitude, that his initiative was soon followed in other neighboring municipalities.

He also excelled in the agricultural area upon introducing the breeding of exotic birds, *paso fino* horses, and the cultivation of ornamental plants. A faithful defender of nature, he always advocated the need to maintain a close relationship with our environment.

Of all his achievements, what the people of his town of Villalba remember him most for was his love of elegance, his oratory, his knowledge of fine music and his undeniable diplomatic ability which won him the love of his people.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PUERTO RICO:

Section 1.- The public road currently known as Southeast Detour in the Municipality of Villalba is hereby designated as “Gregorio Durán-Vélez,” in recognition of his transcendental contribution to said town.

Section 2.- Once approved, the Department of State shall notify the same to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Public Buildings and Roads Naming Commission and to the Department of Transportation and Public Works in order for the pertinent administrative procedures to be carried out.

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. 9 (H.B. 1913) of the 3rd Session of the 15th Legislature of Puerto Rico:

AN ACT to designate the public road currently known as Southeast Detour in the Municipality of Villalba as “Gregorio Durán-Vélez, in recognition of his transcendental contribution to said town; and for other purposes,

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

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today 2nd of June of 2006.

Francisco J. Domenech
Director