

(H. B. 2534)

(No. 193)

(Approved September 1, 2006)

AN ACT

To designate the Vocational High School of the Municipality of Cidra with the name of Ruth Evelyn Cruz Santos, and for other purposes.

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

Doña Ruth Evelyn Cruz Santos was born in the town of Cidra. She grew up in a literary environment and she showed her passion for writing since childhood, becoming the official writer of the second grade at the tender age of six. That designation was made by her teacher, for her writing of an essay.

As an adult, she chose to be a teacher, a profession in which she stood out for her charm and dedication to her students in Cidra. Her first group of students at Juan Domingo Stubbe School in Cidra marked her career significantly. Because of this, she dedicated her first book of meditations, *Meditaciones de una Maestra*, to that group of children.

She worked as a teacher for many years, and later held different positions in the former Department of Public Instruction, which is now the Department of Education. There, she wrote for the magazine *Escuela* from 1962 until 1975, especially in the *Búho dice* section. She also collaborated on the basic reading book series *Conozcamos a Puerto Rico*, *Misterios de la Tierra y el Espacio*, and *Páginas de Ayer y Hoy*. She also collaborated in the creation of the book *Floresta de Cuentos*.

She retired from the Department of Public Instruction in 1985. Because of her meager pension, she was forced to go back to work for the *Revista El Sol* of the

Puerto Rico Teachers Association. At that same time, she wrote several books, among which are *El Credo del Maestro*, the two editions of *Cartas que Nunca Llegaron*, *De Poeta a Poeta* (dedicated to Luis Muñoz Marín), *La Semilla Dormida*, *La Nena* (an ecology primer), and her first book strictly for adults, entitled *Bibe tu Bida y no la Mía*. The latter was presented at the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture and which received a very good review from Dr. Marcelino Canino, a Puerto Rican literary critic who stated in a letter that he sent to its author that it was the best book of the year 2000. She published four children's books by 2003, which were published by Editorial Yuquiyú: *La Cotorrita Puertorriqueña*, *Ensueño Musical*, *Símbolos de Mi Tierra*, and *Un Milagro de Amor*.

Ruth Evelyn Cruz Santos cultivated all literary genres. She wrote articles, dramas, stories, essays, and poems, and is now in the process of writing a novel. She has also distinguished herself in writing works for puppets, such as *Juan Bobo en tres tiempos* and *Érase una gallinita*, which were performed in the Fine Arts Center. Her dramas *Los Cuatro Cerditos* and *Un Sueño Para Mí*, won awards granted by the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture and were performed in the theater of said institution. She is also the official writer of the Borikén and Cibuco puppet companies. Among her future projects are to finish a book on values entitled *La Cotorrita Dice. . .*, and a book of lullabies.

The Legislature is proud of the prolific literary career of Ruth Evelyn Cruz Santos. Her life is an example of love for country, sensibility, effort, dedication and commitment toward education. In recognition of her career and her devotion to teaching, the Legislature of Puerto Rico designates the Vocational High School of Cidra, her town of birth, with her name, so that the legacy of this exemplary Puerto Rican from Cidra may remain on record for posterity.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PUERTO RICO:

Section 1.- The Vocational High School of the Municipality of Cidra is hereby designated with the name of Ruth Evelyn Cruz Santos.

Section 2.- The Structures and Public Highways Naming Commission of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall take the necessary measures 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.- Once this Act is approved, the Department of State shall notify the Structures and Public Highways Naming Commission of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in order for the pertinent administrative procedures to be carried out.

Section 4.- This Act shall take effect immediately after its approval.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the Secretary of State that the following Act No. 193 (H.B. 2534) of the 4th Session of the 15th Legislature of Puerto Rico:

AN ACT to designate the Vocational High School of the Municipality of Cidra with the name of Ruth Evelyn Cruz Santos, and for other purposes,

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

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today 30th of April of 2007.

Francisco J. Domenech
Director