

ACT 134

S.B. NO. 651

A Bill for an Act Relating to Renaming Kahului Airport Access Road.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Maui has no major roadways commemorating local political leaders and their roles in Maui history. Born in Paia, Maui, Elmer Franklin Cravalho served as the first mayor of Maui from 1969 to 1979 and was the first speaker of the state house of representatives following statehood.

Elmer F. Cravalho was first elected as a member of the territorial house of representatives in 1954. He became vice speaker of the territorial house of representatives in 1956, and then speaker of the territorial house of representatives in 1959. He maintained his position as speaker of the state house of repre-

sentatives through 1967, and then served as Maui county's first mayor until July 24, 1979.

The legislature recognizes that Mayor Cravalho first relayed Congress' approval of Hawaii's statehood to a cramped house of representatives in Iolani Palace. A photo of him taking that famed phone call from John Burns in Washington, D.C. is part of the Hawaiian Airlines mural at the Kahului Airport.

Elmer F. Cravalho was known as a successful businessman and maintained several leadership roles in civic and other community organizations within the county of Maui. He is credited for much of Maui's development, especially the waterline from Wailuku to Wailea, which enabled the development of Kihei. Mayor Cravalho died on June 27, 2016.

The legislature further finds that the Kahului Airport Access Road officially opened less than one month after Mayor Cravalho's death. At the time, Dairy Road was the only roadway that led to the airport from south Maui. Kahului Airport Access Road connects Hana Highway to Lanui Loop and was built to relieve traffic congestion caused by two distinct types of automobile traffic on Dairy Road: airport users and the local community.

The legislature finds that Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho has a clear connection to Maui's history and that he should be remembered for his civil service by naming a highway in his honor.

Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to rename the Kahului Airport Access Road to the Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho Way.

SECTION 2. Route 3800, known as the Kahului Airport Access Road, on the island of Maui shall be renamed the "Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho Way".

SECTION 3. The renaming of Kahului Airport Access Road under this Act shall not be deemed to affect any federal or state funding for Kahului Airport Access Road.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2021.

(Approved June 30, 2021.)