TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN DEREK J. CHOW ROSS M. HIGASHI EDWIN H. SNIFFEN



STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 869 PUNCHBOWL STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 2, 2021 2:00 p.m. State Capitol, Teleconference

H.B. 775 RELATING TO RENAMING KAHULUI AIRPORT ACCESS ROAD.

House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** the intent of this bill; however, the DOT would recommend that the more appropriate method would be to pass a Resolution.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Council Chair Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore Tasha Kama

Councilmembers Gabe Johnson Kelly Takaya King Michael J. Molina Tamara Paltin Shane M. Sinenci Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY OF MAUI 200 S. HIGH STREET WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793 www.MauiCounty.us

February 28, 2021

TO: Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Chair House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Alice L. Lee Council Chair

DATE: March 1, 2021

SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF HB 775, RELATING TO RENAMING KAHULUI AIRPORT ACCESS ROAD

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to rename Kahului Airport Access Road on Maui as the Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho Way.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I **SUPPORT** this measure for the following reasons:

- 1. Born in Paia, Maui, Elmer Franklin Cravalho served as the first Speaker of the State House of Representatives following statehood.
- 2. He maintained his position of Speaker of the State House of Representatives through 1967 and later served as Maui County's first Mayor.
- 3. Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho has a clear connection to Maui's history, and he should be remembered for his public service by naming a highway in his honor.

For the foregoing reasons, I **SUPPORT** this measure.

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HB-775 Submitted on: 2/27/2021 3:03:41 PM Testimony for JHA on 3/2/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patrick Constantino	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of HB775 and I ask the committee to approve.

Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho has done a lot for our State and County of Maui while serving as Speaker and Mayor. I was priviliged to work for him in the State Legislature and serve as his Executive Assistant as the first Mayor of the County of Maui.

HB-775 Submitted on: 2/27/2021 4:43:16 PM Testimony for JHA on 3/2/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cora Constantino	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support HB775 and I ask the committee to approve this Bill. Mayor Cravalho has been a great leader of our State and County. I have worked for him in private businesses and see how successful he is and how the business achive its goals.

<u>HB-775</u> Submitted on: 3/1/2021 12:03:03 AM Testimony for JHA on 3/2/2021 2:00:00 PM

_	Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
	Elizabeth Ayson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: House Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee

From: Elizabeth Ayson

Re: Testimony to support HB 775 (Renaming Airport Access Road for Mayor Cravalho)

In my youth, my parents told me about their admiration and gratitude for Elmer Cravalho as an elected official and business leader who is credited for many of the improvements to the island's infrastructure, government, farming, ranching, non-profit organizations, banking and insurance business. They strongly supported his political bids for legislative office and then to become the first Mayor of Maui. Although I never met him until later in my life, the work he did for the people of Maui was well-known among my family members and our friends.

After leaving politics, he became involved in the credit union where my father secured a loan with the help of Mr. Cravalho. As an adult, I also received his assistance for a loan with the same credit union. On the personal level, I came to know Mr. Cravalo as "Elmer" through an ongoing friendship with one of his nieces and her husband, with whom I share many of the activities of the Democratic Party, locally and statewide.

HB 775 is a fitting honor for a man who devoted most of his life to the service of Maui and generations of its residents and visitors. Details of his laudable and numerous successes and noteworthy accomplishments are readily available in documents that record the history of his purposeful and service-oriented life. For me, our connection is related to his hep to my parents and my own family. When I discovered some years later that he was also a teacher and principal, my admiration and appreciation for him expanded into a professional kinship. Finally, his love and kindness to many folks in the Philippines is significant in my knowledge of him as a caring person who appreciated the people of my homeland, an like me, especially its youth.

With grateful mabuhay,

Kalama Heights, Suite 208

Elizabeth Ayson, Ph.D.

101 Kanani Road

Principal, 1985-2002 (retired)

lao Intermediate School

260 Market Street

Wailuku, HI 96793

Kihei, HI 96753

808-572-5628 or 205-3994

eatalna@aol.com

<u>HB-775</u> Submitted on: 3/1/2021 8:42:24 AM Testimony for JHA on 3/2/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Virgilio Agcolicol	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha. I am Virgilio "Leo" Agcolicol, a United States Army veteran and a retired (2013) bank officer (Bank Manager, Assistant Vice President, and Business Relationship Officer) of Central Pacific Bank, having been employed there for 46 years.

I am a long-time resident of Maui (since 1967) and been involved in the Maui Arts and Cultural Center (current member of the Board of Directors), Knights of Columbus (current District 9 Deputy), the J. Walter Cameron Center (past member of the Board of Directors), Disabled American Veterans (Lifetime Member), Veterans of Foreign Wars (Lifetime Member), and Vietnam Veterans of Maui (Lifetime Member). I have been extremely active in the various Filipino community oranizations on Maui and statewide, e.g., past president of the United Filipino Council of Hawaii, past president of the Maui Filipino Community Council, and past president of the Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce. I was also a radio announcer for over fifty years on KMVI, KNUI and K-Country FM 106.1.

I knew Mayor Cravalho since 1967 and over the years, worked with him on a variety of community issues involving not only Maui's Filipino community but the general community as well.

I believe naming the current Airport Access Way after Speaker/Mayor Cravalho would be an excellent way to honor the first Speaker of the House after statehood and Maui's first Mayor. He was instrumental in developing the tourism industry on Maui, knowing there would be a need to transition from the plantations in order to have a stronger economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at 283-6943.