

Date of Hearing: March 23, 2020

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Jim Frazier, Chair

ACR 165 (Ting) – As Introduced February 11, 2020

SUBJECT: Alice Peña Bulos Memorial Highway

SUMMARY: Designates a portion of State Route 35 in the County of San Mateo as the “Alice Peña Bulos Memorial Highway.” Specifically, **this bill:**

- 1) Recounts the life and accomplishments of Alice Peña Bulos, a dedicated public servant to the residents of the City of Daly City and the County of San Mateo.
- 2) Designates the portion of State Route 35 that runs through the City of Daly City in the County of San Mateo from postmile 27.09 to postmile 31.061 as the “Alice Peña Bulos Memorial Highway.”
- 3) Requests that the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) determine the cost of appropriate signs, consistent with the signing requirements for the state highway system, showing the special designation and, upon receiving donations from non-state sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

EXISTING LAW: Assigns Caltrans the responsibility of operating and maintaining state highways. This includes the installation and maintenance of highway signs.

FISCAL EFFECT: Unknown, but the resolution requests that Caltrans only erect the appropriate signage upon receiving donations from non-state sources covering the cost.

COMMENTS: Alice Peña Bulos was born on March 31, 1930, in the Philippines. She earned both her bachelors and master’s degrees in social and behavioral sciences from the University of Santo Tomas in Manila, Philippines. She later went on to become a Professor of Sociology and a Chairperson of the Department of Sociology at the University of Santo Tomas. In 1967, she married her loving husband, Gallardo Bulos. In 1970, she began dividing her time between Manila and San Francisco, where she was conducting research on the social adjustment and integration of Filipino immigrants in America. In 1972, she permanently moved to the United States with her husband, Gallardo, and daughter, Elizabeth.

For over four decades, Alice devoted herself to empowering underrepresented communities of all ages and from every background. She is fondly remembered for opening her South San Francisco home to anyone seeking counsel. She readily assisted community members in gaining knowledge about political empowerment, domestic violence, health care, and the United States residency process.

In particular, Alice was a leader in the movement to educate and empower the Filipino community. After observing and experiencing the struggles of those who emigrate to the United States, she became more involved in community activism. She and her husband Gallardo organized the Fil-America Grassroots Movement, an organization that engaged Filipinos in the United States’ political process.

Over the course of her life, Alice held numerous positions of leadership relating to public service and advocacy. These included positions as board member of the Bayanihan Community Center, founder and former President of Thomasians, U.S.A., Vice-Chair of the California Fil-Am Democratic Caucus, President of the San Mateo Fil-Am Council and the San Mateo Fil-Am Democratic Club. She also served as a board member of the State and Regional Advisory Councils to State Education Superintendent Bill Honig, the Golden State Regional Center on Mental Disabilities, the San Mateo Headstart Program, The Filipinos in America Foundation, and the National Asian Pacific Democratic Council. Alice was the Chair of CORA Kumares, a nonprofit, nonpolitical, nonpartisan team of volunteers dedicated to promoting healthier relationships, homes, and communities through education. In 2009, the team renamed itself ALLICE Kumares and Kumpares in her honor.

Alice played an integral role in the political arena. These included positions as State Chair, Filipino American Caucus, California Democratic Party; Board Member of the American Heart Association, San Mateo County Chapter; Board Member of the American Lung Association, San Mateo County Chapter; member of the San Mateo Health Commission, and Regional Chairman on Asian Pacific Affairs for the former 11th Congressional District U.S. Congressman, Tom Lantos. In 1993, Alice earned the distinct honor of being appointed to the National Council on Aging by Former President William Jefferson Clinton, acting as delegate to the White House Conference on Aging until 2000.

Alice was involved in many women's organizations. She was active in the development of the Sacramento Asian Pacific Women's Network, Pacific Asian American Women's Bay Area Coalition and a national organization, the Fil-Am Women's Network (FAWN). In recognition of her many contributions to the community, she was named "Woman Warrior of the Year" by the Pacific Asian American Women Bay Area Coalition, received the Volunteerism in the Community Award by the Asian Foundation for Community Development, received the Outstanding Leadership and Service Award from the California Asian Pacific Democratic Council, was named one of the "100 Most Influential Filipina Women in the U.S. Award", and received the "Bayanihan Award" from the Filipino American Democratic Caucus.

Alice will be honored and remembered by many, especially by her daughter, Elizabeth Bulos Ramilo; her sisters, Lourdes Peña Reyes and Zenaida Peña Villaviza; her grandchildren, Charity, Charles, Clarke, and Socorro; her great-grandchildren, Noah, Aubrey, and Penelope; and her family in the Philippines.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

The City of Daly City

Opposition

None on file

Analysis Prepared by: Chanel Matney / TRANS. / (916) 319-2093